

Academic Committee Meeting Minutes
Thursday, April 2, 2020 11:00 a.m.

In Attendance by ZOOM and PHONE:

Debra Adams, Chair

Barbara Major

Ora Wiley, Committee Member

Cheryl Beaco, Committee Member

Marcia Williams (by mobile phone through Ms. Bradley)

Terri Williams

Dr. Roslyn J. Smith

Deidra Bradley

Mr. Zanders (after 11:53 a.m.)

“Our Students Success is our Number 1 Priority Always”

Meeting was called to order at 11:20 a.m. with a quorum of three members. Ms. McWilliams was still experiencing difficulty with the Zoom platform. Ora Wiley asked to add an agenda item to the list. She wanted to discuss the CEO position, due to missing the Special Meeting when a vote was taken on the matter. Ms. Wiley made a motion to add the CEO item to the agenda. Cheryl Beaco seconded the motion. There were no questions or comments. The three committee members in attendance took the vote. Approval to add the item was by unanimous vote. Dr. Smith said the item would be added under V. Other Concerns Committee Members/Ms. Williams.

The items on the agenda were reordered with the consent of all present.

I. Debriefing on Charter Renewal Meeting

Update from Superintendent – 2020 School Year

- LEAP Testing - State mandated testing LEAP 2025 waived
LEAP mandated test will not be taken
- 2. SPS Rating – No Score
- 3. Renewal – Robert Russa Moton Charter School is up for renewal during 2020 – 2021. Ms. Williams, Ms. Major, Ms. Wiley and Dr. Smith participated in a telecommunications meeting with Dr. Peterson and Ms. Danalyn Hypolite to discuss motions Options for renewal recommendations. The team selected Option - 1 year extension for Renewal because Moton has a current SPS of “D.” We were not eligible for the section option because we must have at least a “C” letter grade to qualify. We are now 3.6 points away from being a C school.

II. Status of formal and informal teacher observations

Teacher evaluations were concluded with first semester ratings for all classroom teachers. Two teachers are on extensive Action Plans. They were receiving

continuous support, formal and informal follow-up and feedback was interrupted by COVID-19

Non-Instructional Staff have not been formally evaluated by Ms. Williams. This includes Instructional Coaches and Custodians, etc.

III. Staff Projections

Retention - Teachers being coached up. All kinds of feedback provided at least twice each week and informal walk throughs weekly. Teachers have been receptive to feedback. Ms. Williams making final decisions regarding staffing but most will be invited back. Some staff are able to function programmatically, but struggle with working in Moton's culture.

Positions planned to be advertised – Special Education, 7/8 ELA and Instructional Coach pending Board Approval.

IV. Covid-19 Academic Response

Ms. Williams presented a PowerPoint presentation to summarize all of the items on the agenda. This will be shared with the entire board. She added Mentor Teams for the Moton students/families. Ms. Williams also updated the committee on Chrome books coming from the district and Hot spots that will allow our families without internet services to participate in on-line instruction through Distance Learning.

V. Other Concerns Committee Members/Ms. Williams

Ora Wiley presented arguments for a CEO to be added to the school's organizational chart, citing the failed history of the SOO position, CEO evolution and current/future needs for the charter school's success. Ms. McWilliams questioned why the topic was being revisited when it had already been voted on in a Special Meeting. The 3-3 vote resulted in the motion to add the CEO position failed. Ms. Wiley was not present for the vote due to a medical issue. She wanted to weigh in. President Major responded that she also wanted the item added to the agenda out of respect for a Board member's request in the same way she called the Special Meeting out of respect for the Governance Committee's request. After discussion, a voice vote was taken. The motion was made by Ms. Wiley to place the CEO position on the Board Meeting agenda. Cheryl Beaco seconded the motion. There were no further comments or questions. Ms. Wiley, Ms. Beaco, and Ms. Adams voted in favor of the motion. Ms. McWilliams (by mobile phone) voted against the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 12:32 p.m.