



LHU Board of Directors Regular Meeting

December 6, 2023 5:00 PM
Sterling Montessori Academy and Charter School
202 Treybrooke Drive, Morrisville, NC 27560
Virtual via Google Meet

1. COMMENCEMENT

Call to Order and Board Attendance w/Determination of Quorum
 At 5:02pm

Quorum Present with following Board Members in Attendance:

Name	Present		Name	Present		Name	Present
Katie Brown			Kevin Hughes	X		Elizabeth Uzzell	X
Kim Elliott	X		Dwayne Jones	X		Robert Wolfe	
Jessi Fasola	X		Keisha Pressley	X		Lan Zhu	X
Ryan Hill	X		Rachel Richardson				

Reading of Mission Statement:

“The mission of Sterling Montessori is to create a diverse educational community, grounded in the Montessori philosophy and teaching practices, that fosters curiosity, creativity, and critical thinking in its students. We strive to empower each student to become life-long learners who respect themselves, others, and their environment.”

Conflict of Interest Statement

“At this time, we ask all board members to make a statement to be recorded in the minutes should they know of any conflict of interest or appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before them during this meeting. It is the duty of each board member to abstain from discussion and voting on such matters.”



Native Land Acknowledgement

“The LHU Board recognizes that Sterling Montessori sits on the ancestral land of the Tuscarora, Lumbee and Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Tribes. As we strive to become better stewards of the environment, we also strive to provide a more equitable and culturally responsive environment for all students, but especially Black and indigenous students of color.”

Agenda Items:

Including any related consent agenda items or discussion items added to agenda prior to consent vote.

- Discussion of SB49 policies and approval of such policies
- Approval of Hires and Closed Session per NCGS to discuss Personnel matter. N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(6)

Approval of Agenda

At 5:03p, Elizabeth Uzzell moved to approve the agenda. Approved

Name	Aye	Nay	Abs		Name	Aye	Nay	Abs		Name	Aye	Nay	Abs
Katie Brown					Kevin Hughes	X				Elizabeth Uzzell	M		
Kim Elliott	X				Dwayne Jones	X				Robert Wolfe			
Jessi Fasola	X				Keisha Pressley	X				Lan Zhu	X		
Ryan Hill	X				Rachel Richardson								

2. DISCUSSION ITEM - SB 49 Policy

- Sterling website provides information around curriculum. Sterling’s counsel helped draft the proposed SB 49 policies.
- Policies should go live by January 1, 2024. Suggestion that if Board approved these policies, the policies should be effective as of Jan 1 instead of as of this special board



meeting date. This would build in additional time for admin to familiarize themselves with these new policies.

- ED will need to provide DPI a report on parent inquiries around these policies.
- Suggestion - approval of these policies should state that if there is a conflict between other Sterling policies and the SB 49 policies, the SB 49 policies would apply until the Board has time to review/modify the existing Sterling policy
- Additional minor edits needed in policy to apply to Sterling (for example, Executive Director)

3. CLOSED SESSION

Enter Closed Session

Approval of Hires and Closed Session per NCGS to discuss Personnel matter

At 5:12p, Elizabeth Uzzell moved to go into closed session. Approved

Name	Aye	Nay	Abs		Name	Aye	Nay	Abs		Name	Aye	Nay	Abs
Katie Brown					Kevin Hughes	X				Elizabeth Uzzell	M		
Kim Elliott	X				Dwayne Jones	X				Robert Wolfe			
Jessi Fasola	X				Keisha Pressley	X				Lan Zhu	X		
Ryan Hill	X				Rachel Richardson								

Return to Open Session

At 5:53p, Elizabeth Uzzell moved to return to open session. No action taken. Approved

Name	Aye	Nay	Abs		Name	Aye	Nay	Abs		Name	Aye	Nay	Abs
Katie Brown					Kevin Hughes					Elizabeth Uzzell	M		
Kim Elliott	X				Dwayne Jones	X				Robert Wolfe			



Jessi Fasola	X			Keisha Pressley	X			Lan Zhu	X		
Ryan Hill	X			Rachel Richardson							

4. APPROVAL OF CONSENT ITEMS

Consent Item – Approval of Hires

At 5:54pm, Elizabeth Uzzell moved to approve the hire of personnel as noted below and discussed in closed session. Approved

Full Name	Classroom/Section	Position (Year)	Action / Change	Note
LeTia Farrar	Admin	Data Manager	Hire	

Name	Aye	Nay	Abs	Name	Aye	Nay	Abs	Name	Aye	Nay	Abs
Katie Brown				Kevin Hughes				Elizabeth Uzzell	M		
Kim Elliott	X			Dwayne Jones	X			Robert Wolfe			
Jessi Fasola	X			Keisha Pressley	X			Lan Zhu	X		
Ryan Hill	X			Rachel Richardson							



Consent Item – Approval of SB49 Policies

At 5:56pm, Elizabeth Uzzell moved to approve the policies as recommended by counsel in compliance with SB49 at the request of DPI, effective 1/1/24 and pending minor edits. Approved

Name	Aye	Nay	Abs		Name	Aye	Nay	Abs		Name	Aye	Nay	Abs
Katie Brown					Kevin Hughes					Elizabeth Uzzell	M		
Kim Elliott	X				Dwayne Jones	X				Robert Wolfe			
Jessi Fasola	X				Keisha Pressley	X				Lan Zhu	X		
Ryan Hill	X				Rachel Richardson								

5. ADJOURNMENT

At 5:56p, Elizabeth Uzzell moved to adjourn. Approved

Name	Aye	Nay	Abs		Name	Aye	Nay	Abs		Name	Aye	Nay	Abs
Katie Brown					Kevin Hughes					Elizabeth Uzzell	M		
Kim Elliott	X				Dwayne Jones	X				Robert Wolfe			
Jessi Fasola	X				Keisha Pressley	X				Lan Zhu	X		
Ryan Hill	X				Rachel Richardson								



Attendance:

Full Name	First Seen	Time in Call
Dwayne Jones	12/6/2023 17:00	0:56:28
Elizabeth Uzzell	12/6/2023 17:01	0:55:21
Jessi Fasola	12/6/2023 17:00	0:56:22
Keisha Pressley	12/6/2023 17:01	0:55:21
Kevin Hughes	12/6/2023 17:01	0:30:06
Kim Elliott	12/6/2023 17:01	0:55:21
Lan Zhu	12/6/2023 17:01	0:55:21
Maureen Capillo	12/6/2023 17:01	0:55:21
Ryan Hill	12/6/2023 17:01	0:55:14