

**Community School of Digital and Visual Arts
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

Date: April 7, 2022

Location: Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

Call to Order:

Chairman Joe Battle called the meeting to order.

CSDVA Board Members In Attendance:

Bonnie Hauser

Tommy McNiell

Kathy Everett-Perry

Toni Hall

Michael Palmer

Others In Attendance

Principal LaManda Pryor

Brian Crawford

Ben Johnson

Joy Young (guest/parent)

I. Public Comment:

Ms. Joy Young, a parent of a second-grade student, joined the meeting to observe and become more familiar with the board's role. She did not express any formal concerns during the meeting.

II. Principal's Report:

Principal Pryor updated the board on a serious staff injury. Ms. Tanya Bradley, a long-standing and well-respected teacher, suffered a severe ankle injury in a hallway accident involving two students. The incident was deemed an unfortunate accident, and both students and staff have expressed distress. A meal train has been organized to support Ms. Bradley during her recovery. The board expressed interest in supporting her further and agreed to discuss potential compensation-related actions during the closed session.

III. Masking Policy Update:

The board revisited the school's masking policy. In alignment with Durham Public Schools, the administration recommended transitioning to a mask-optional policy, effective one week after spring break. The board unanimously approved the recommendation.

IV. Academic Calendar Approval:

The proposed 2022–2023 academic calendar, which mirrors Durham Public Schools, was

reviewed and unanimously approved. This alignment supports consistency for families and includes built-in teacher planning days.

V. Instructional Updates:

- **LETRS Training:** Principal Pryor confirmed the school is participating in the next LETRS training cohort. Sessions have begun and will be integrated with existing teacher workdays to limit additional burden.
 - **Teacher Wellbeing:** Principal Pryor discussed the emotional toll of the year and efforts to foster morale, including PD days and upcoming Teacher Appreciation Week (May 2–6). Staff activities may include food trucks, yoga/Zumba, daily themed gifts, and direct board involvement. The board requested a plan and approved increased funding if necessary.
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VI. Saturday Academy & EOG Prep:

- A six-week Saturday Academy will begin post-spring break to support 65 Tier 2 students in grades 3–8. Sessions will run from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., followed by motivational activities. Transportation, meals, and small-group instruction will be provided. In-school support, including tutoring and instructional coverage for Ms. Bradley’s classes, is being coordinated by Coach Isaac and Mr. Jackson.
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VII. Marketing and Community Partnerships:

- Mr. Johnson reported on recruitment efforts, including store tabling, daycare outreach, and a new parent ambassador initiative. NC State and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity at Duke have launched partnerships to support the school’s community garden and provide tutoring and summer program assistance.
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VIII. Budget Update:

Mr. Crawford provided a budget overview:

- The current projected deficit of \$289,000 will be corrected through ESSER reallocation.
- Increased spending on instructional materials and transportation due to fuel and maintenance.
- Nutrition services and before/after-care programs are functioning well.
- A balanced budget proposal will be presented in May.

- IX. **Charter Renewal:** The school's three-year charter renewal (effective July 1, 2022) has been received and requires board signature. All IDEA compliance measures have been met, and the school received accreditation for special education from DPI.
- X. **Facilities:** A \$100,000 roof replacement is urgently needed due to water damage. Proposals will be submitted prior to the May board meeting for approval.
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Closed Session

Adjournment: A motion was made and seconded to close the closed session and adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.