

Paul R. Brown Leadership Academy
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2024

The Paul R. Brown Leadership Academy Board of Directors meeting was held on Thursday, January 11, 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. Scott Johnson, Mr. Quenten Stewart, Mrs. Beverly Randolph. Mr. Roland T. McKoy, III. and Ms. 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. Walter Drummond and seconded by Mr. Scott Johnson to adopt the agenda. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Mr. Walter Drummond and seconded by Mr. Quenten Stewart to approve the minutes from the December 14, 2023 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 209 cadets enrolled at PRBLA. The enrollment is expected to increase during this time of the year. The Cadets have participated in multiple community events across Bladen county. PRBLA Cadets participated in the Jr. Class Ring Ceremony. The Class rings are free of charge to the Cadets if they sell raffle tickets.

School Improvements: PRBLA continues to focus on the 11 High Probability Instructional Strategies for every classroom. The Price-McKoy Field House is in the final stage of being completed. Some of the last items to be worked are the painting of the Mascot and outlines or border lines around paintings so the pictures can be viewed easier. Dr. Jason Wray encouraged the board to go view what's been done with the renovations of the Price-McKoy

Field House. Currently PRBLA is still waiting for a decision on the Full-Service Community Schools Grant. The school was not selected for the NC Stronger Connections Grant. PRBLA has started the 21st Century afterschool program for the Cadets. The 21st Century program covers payments for teachers, bus drivers and fuel.

EPIC Center Tasks: PRBLA has 1 EPIC CENTER Task overdue. An extension was granted on this task until May 2024. PRBLA submitted paperwork for the 2023-2024 Transportation Grant on December 27, 2023. If awarded, the grant will include repairs, bus purchases, driver salaries and fuel. The grant would reimburse up to 65% of PRBLA cost.

Staff: PRBLA has hired a new Middle School Physical Education & Social Studies Teacher, Ms. Monica Skyes, who came from Elizabethtown Christian Academy.

Building Improvements: PRBLA is planning for growth and expansion by preparing the Paul R. Brown Bldg. for classes starting in January 2024. The plan is to have Sea Cadets classes, 9th Grade Health & P.E. classes and Middle School P.E. classes in the Paul R. Brown Bldg. Painting school colors in the building is expected to be completed in the coming weeks. Painting is being done by PRBLA staff/faculty to cut down on cost.

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

I-Ready: Dr. Jason Wray shared that adjustments to plans from last months' meeting were made and now all math standards taught in the classroom are reinforced in I-Ready. So far the administration has received positive feedback from the Math Department because they feel they now have the resources and additional help for the Cadets. The NC Check #2 scheduled for February should provide information to see how well this process is working. Science 8 will do their first NC Check on January 28, 2024.

EVAAS: Dr. Jason Wray advised that he had reached out to state personnel working with EVASS for clarity on how student growth was being measured. However, this area seems to still present with confusion.

NC Check-Ins: The Check-ins #2 are scheduled for February 12-16. The NC Check-in #1 was in November. The plan is to follow the same play book as the last time utilizing I-Ready to the fullest extent possible to ensure we have the same success or better for the 2023-2024 school year.

Dr. Jason Wray concluded the report.

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

Federal Funding, Various Accounts, State Funding and Projections

Dr. Jacqueline Wray answered all questions presented by Mrs. Minnie Price regarding homeless Cadets classification and updating the report on line item Vendor BCYF Duke Energy reflecting Employer's Life Insurance Cont. No other questions were asked.

A motion to approve the financial report with necessary corrections was made by Mr. Walter Drummond and seconded by Mr. Scott Johnson. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN REPORT: Mrs. Jeanal McDowell reported we currently have 40 Cadets in our EC program to include 17 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 stated survey forms will be sent out to juniors and seniors from the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVRS). The purpose is to identify students who have disabilities that prevents them from achieving career success or independence in their community of choice. DVRS can connect Cadets to services and resources to help them meet their goals. The program can support individuals with and without Individualized Education Plans.

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

Cadets: Ms. Lovella Jacobs reported that in December 2023 which was a short month with on 11 working days 1989 Cadet meals and 153 staff meals were served. PRBLA paid \$2362.55 for the meals and NCDPI will reimburse PRBLA a total of \$7447.91.

Account: Ms. Lovella Jacobs completed the ServSafe course.

CLOSED SESSION: A motion was made by Mr. Scott Johnson and seconded by Mrs. Beverly Randolph to go into closed session. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried.

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

OLD BUSINESS: Dr. Jason Wray commented on PRBLA receiving the Academic Growth Award. Chairperson Mrs. Minnie Price reminded the board that our mandatory Board of Directors training is scheduled for January 25, 2024 at 6pm via Zoom.

NEW BUSINESS: A short discussion concerning CDC reports and viruses such as the Flu, Pneumonia, and Covid. Chairperson Mrs. Minnie Price invited everyone to attend the Miss Bladen County Youth Focus Project Pageant on Saturday, January 13, 2024 at 7pm. Mrs. Minnie Price invited everyone to attend the open house at Bladen County Youth Focus Project 2-story Historical Building on January 20, 2024 starting at 12pm and ending at 4pm to see the renovations made to the classroom building.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion was made by Mr. Walter Drummond and seconded by Mr. Quenten Stewart to Adjourn. The vote was unanimous. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:22p.m.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 8, 2024 at 6pm.

Recorded by

Dr. Aaron Cox, Vice Chairperson