

Paul R. Brown Leadership Academy
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
February 8, 2024

The Paul R. Brown Leadership Academy Board of Directors meeting was held on Thursday, February 8, 2024 at the Paul R. Brown Building located at 1360 Martin L. King, Jr. Drive in Elizabethtown, N.C.

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order by the Chairperson Mrs. Minnie Price at 6:00pm.

POSTING OF COLORS: The posting of colors was conducted by Paul R. Brown Leadership Academy Color Guard. 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 Vice Chairperson, Dr. Aaron Cox 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 was present virtually. Mr. Scott Johnson and Mrs. Joyce McLaughlin had excused absences. A quorum was in attendance. Others in attendance-included: Dr. Jason Wray, Dr. Jacqueline Wray, Col. Carl T. Lloyd, Mrs. Teressa Lloyd, Ms. Lovella Jacobs and Mrs. Jeanal McDowell.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Motion was made by Mr. Quenten Stewart and seconded by Mr. Roland McKoy to adopt the agenda. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Mr. Roland McKoy and seconded by Mr. Quenten Stewart to approve the minutes from the January 11, 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 219 cadets enrolled at PRBLA with 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 the Pop Warner Football awards banquet. PRBLA started its basketball season with a game played against Thomas Academy. The entire Corp of Cadets attended the game.

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

The Price-McKoy Field House continues to be completed in preparation for the first home game. Discussions are in progress concerning joining an athletic conference next school year and playing a 16 game schedule. The conference would include basketball, volleyball, track and field, etc.

Two grant applications are still pending. PRBLA was notified of approval of the Charter School Transportation Grant. The expectation is that PRBLA will receive approximately \$125k for this grant however, the confirmed total is not yet known.

EPIC Center Tasks: PRBLA has 1 EPIC CENTER Task overdue. The CPA did send a letter requesting an extension and that was granted until May 2024.

Staff: No new staff members

Building Improvements: PRBLA is planning for continued growth by preparing spaces in the Paul R. Brown Bldg. for classes. Currently, PRBLA has Wi-Fi connection in all classrooms. The Wi-Fi connection helps during online testing.

INSTRUCTIONAL COACH REPORT: Dr. Jason Wray presented the Instructional Coach's Board Update.

I-Ready: Dr. Jason Wray shared that all math standards taught in the classroom are reinforced in I-Ready. The first NC Check #2 is February 12-16, 2024 and should give some indication of how well it is going.

NC Check-Ins: Science 8 has completed its first NC Check. The scores reflected 37%. Our goal is 40%.

EOC: PRBLA completed the NC Math 1 End of Course testing. A total of 16 tested and 10 passed representing 63%. At the same juncture last year we had a 42% passing score.

FINANCIAL REPORT: Dr. Jacqueline Wray shared the January 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 PRBLA had presented all documents to the CPA by January 5, 2024 but that the CPA had not completed the Audit on time. The CPA has sent a letter to NCDPI. The Board will be updated as this situation is resolved.

No questions were presented by board members regarding the financial report. A motion to approve the financial report was made by Mr. Quentin Stewart and seconded by Mrs. Beverly Randolph. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN REPORT: Mrs. Jeanal McDowell reported we currently have 42 Cadets in our EC program to include 17 middle school Cadets and 25 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 stated PRBLA is continuing to expand the Occupational Course of Study Program. The Occupational Course of Study is intended to meet the needs of a select and specified group of students with disabilities who need a modified curriculum that focuses on post-school employment and independent living. To complete this diploma track each student must complete 300 hours of school-based vocational training, 240 hours of community-based vocational training internships. The students receive a monthly stipend based on their job performance. The following businesses have agreed to take our students as interns this semester: Touch of Beauty located in Elizabethtown, Log Cabin Restaurant located in Tar Heel, Smity's located in Elizabethtown, and Cindy's Restaurant located in Elizabethtown. Additionally, PRBLA has one student in a paid-internship program at Barber's Inn located in Elizabethtown.

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

Cadets: Ms. Lovella Jacobs reported that in January 2024, PRBLAS served 3327 student meals and 282 staff meals. The expected NCDPI reimbursement will be \$12,459.41.

Account: The NCDPI team visited PRBLA to review some of the Annual Review documentations. There were no major concerns. The department will continue to conduct short in person and virtual training sessions with the Child Nutrition Staff to assist in preparation for the Annual Review.

CLOSED SESSION: A motion was made by Mr. Roland McKoy and seconded by Mr. Quentin Stewart to go into closed session. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

EXIT CLOSED SESSION: A motion was made by Mr. Quentin Stewart and seconded by Mr. Walter Drummond to exit closed session. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS: Mrs. Minnie Price reminded the board that our mandatory Board of Directors training is scheduled for March 28, 2024 at 6pm via Zoom.

NEW BUSINESS: The board discussed the Superintendents Performance Review Instrument Standards 1-3. Each board member presented their findings and comments about standards 1-3.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Mr. Walter Drummond and seconded by Mr. Quentin Stewart to Adjourn. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:07p.m.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 14, 2024 at 6pm.

Recorded by
Dr. Aaron Cox, Vice Chairperson