

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the
STATEWIDE VIRTUAL CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD
OKLAHOMA HISTORY CENTER
800 NAZIH ZUHDI DR.
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

January 8, 2024

The Statewide Virtual Charter School Board met in regular session at 1:00 p.m. on January 8, 2024 in the Oklahoma History Center at 800 Nazih Zuhdi Dr., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. The final agenda was posted at 1:00 p.m. on January 5, 2024.

Members of the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board Present:

Robert Franklin
William Pearson
Nellie Tayloe Sanders
Brian Shellem

Others in Attendance:

Rebecca Wilkinson, Executive Director
Amy Gibson, Secretary to the Board
Skyler Lusnia, Financial Compliance Auditor
Lecrecia Schmidt, Operations Officer
Jaycie Smith, Academic Compliance Officer
Diane Walker, ThrivePointOK
Abidin Erez, Dove Virtual Academy
Emre Ozturk, Dove Virtual Academy
Mark Julian, Dove Schools
Kamini Yilmez, Dove Schools
Jason Elliott, ThrivePoint
Aaron Ritter, ThrivePoint
Timothy Smith, ThrivePoint/Learning Matters
Barry Schmelzenbach, OK Charter Association
Spencer Guinn, Guinn Strategies
Bill Hickman, Hickman Law
Melissa A. Gregory, OKCA
Rebecca James, OKCA

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Dr. Franklin called the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board regular meeting to order at 1:06 p.m. Roll was called and ascertained there was a quorum.

2. STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE OKLAHOMA OPEN MEETING ACT

Ms. Amy Gibson read the Statement of Compliance with the Oklahoma Open Meeting Act.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, SALUTE TO THE OKLAHOMA STATE FLAG, AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

Dr. Franklin led board members and all present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the American flag, a salute to the Oklahoma flag, and a moment of silence.

4. Presentation, discussion, and possible action on minutes of the October 9, 2023, Statewide Virtual Charter School Board Regular Board Meeting

Mr. Pearson moved to approve the October 9, 2023 minutes as presented. Ms. Sanders seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes:

Dr. Robert Franklin	Yes
Mr. William Pearson	Yes
Ms. Nellie Sanders	Yes
Mr. Brian Shellem	Abstain

5. OPENING COMMENTS

Dr. Franklin welcomed those in attendance. Dr. Wilkinson introduced the new SVCSB Secretary, Amy Gibson. Dr. Franklin talked about resolutions for the new year. New word for the year for Dr. Franklin is resolute. Dr. Franklin challenges Oklahoma students to be resolute about putting in the sweat equity for the second semester. Dr. Franklin welcomed new board member Brian Shellem. Appointed by the Governor, Mr. Shellem brings 21 years of knowledge and looks forward to working with the SVCSB.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

7. ADMINISTRATION

a. Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding renewal of Dove Virtual Academy (DVA).

Dr. Wilkinson introduced the DVA staff. Dr. Wilkinson asked DVA to highlight the school's achievements as they seek renewal from the Board. Dove Assistant Superintendent, Mark Julian, requested a ten-year authorization renewal beginning with the 2025-2026 school year. He introduced DVA Principal Emre Ozturk to highlight school achievements. Mr. Ozturk highlighted DVA student growth and partnerships since their inception year. Mr. Pearson made a motion to approve a five-year renewal charter contract, and Ms. Sanders seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes:

Mr. William Pearson	Yes
Ms. Nellie Sanders	Yes
Mr. Brian Shellem	Yes
Dr. Robert Franklin	Yes

b. Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding Dove Virtual Academy request to add grade levels Pre-Kindergarten through Fifth beginning with the 2024-2025 school year. Assistant Superintendent Mark Julian reported the school has received requests from current as well as perspective families that want all of their children to attend the same school. DVA believes they can achieve greater success if students are reached at a younger age. Ready and staffed for Pre-Kindergarten through Fifth, the school will hire from the Dove current 100 employees. Board member Shellem asked for clarification of student population. Thirty percent of students are expected from home school families, with others equally expected from public brick and mortar and virtual schools. Board member Sanders asked how DVA was closing the learning gap. DVA reported they use six different resources to. Students usually have synchronized learning in the morning and afternoon, with tutoring sessions with teachers in both one-on-one and small group settings. Ms. Sanders made a motion to approve the Pre-Kindergarten through Fifth grade expansion request. Mr. Pearson

seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes:

Ms. Sanders	Yes
Mr. Shellem	Yes
Dr. Franklin	Yes
Mr. Pearson	Yes

c. Presentation and possible discussion regarding an update from the Academic Compliance Officer.

Dr. Jaycie Smith presented information on data collection, school board training, and classroom observations.

d. Presentation and possible discussion regarding the Learning Matters Application for Initial Authorization.

Dr. Wilkinson introduced Timothy Smith, and explained the application process for virtual charter schools. Mr. Smith introduced himself, CEO and the President of the Learning Matters Educational Group (LMEG), Aaron Ritter Vice President and COO of LMEG, Jason Elliott, Director of Student Engagement, and Diane Walker, Board of Directors. LMEG presented the Application for Initial Authorization, including the three foundational learning pillars: Enrollment, Engagement, and Achievement.

e. Presentation, discussion and possible action regarding the following policies and procedures of the Oklahoma Statewide Virtual Charter School Board (SVCSB).

Revisions related to statutory and state policy changes were made to the following Policies: Fair Labor Standards Act, Annual Leave Accumulation Limits, Previous Agency Business Services, and Agency Business Services. Mr. Pearson made a motion to approve the revisions and Mr. Shellem seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes:

Mr. Shellem	Yes
Dr. Franklin	Yes
Mr. Pearson	Yes
Ms. Sanders	Yes

f. Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding the Charter Contract Template.

Some minor revisions were approved with the major changes eliminating Section 7.8 in alignment with SB516. Mr. Pearson made a motion to approve the minor revisions. Ms. Sanders seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes:

Dr. Franklin	Yes
Mr. Pearson	Yes
Ms. Sanders	Yes
Mr. Shellem	Yes

g. Presentation, discussion, and possible action regarding the election of a new Vice Chair.

Mr. Shellem made a motion to nominate William Pearson, and Ms. Sanders seconded the Motion. The motion carried with the following votes:

Mr. Pearson	Yes
Ms. Sanders	Yes
Mr. Shellem	Yes
Dr. Franklin	Yes

Statewide Virtual Charter School Board Meeting
Approved Minutes – January 8, 2024

8. New Business

No new business

9. Adjournment

Mr. Shellem moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Pearson seconded the motion. The motion carried with the following votes:

Ms. Sanders	Yes
Mr. Shellem	Yes
Mr. Pearson	Yes
Dr. Franklin	Yes

Meeting was adjourned at 3:02 p.m. on January 8, 2024.


Robert Franklin, Chairman of the Board


Amy Gibson, Secretary of the Board