

YLA Special Called Board Meeting Minutes

Oct. 22, 2024

Board Members Present (highlighted): Betsy Anthony, Nick McClellan, Chris Elrod, Matthew Kutilek, Rebecca Willis, David Orr, Sydney Cox, Brittany Kelley, Brittany Clark, Ryan Smith, Janel Crowder (present virtually)

Others Present: Sandee Blankenship, Principal, Melissa Kennedy, Assistant Principal; Nathan Swords, Special Projects Coordinator for YLA; Bryan Lively, Summit Academy Principal.

Call to Order: The YLA Board held a special called meeting at 3:00pm on October 22, 2024. The meeting was held virtually via Google Meet because of the quick turnaround. Betsy Anthony called the meeting to order.

New Business:

1. Board Positions

A weird situation has come up with board members. A new proviso from the state has been presented which raised some concerns about the structure of the board:

1.83. (SDE: Charter School Management Organizations) A person paid or employed by an Education Management Organization (EMO) or a Charter Management Organization (CMO) shall not be allowed to serve on the board of any charter school sponsored by a public school district, the South Carolina Public Charter School District, or a public or independent institution of higher learning if the EMO or CMO is contracted to provide any services to the charter school. Any school violating this provision shall have fifty percent of all appropriated state funds withheld until the school becomes compliant with this provision. A person paid or employed by an EMO or a CMO shall not be allowed to serve on the board of any authorizer's board of a public school district, the South Carolina Public Charter School District, or a public or independent institution of higher learning. Any authorizing board violating this provision shall have fifty percent of all appropriated state funds retained for operations withheld until the authorizer and its board becomes compliant with this provision.

SCPCSD does not necessarily claim CULI as a EMO or CMO, however the gray area exists that could potentially affect funding in the future if things change.

The recommendation is to eliminate the CULI position from the board, however Janel would still be used as a part of the contract with CULI for grants, etc. Also, an additional Elected Community At Large Position will fill the vacated board seat. This is not changing the amount of board seats, just changing the name of the position filling it.

These changes must be made and in place before new board elections can take place, and those elections need to be completed by October 30.

Motion to change from Ryan Smith. Motion seconded by Nick McClellan. No opposition.

2. Calendar adjustments

Charter laws allow the school board to forgive one day in a school closure situation. YLA is asking the board to forgive the 4th day that they were out from Hurricane Helene. Additionally, the end of the first quarter was moved back 8 days to October 18th. This change was made by YLA admin. to ease the burden on students and teachers to get grades imported after returning from the hurricane. 4 days will be taken from Q2 and 4 days from Q3 to make up the difference.

Motion to approve calendar changes made by Sydney Cox. Seconded by Brittany Kelley. No opposition.

Questions, Comments, Concerns: n/a

Adjournment: Nick McClellan made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Sydney Cox.

Respectfully Submitted by

Nathan Swords, YLA Special Projects

Filling in for: Rebecca Willis, Board Member