

Quality Education Academy (QEA)
Board Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2021
Meeting took place via Zoom

Members Present:

Chairman - Dr. Jefferson Caruthers, Jr
CEO - Tonya Bellanger
John Foxworth
James Covington
James Gadson
Adolphus Coplin
Roy Oliphant
Dr. Kendra March

Absent Members:

Ronald Jessup
Walter Weathers

Welcome

The QEA Called Meeting was called to order at 6:02 pm. It was determined a quorum of Board Members was present, thus, the meeting continued. The Chairman proceeded by asking if there was anything in tonight's agenda that would present a conflict of interest to any of the attending Board Members. There was no conflict of interest stated by any of the attending Board Members. He also asked Board Members if there would be any additions to tonight's agenda. There were no stated additions to the agenda. The Chairman stated the purpose for this meeting is to officially discuss the protocols for returning to school amidst the continuing COVID pandemic.

CEO Overview

The Chairman asked CEO Mrs. Bellanger to inform the board of what the procedure for this semester will look like providing any special requirements/restrictions. Mrs. Bellanger begin by stating the CDC & DHHS are recommending that while in the school buildings all staff, parents, visitors, and scholars must wear a mask at all times regardless of vaccination status. The only exceptions would be due to a medical condition documented by a medical physician.

At present, vaccines are being offered to anyone age 12 years old and older. Mrs. Bellanger said QEA is not requiring that everyone who is eligible be vaccinated at this time, however, we are strongly encouraging it. Mrs. Bellanger also informed the Board that DHHS is funding a program that will allow QEA to have persons tested for COVID on campus.

The question was asked "What is the result if a staff member or scholar comes in contact with someone who is infected with COVID?" QEA will follow guidelines in the NC Strong Schools Toolkit regarding close contact and quarantining of students and staff. At present, that is to quarantine for 14 days after a close contact. If no symptoms develop in 5 days, the person can return to school with a negative Covid test. If symptoms do develop, they must get a Covid test and quarantine for the full 14 days.

The final recommendations from the CEO include:

- 1.) Mask mandate for all students and staff regardless of vaccination status.

- 2.) All staff must submit their vaccination status to the Business Office.
- 3.) QEA will follow all guidelines in the NC Strong Schools Toolkit for a safe and healthy school environment.
- 4.) QEA will get further information regarding the testing program available through NC DHHS.
- 5.) QEA may consider testing of athletes for participation in sports for those who are not fully vaccinated.

The Chairman called for a motion to accept the recommendations coming from the CEO. Mr. Foxworth made a motion to accept the CEO's recommendations and Mr. Gadson seconded. The motion was put through using the roll call method. The motion carried unanimously.

The Chairman called for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Oliphant made a motion to adjourn and Mr. Foxworth seconded the motion. The motion was put through using an affirmative sign. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 6:19 PM.

Announcement

The next Quality Education Academy Board meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 13, 2021 at 6:00 PM. A notification to all Board Members will be sent prior to the scheduled meeting. A copy of the previous month's minutes will be emailed to all Board Members in addition to the meeting notification.

Minutes recorded by **S. Adams**