

Paul R. Brown Leadership Academy
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
March 14, 2024

The Paul R. Brown Leadership Academy Board of Directors meeting was held on Thursday, March 14, 2024, at the Paul R. Brown Building located at 1360 Martin L. King, Jr. Drive in Elizabethtown, N.C.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by the Chairperson Mrs. Minnie Price at 6:01 pm.

POSTING OF COLORS: The posting of colors was conducted by Dr. Wray. The pledge of allegiance to the flag was performed by the board members and others in attendance.

WELCOME: The welcome was addressed by Chairperson Mrs. Minnie Price.

BOARD VALUES: Repeated by board members.

PRBLA MISSION STATEMENT: Read together by board members.

ROLL CALL/QUORUM: The roll was called by Chairperson, Mrs. Minnie Price and the members present were as follows: Mrs. Minnie Price, Dr. Aaron Cox, Mr. Walter Drummond, Mr. Quenten Stewart, and Mr. Roland T. McKoy, III. Mrs. Beverly Randolph, Mr. Scott Johnson, and Mrs. Joyce McLaughlin had excused absences. A quorum was in attendance. Others in attendance: Dr. Jason Wray, Dr. Jacqueline Wray, Ms. Lovella Jacobs, and Mrs. Jeanal McDowell.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: A motion was made by Mr. Walter Drummond and seconded by Dr. Aaron Cox to adopt the agenda. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Mr. Scott Johnson and seconded by Mr. Ronald McKoy to approve the minutes from the February 4, 2024 meeting. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT: Dr. Jason Wray shared and discussed his report with the board members.

Cadets: There are currently 214, cadets enrolled at PRBLA with 4 students shadowing and an expectation that growth will continue through the end of the school year. The Cadets have participated in multiple community events across Bladen County. One of the events the cadets participated in was posting the colors at the NC Charter Coalition State Conference in Raleigh and the color guard did not disappoint. LTC Lloyd did an excellent job preparing them and it was perfect on the biggest stage. A truly once-in-a-lifetime event, in front of a sold-out crowd. Kudos to LTC Lloyd and those cadets. Also traveling to the event were Mr. McKoy, Dr. JB Wray, and Dr Chico Caldwell

School Improvements: PRBLA continues to focus on the 11 High Probability Instructional Strategies for every classroom.

We have completed the area beautification around the gym. The landscape is done. The new Price-Mckoy Field House sign is mounted.

We did receive the transportation grant but not as much as anticipated, the more schools that apply the less the money is spread across the schools. Schools totaled \$8.5 million in request and the Office of Charter Schools only has \$2 million. Our Share was \$63K and that's still a nice amount we will gladly accept

EPIC Center Tasks: PRBLA has 1 EPIC CENTER Task overdue but we are entering the final stages of completing our audit. We are now just signing papers and finalizing the process. The CPA may have been late on the audit, but Dr. JB informed me that her invoice surely was not late.

Staff: No new staff members

Building Improvement: PRBLA's new desk arrived this Monday, we have installed cameras in the Gym to help with student control and safety. We have also cleared out the P.E. classroom beside the gym to start utilizing that space more effectively. We also are mounting shelves in our 2 connex storage that sit out back. We got an estimate on Wi-fi in the gym, we are looking to get that projected because we need eyes on our students in our gym and our property as a whole.

INSTRUCTIONAL COACH REPORT: Dr. Jason Wray presented the NC Check-Ins #1 & #2 Data Review

FINANCIAL REPORT: Dr. Jacqueline Wray shared the February 2024 financial report with the board members. Dr. Jacqueline Wray updated the board on:

Audit Update, Federal Funding, Various Accounts, State Funding and Projections:

Dr. Jacqueline Wray shared that the superintendent has directed that we implement emergency purchases only starting 1 April 2024. This is typical of any school, or district to minimize expenditures in the closing months of the school year

No questions were presented by board members regarding the financial report. A motion to approve the financial report was made by Mr. Walter Drummond and seconded by Dr. Aaron Cox. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN REPORT: Mrs. Jeanal McDowell reported we currently have 42 Cadets in our EC program including 18 middle school Cadets and 23 high school Cadets. She stated PRBLA will continue to monitor newly enrolled Cadets to see if they are in need of special services. She reiterated that Child Find is a part of a federal law called the Individuals

with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) that mandates schools to locate youth ages 3-21 with suspected disabilities who may be entitled to special education services.

Mrs. Jeanal McDowell shared that Public School Units are required to complete the annual registration of legally blind students. The information is used to calculate the amount of Federal Quota Funds designated for the purchase of educational materials for eligible students through the American Printing House for the Blind. Although we have no legally blind students to report at this time we are still required to complete the registration process. We have two contractors used for related services as of December 1, 2023 our speech-language therapist and our occupational therapist that are both contracted through SpeechSolution.

NUTRITION REPORT: Ms. Lovella Jacobs presented the Child Nutrition Board of Directors Update.

Cadets: Ms. Lovella Jacobs reported that in February 2024, PBLAS served meals for 20 days which is 2 days short of the normal work month. We served 3682 students meals in February compared to 3327 student meals served in January including lunch and breakfast. The expected NCDPI reimbursement will be \$13,503.45. We paid a total of \$7,374.98 for food purchases in February 2024. We also served a total of 361 meals to our staff, this includes breakfast and lunch

Account: The Finance department has established our Child Nutrition Account with LINQ so we can pay our bills out of the Child Nutrition Account. PRBLA will be reimbursed for \$69,241.16. Just a reminder to the Board of Directors we must keep the account balance to no more than 3 rolling months of pay. That is about \$40K since we typically get reimbursed about \$13k per month. To ensure we are following that policy we will be looking to reimburse PRBLA for other purchases. The US Food Commodities team visited last week to train us on how to order commodities. Dr. Wray and myself will be attending the training. Our annual review is next month as we continue to prepare for this assessment. Keep in mind, that it is not a pass or fail assessment but rather an opportunity to make suggested improvements. That's how they wanted us to explain it to our Board Of Directors.

No Need for a Closed Session

OLD BUSINESS: Testing Update /Feedback Mr. Walter Drummond volunteered to come help with testing.

NEW BUSINESS: Testing Plans for 2023-2024
Credit Requirements for High School Students

The board discussed the Superintendent's Performance Review Instrument Standards 4-6. Each board member presented their findings and comments about standards 4-6.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Dr. Aaron Cox and seconded by Mr. Walter Drummond to Adjourn. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 9, 2024, at 6 pm.

Recorded by
Mrs. Beverly Randolph