



Minutes

March 14, 2021

Welcome – Debbie Clary, Chair called the teleconference meeting to order at 1PM.

****Notification of the teleconference meeting was advertised on the Pinnacle Classical Academy website and notification was posted on the front doors of the school building.**

In attendance: Debbie Clary, Wes Westmoreland, Dr. Shelly Bullard, Jeff Zeigler, Angela Brooks, Wendy Clary, Jayson Philbeck, Betsy Harnage, Dr. Pauline Cahill, Dr. Becky Sain and Phyllis Nowlen were in attendance.

Conflict of Interest Statement In accordance with the State Government Ethics Act, it is the duty of every board member to avoid both conflicts of interest and appearances of conflict. If any board member has any known conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before the board today, please identify the conflict or appearance of conflict at this time, and refrain from any participation in the particular matter involved.

Adoption of Agenda with adoption Motion made by Wes Westmoreland and 2nd by Dr. Pauline Cahill. All Approved.

Approval of Minutes Wes Westmoreland made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 14, 2021 Meeting, Betsy Harnage seconded the motion and the minutes were approved by the board.

Public Comments Persons wishing to appear before the Board during this portion of the meeting should register their name and the subject they wish to address with the Secretary prior to the beginning of the meeting. Each presentation will be limited to three (3) minutes. The Board is interested in hearing your concerns, yet speakers should not expect comment, action, or deliberation on subject matter brought up during the public comment segment. Topics requiring further investigation will be referred to the appropriate board committee. **No one from the public was in attendance.**

Administration Reports

Dean of Elementary Education Report Presented by Mrs. Wendy Clary

Action Items:

- None

K-Day 2021

- 126 Screening appointments were offered for K-Day with several students needing alternate screening dates.
- 34 staff members helped make the day a success including our SRO officers.
- Yard signs were given to families to display.

Virtual Academy

- The number of virtual students for each grade level going into the fourth nine weeks:
 - K-14
 - 1st-18
 - 2nd-22
 - 3rd-8
- Kindergarten and third grade have both in person and virtual students.
- 1st and 2nd grade have virtual students only.

Plan-A

- Letters were sent home on March 5th informing Kindergarten, 1st grade, and 2nd grade parents of classrooms transitioning to Plan A.
 - 1st grade classrooms transitioned on March 10th
 - Kindergarten and 2nd grade students will transition on March 15th.
- Students will continue to wear masks and sanitization practices will continue as well.

Read Across America Book Week (March 1st-5th)

- Students participated in Read Across America Book Week.

Read Across America Week

(March 1st- March 5th)

Monday- The Cat in the Hat- Hat Day with uniform

Tuesday- Green Eggs and Ham- Wear something green

Wednesday- The Sneetches - Wear anything with stars on it.

Thursday- Horton Hears a Who!- Complete a Random Act of Kindness (Wear your school uniform.)

Friday- Oh, the Places You'll Go!- Dress like your future profession

- Several staff members contributed with recorded read alouds. Thank you to Officer Hopper, Officer Byrd, Dr. Bullard, Angela Brooks, and Kendra McGinnis for recording stories for our students to enjoy each day!
- Thanks to Carolyn Jackson for coordinating all of the K-3 activities for this fun week.



Education Career Fair

- March 19th-ASU Education Career Fair will be held virtually.
- April 15th-GWU Career Fair
- Mrs. Brooks and myself will be recruiting at both of these job fairs.

Upcoming Dates:

- March 12th-Remote Learning Day
- March 15th-K-3 Spring Pictures
- March 18th-Make-up pictures
- March 19th-Report Cards
- March 22nd-25th-NC Check-Ins

High School Report *Angela Brooks presented the report as provided.*

Action Items:

- None at this time

Curriculum and Academics

- On March 19th, High School students will be participating in College and Career Day. Students will complete career interests surveys this day as well as have the opportunity to attend virtual college visits. Dr. Martin organized this event and has arranged for students to have the opportunity to explore careers in: Manufacturing and Career Trades, Broadcasting, Surgical Technicians, Cosmetology, etc. In addition, students will have an opportunity to meet with representatives from Cleveland Community College, Wofford College, and Belmont Abbey's Honors College liaison. Dr. Martin also arranged a 'Senior Panel' where underclassmen can speak to Seniors about their experiences so far and what they need to do in order to prepare as underclassmen for their senior year in thinking about applications, college visits, etc.
- The schedule for the 2021-2022 school year is well underway. Mr. Ziegler, Dr. Martin, and myself are working to update the course catalog and registration begins in March for next school year. We have a few courses we will be offering to enhance our curriculum choices such as AP Biology, Physics, and AP Calculus. We have also been able to secure electives for the junior and senior classes to 4th period. This will allow students who are interested in CTE (Career and Technical Trades) to be able leave campus at the end of the day and enroll in courses they desire at CCC.
- We currently have a senior in jeopardy of not graduating. The teachers and I have been in constant communication with the senior and the parent and it will not be a surprise to the family if this student does not graduate. We will continue to monitor the situation.
- Mr. Ziegler and Dr. Caswell Martin have been meeting with juniors and their parents to get juniors started on a plan for the college admissions and application process. These individual meetings are going well and allow us to develop individualized plans for students as they look at their future goals.

- We're excited to inform you that we received authorization from the College Board to offer the AP Biology, AP Calculus AB, and AP Psychology exams to students who are interested in taking them if they are enrolled in comparable CCC courses. No student is required to take these AP exams, but it may be advantageous for students to do so in some cases, particularly if they have applied to, or are planning to apply to, certain private colleges.
- We have several national exams over the next couple of months and are excited to see the results of those examinations.
 - The Junior class took the PSAT on January, 26th, the ACT on Feb. 23rd, and the SAT on March 3rd.
 - The Sophomore class took the PSAT 10 on March 3rd.
 - The 8th and 9th graders took the PSAT 8/9 on Feb. 23rd.

Professional Development:

- One of the areas our teachers need some help with is website design. We are going to have a website training with a few of our tech savvy teachers leading to assist and expand on the training already given. We want our website to be up to date and informative to all stakeholders. The training will be offered to any teachers in grades K-12. This is going to be a priority for the 4-12 campus moving forward.

Extracurricular:

- **Scholarships**
 - The Senior Class of 2021 has received \$3,302,000 in scholarships as of 3/9/2021 and acceptances to over 40 universities, including Wofford, Clemson, UNC Chapel Hill, Brevard, NC State University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Belmont Abbey College, etc. We are very proud of the class of 2021 and anticipate the amount of scholarship awards and acceptances to continue to increase over the course of the next few months.
- **Senior Project**
 - Mr. Ziegler and myself will begin meeting with the senior class to discuss their senior project of volunteering for Habitat for Humanity. The seniors elected to volunteer with this organization and we are going to help guide them in during their volunteer efforts.
- **Ring Ceremony**
 - The Ring Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, March 30 at 6:00pm at the Lyceum. We would like to extend an invitation to all Board members. Dr. Martin is planning and coordinating this event. We will have around six participants from various classes.
- **Spring Pictures**

- Spring Pictures will be taken March 15-17th. Individual Senior Cap and Gown Pictures as well as the group senior portrait will be taken on March 16th. The group picture will be taken at the Lyceum.
- **Homecoming**
 - Homecoming is going to be held at 12:45 at the Lyceum on Friday, April 16, 2021. The seniors will be able to watch the court as a senior privilege this year as we are still maintaining social distancing, but trying to give seniors some school traditions to look forward to. Each class (seniors, juniors, sophomores, and freshmen) will nominate and then elect 6 court members from each grade level that they feel represent the school. The parents and guardians of court members will be invited to attend as well. This will be the final day of Spirit Week and I think the students are excited to have an event to celebrate in 2021.
- **Student Government**
 - Student Government is currently working in conjunction with myself to plan and coordinate prom. Prom will be held at The Simpson Farm venue on Saturday, May 1st. Tickets went on sale in February.
 - Student Government is sponsoring a can food drive. Canned food items will be collected during homeroom and will be donated to a food bank. This collection will last until March 30th.
 - Student Government sponsored “Heart Day” on Friday, Feb. 19th. For \$1 students will be able to wear red with their favorite jeans or pants. They were able to raise \$359.00 from this fundraiser and all proceeds from this fundraiser has gone to the American Heart Association.

School Report Card - *Dr. Ziegler presented the report as provided.*

PreACT Data; Area Charter School Attrition

PreACT Data

The PreACT is a test administered to all sophomores in North Carolina public schools.

“PreACT® offers sophomores an early experience with ACT test items, provides a predicted ACT test score, and offers a wealth of information to help students get the start they need to be college ready. Anchored on the ACT college and career readiness standards, PreACT helps educators, students, and parents, identify areas of academic strength and opportunity”

(<https://www.act.org/content/act/en/products-and-services/preact.html>).

The ACT (taken by juniors) is graded on a 1 to 36 scale; the PreACT is graded on a 1-35 scale.

Test Score	PCA Class of 2023	National Average
Composite	20.4	16.7
Math	18.9	16.7
Science	21.5	18.0
STEM	20.5	17.0
English (grammar and punctuation)	17.0	15.2
Reading (reading comprehension)	23.5	18.0

Pinnacle Classical Academy
Total Enrollment (Final Month Report)

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
K	47	64	66	91	109	118	121
1	43	49	66	73	94	111	111
2	42	47	68	71	89	99	107
3	47	45	46	71	90	96	101
4	43	44	46	52	75	94	86
5	45	43	49	50	51	92	101
6	44	43	43	52	53	58	95
7	0	36	47	51	53	54	64
8	0	0	39	43	51	55	54
9	0	0	0	32	41	47	62
10	0	0	0	0	30	39	35
11	0	0	0	0	0	29	35
12	0	0	0	0	0	0	29
total	311	371	470	586	736	892	1001

Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy

Total Enrollment (Final Month Report)

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
K	111	110	105	110	114	110	107
1	111	113	109	114	110	114	110
2	110	111	114	101	109	106	105
3	111	106	110	116	112	113	106
4	107	104	102	105	110	109	109
5	99	100	102	104	101	124	110
6	101	102	108	105	104	110	132
7	100	100	99	104	104	110	109
8	100	100	99	101	100	108	98
9	95	101	89	101	86	97	90
10	98	92	99	83	100	89	97
11	88	85	82	90	74	88	79
12	63	84	83	78	82	70	82
total	1294	1308	1301	1312	1306	1348	1334

Piedmont Community Charter School

Total Enrollment (Final Month Report)

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
K	108	111	106	109	111	110	106
1	99	103	101	108	108	108	108
2	102	104	103	108	108	108	104
3	99	104	102	108	108	109	108
4	101	105	102	107	108	108	106
5	100	104	101	108	108	110	107
6	102	109	104	108	109	110	112
7	104	103	104	108	110	112	113
8	101	97	105	107	110	112	110
9	91	99	92	102	111	107	103
10	71	79	94	82	85	104	95
11	69	67	78	87	70	80	86
12	56	64	63	71	82	67	72
total	1203	1249	1255	1313	1328	1345	1330

Lincoln Charter School

Total Enrollment (Final Month Report)

	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
K	131	132	73	135	133	132	133
1	133	142	147	148	147	147	144
2	133	144	144	144	147	147	146
3	121	140	149	147	149	147	146
4	125	125	149	150	151	150	150
5	124	125	145	152	154	153	153
6	147	155	158	162	208	204	204
7	152	153	162	161	163	214	211
8	125	153	159	162	162	167	213
9	159	161	174	173	173	171	167
10	110	157	164	172	163	174	160
11	103	110	152	156	163	156	157
12	91	100	158	148	149	154	142
total	1654	1797	1934	2010	2062	2116	2126

Note: The sudden drop in kindergarten enrollment in 2015-16, combined with the surge in grade 12 enrollment, raises questions about the accuracy of the data that year.

Overview of Charter School Attrition

Total Enrollment (Final Month Report)

Class of 2019

	Grade 7 vs. Grade 12	Grade 9 vs. Grade 12
Pinnacle Classical Academy	36 to 29 (-19.4%)	32 to 29 (-9.4%)
Thomas Jefferson Classical Academy	100 to 82 (-18.0%)	101 to 82 (-18.8%)
Piedmont Community Charter School	103 to 72 (-30.1%)	102 to 72 (-29.4%)
Lincoln Charter School	153 to 142 (-7.2%)	173 to 142 (-17.9%)

Classical Foundations Program (CFP) Update

March 9, 2021

Jeff Ziegler

1. The Pledge of Allegiance and School Pledge are recited over the loudspeaker daily.
2. Using John Allison's Kenneth R. Meyer Lecture, Mrs. Breanne Norman Miller has compiled monthly character lessons based on the school's values statement, along with a schedule for showing video excerpts. The first seven themes were honesty, integrity, reality, reason, independent thought, productivity, and teamwork; in March, the theme is justice.
3. Our ring ceremony is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, March 30, at 6:00.
4. Several discussions have taken place with T. K. Coleman of the Foundation for Economic Education about producing videos related to the school's ten values; these videos would replace Mr. Allison's video excerpts in 2021-22. On December 31, Mr. Coleman sent three draft videos for administrative review; one was shown at the January board meeting. Administrators had a strongly positive reaction, and I've requested draft videos 4-7 by March 31, and videos 8-10 by May 31.
5. David Bobb (Bill of Rights Institute) and Lily Tang Williams (Victims of Communism Foundation) were scheduled to be our principal lecturers this year.

The lectures will be rescheduled for 2021-22, once we have a better sense from the State Board of Education of what the school year will look like.

6. I am conducting research for an article for submission to *Political Economy in the Carolinas* examining public charter school vs. LEA performance in North Carolina for various demographics.
7. As discussed in the CFP document approved by the board in March 2020, students in grades 7-12 are taking part in essay contests. Students in grades 7, 9, and 10 submitted Stossel in the Classroom essays by March 8.
8. Selected high school students are being invited to participate in a reading group, sponsored by the Foundation for Economic Education and Classical Liberals in the Carolinas, on Bradley Thompson's *America's Revolutionary Mind: A Moral History of the American Revolution and the Declaration That Defined It*.
9. The next meeting of the Classical Foundations Program advisory board is scheduled for March 12.
10. On March 16, Dr. Bruce Yandle, dean emeritus of Clemson University's College of Business and Behavioral Sciences and former executive director of the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), will speak virtually to Mrs. Stockham's Economics and Personal Finance class on "Using Markets & Property Rights to Protect the Environment."
11. On April 19, O. Max Gardner III will speak to high school students about the Shelby Dynasty.
12. CFP financial statements, provided by Mrs. Donna Mabry, are included with this report.

Head Master Report *Dr. Shelly Bullard presented the report as provided.*

Action Items:

- 2021-2022 Budget with Motion made by Dr. Pauline Cahill and 2nd by Betsy Harnage. All Approved.

Curriculum and Academics:

- ☐ We continue to monitor specific areas where we have concerns with the lack of student growth. The Admin Team is working closely with individual teachers to make changes to instructional practices as needed.
- We will be giving the last NC Check-In this month. This will provide us with data to make the final push for the year end as we prepare for the end of year state tests.
- ☐ We have started to plan for summer professional development and curriculum work. I believe we have some areas that need attention and plan to narrow in on

those areas to tighten our instructional focus.

Legal / DPI:

- I have submitted the following for the Performance Framework
 - School Performance Score and Letter Grade
 - Board Nepotism Policy
 - School Improvement Plan
- I have submitted the monthly reports on the expenditure of COVID Funds
- Federal Monitoring
 - We completed our Federal Monitoring Virtual Visit on March 4. We should be receiving feedback from the visit within a few weeks.

Human Resources:

- The administrative team has started attending job fairs in preparation for staffing needs for the 2021-22 school year. We have job descriptions ready for each position. We would like approval to begin interviewing for the following positions. These positions are included in the 2021-2022 budget.
 - Middle / High School English
 - Middle / High School Math
 - Librarian
 - PE (K-3)
 - Guidance (K-3)
 - Custodian (K-3)

Finance: *

- Financial information is attached. We continue to be in a strong financial position.
- The Finance Committee met and a budget proposal for the 2021-22 school year will be presented today for your approval. (attached)

Athletics:

Varsity Girls Basketball

The girls basketball team will complete their developmental season on March 11th.

Spring Sports

Starting March 22nd, Spring Sports will be able to practice as a team for their developmental season. All of these practices will remain optional for the student-athletes.

Softball will practice Mon, Tues., Thurs., Friday at Landmark Church
MS Baseball will practice Tues. and Thurs.
Archery practices Monday and Tuesdays.

All coaches were given the spreadsheet where they are required to keep up with daily temperature checks and covid screening. Coaches are responsible for contacting parents if practices are cancelled.

General Information

All athletes, cancelled season or not, are still required to maintain their grades if they wish to practice during this developmental year. Coach Chester reviews their progress reports and report cards.

The following sports are in need of a coach:

Boys Soccer

Cross Country

Girls Soccer

It has been posted on facebook and sent to all faculty members. There has not been any interest yet.

Counseling Report:

- Please see attached report

- Highlights:
 - Academic Merit/Athletic Awards to date: \$3,302,000 (see attached report) [Merit Scholarship Report Feb 2021.pdf](#)

Senior Class

- Data-driven FAFSA reminders sent to non-completers (68% have submitted)
- Virtual Visit: CCC 2-year programs
- 1 applicant for Golden Leaf Scholarship
- No applicants for SECU Scholarship
- College Applications (see attached report)
- Academic Merit/Athletic Awards to date: \$3,302,000 (see attached report)
- College Application Advising
- Scholarship Advising
- Collaboration with CCC Career Coach, Academic Alerts
 - 15 on track to graduate with Associate's Degree
- Weekly announcements for college acceptances and scholarship awards

Junior Class

- Virtual Visit: CCC 2-year programs
- Individual virtual college advising meetings with Mr. Ziegler
- College Essay Workshop in Junior English classes

- 1 junior applying to Summer Ventures Program through NCSSM
- PCA's nominee for Governor's School was not selected to attend
- Nominated 2 students for expense-paid visit to Swarthmore College
- Collaboration with CCC Career Coach, Academic Alerts
 - Meetings with juniors for advising re: Associate's Degree

Sophomore Class

- Virtual Visit: CCC 2-year programs
- Data-driven communication to students and parents re: CCP eligibility
- 1 student accepted to A.I. (Artificial Intelligence) Scholars Summer program, developed and taught by Stanford and MIT alumni and grad students
- 2 sophomores applying for Summer Ventures Program through NCSSM
- GPA Advising re: CCP eligibility

Freshman Class

Other

- College and Career Day Planning
- CCP Parent Contract development
- CCP Course Planning for 2021-22
- Updating High School Counseling website
- Assisting with afternoon duty, testing
- Textbook distribution for CCP courses
- Transcript Audit in progress

Enrollment Report

- **Lottery**
 - Our Virtual Lottery was very different from our normal event. While it was unusual, we have had great response with many Final Applications being turned immediately after the lottery concluded. In fact, we had 15 Initial Applications submitted from the time our broadcast started to 9:00pm that evening.
 - As of March 11, we have 266 applications for the 2021-22 school year. (see chart below)

- Projected Enrollment Numbers for 2021-22

	Expected LOI	Initial Apps	Classes 20-21	Classes 21-22	Offer	Total	Class Avg
K	0	138	5	5	138	120	24
1st	116	18	5	5	4	120	24
2nd	116	20	5	5	4	120	24
3rd	110	12	5	5	10	120	24
4th	98	9	4	4	2	100	25
5th	97	15	4	4	13	110	27.5
6th	92	16	4	4	18	110	27.5
7th	95	6	3	4	15	110	27.5
8th	83	9	3	3	3	86	28.66666667
9th	58	9	2	2	1	59	29.5
10th	48	4	2	2	1	49	24.5
11th	48	2	2	2	0	48	24
12th	27	3	1	1	1	28	28
		261	45	46	210	1180	

Upcoming Events

- March 19th- Report Cards
- March 22nd-25th- NC Check-Ins
- March 30 - Ring Ceremony
- April 2-9 - Easter Break
- April 16 - Homecoming
- May 1 - Prom

Board Updates

Miscellaneous Board Updates

New Business

Old Business

Adjournment *Betsy Harnage made a motion to adjourn and Jayson Philbeck seconded. Meeting was adjourned.*

