



*NCVA is a community of students, families, and educators dedicated to expanding educational choice through innovative and technology-rich instructional practices, and accountable for developing each student's full potential for academic and post-secondary success.*

**February 01, 2021, Regular Board Meeting  
Minutes**

**Regular Meeting – via Videoconference  
North Carolina Learns, Inc.  
Board of Directors**

<https://zoom.us/j/601051832>

| <b>Board Members Present</b> |                  | <b>Board Members Absent</b> | <b>Others in Attendance Non-Voting</b> |
|------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------------|--|
|                              |                  |                             | Chad Long, K12                         |
| Dr. Ronald Kantor            | Mark Fleming     |                             | Chris Withrow, Executive Director      |
| Sara Struhs                  | Brenda Robertson |                             | Lauren Acome, K12                      |
| Dr. Steven Peters            | Dr. Steve Moody  |                             | Julie Overholt, K12                    |
| Walter Martin                | Dr. Ann Fuerst   |                             | Paige Adams                            |
|                              |                  |                             | Natarsha Bryant                        |
|                              |                  |                             | Tom Graham, K12                        |
|                              |                  |                             | Marcia Simmons, K12                    |
|                              |                  |                             | Erin Farmer                            |
|                              |                  |                             | Brian Resnick, K12                     |
|                              |                  |                             |  |

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Steve Moody called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM. Before conducting business, the Executive Director took the roll to ensure that the board's quorum existed. With a quorum present, board business could be performed.

The mission was read for the full board to drive the actions and deliberations for the meeting's remainder.

**ACTION:** Mrs. Sara Struhs made a motion to accept the agenda, and approve all minutes from previous meetings, seconded by Mr. Walter Martin. The motion passed unanimously.

## II. COMMUNICATIONS:

No requests for public comments were received.

## III. CONSENT ITEMS:

2021/2022 Academic Calendar  
New Hires

**ACTION:** Mr. Mark Fleming made a motion to approve the new hires, seconded by Dr. Steve Peters. The motion passed unanimously.

## IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS:

- Mrs. Erin Farmer shared some of the numerous functions/activities the guidance counselors perform. Some of the activities include graduation plans for Juniors and Seniors, weekly meetings with at-risk students, virtual career fair, graduation, and assist with college admission applications. She also shared information about our mid-year graduation and the plans of those who graduated.
- Mrs. Paige Adams discussed the various opportunities and functions the guidance counselors perform for our school. They spend much time conducting small group meetings with our families, offering social and emotional support and assistance with finding community resources for those negatively affected by COVID 19. Supports for anxiety/depression/mental illness, suicidal ideation, pregnancy, addictions, legal issues, grief counseling, and homeless are addressed by the staff.
- Mrs. Natarsha Bryant discussed the marketing methods being utilized ahead of registration and re-registration. Primary targeted campaigns to be deployed on national tv SEM, social media, and YouTube. Mrs. Bryant showed some examples of the types of marketing utilized and a chart with the timeline for deployment.
- Mrs. Lauren Acome discussed our upcoming ACT testing, Enrollment, and Re-Registration, Lottery, COVID 19 expansion student data, and the ESSA Waiver NCDPI is preparing.
- Mr. Walter Martin provided information about the previous finance committee. Particularly, enrollments currently projected for 2,990 on a 9-month average are 186 registrations higher than last year. Total funding is \$23.2 million, which is \$2.1 million higher than the previous year, with the total projected expenses at \$23.1 million. Total staffing is 171, with an increase of 14 new instructional positions. The current surplus is \$228k before the 3% Top-Off Reserve of \$80k. Our two invoices: Testing Computers – 10,353,75 and the January Invoice - \$981,486.11

V. ACTION ITEMS:

Testing Computer and Monthly Invoices

**ACTION:** Mr. Walter Martin, made a motion approve the invoices, seconded by Mrs. Sara Struhs The motion passed unanimously.

Waiver from Administrative Withdrawals for ACT

**ACTION:** Mr. Mark Fleming made a motion approve the waiver, seconded by Mrs. Brenda Robertson. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. CHAIRPERSON COMMENTS

- February 02, 2021 – Academic Committee Meeting – 5 PM
- Finance Work Session – April 30 and May 01, 2021
- Board Member Training offered by the Office of Charter Schools. If you would like to attend, please let the Executive Director know so that he can submit your registration.

Meeting the Needs of Children, February 24, 2021. 8:30 am to 3:15 PM

VII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Mr. Mark Fleming and properly seconded by Mrs. Sara Struhs. The motion passed unanimously. With the completion of all agenda items and no new business items, the meeting was adjourned.

The meeting ended at 6:21 PM.

The next scheduled board meeting will be March 01, 2021, at 5 PM.