

CAROLUS ONLINE ACADEMY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
DECEMBER 7, 2023, AT 5:00PM  
VIA ZOOM

**I. Preliminary Items**

Called to Order at 5:05pm  
Roll Called

Board Members present:

- Eric Mack, Treasurer
- Kristen Bell, Secretary
- Rachel Migli, Member
- Gretchen Dobbs, Member

Others present:

- Mike Ames, Executive Director
- Scott Sides, K-12
- Chad Long, K-12
- John Kramer, K-12
- Elizabeth Nelson, K-12
- Pamela Sieger, K-12
- Kristin Farmer, SCPCSD

Approval of the minutes from previous meeting. Eric Mack made a motion to approve. Rachel Migli seconded. Unanimously approved.

**II. New Items**

- Financial Information. Chad Long gave an update regarding the search for an auditor for COA. He plans to send an RFP to our approved list of auditors. Our timeline is to send it out by December 18th so that we have proposals by February 1, 2024. Mr. Long will then collect, summarize, and present options for the Board.
- SC Destination Online Academy Charter Committee Discussion. Elizabeth Nelson discussed finding a time for the committee to meet outside of this meeting. Ms. Nelson suggested 30 minutes before or after our COA meetings. The consensus of the members present was that beforehand will work best. Ms. Nelson will reach out to remaining members. Kristin Farmer will investigate whether we need to document the Destination meetings since they would not yet be subject to FOIA.

**III. School Leadership Report**

- Enrollment Update. At one week left, enrollment is at 491. There are 275 elementary students and 216 middle school students.
  - Mr. Ames had a meeting today to discuss capture rates. Stride has two schools in South Carolina, so we receive the combined data. Mr. Ames reported that 62% of those who click the link for more information lead to the beginning of an application. Of that group, 13% enrolled. Mr. Ames is working on getting data specific to COA.

- New Hire Update.
  - Olivia Planty – MS Math. Ms. Planty started 10 days (about 1 and a half weeks) ago. Initially, Pam Sieger helped and then Ms. Planty dove right into her role. Mr. Ames noted that she has a strong work ethic and is willing to ask questions. She has already scheduled small group sessions to get to know the students better.
  - Kanisha Morman – Reading Coach. This position is supported financially by the state. Ms. Morman’s start date is January 8, 2024.
- Administrative Update. Lacey Daniel submitted resignation
  - AA Search and Interviews. Pam Sieger is the interim AA. Ms. Sieger helped train all the teachers, so it was seamless. She reported how wonderful things are going and is excited to be helping in this role.
- Testing Coordinator Interviews and selection. Tracey Lee lives in Irmo and has been in education for several years. January 8, 2024, is her start date. Ms. Lee is experienced in testing procedures.
- Office Space Update. They are planning on finishing work next week on internet installation. Problem Meeting 3 quotes requirement.
- “A Day in the Life” ▪ What COA looks like from an administrative perspective. Due to computer issues, Mr. Ames tabled the presentation until the next meeting.

#### **IV. Adjournment 5:28pm**