

MEETING HELD AT:

Meyers School of Excellence

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

	PRESENT	NOT PRESENT	TERM EXPIRATION DATE
Dr. Stewart Weinberg President – At Large	x		(A) May 2026
Cheryl Hollis Vice-President - Meyers	x		(A) May 2025
Brian Williams Treasurer - BPA	x		(A) May 2025
Brandi VanGordor Secretary - BPA	x		(E) May 2024
Alicia Patton Director – At Large	Zoom		(E) May 2025
Simplicia Smith Director - Meyers	Zoom		(E) May 2025
Dr. Tamara Jackson Director - WJSE	Zoom		(A) May 2026
Vacant Director - WJSE			

NON-BOARD MEMBERS ATTENDING:

1. Kenneth Coles, Principal – Meyers School of Excellence
2. Jordan Coward, Principal - Berkeley Preparatory
3. Lisanne Morton, State Finance Director – CSUSA
4. Susan Gibson, SC State Director – CSUSA
5. Carol Aust, Director of External Affairs and Board Governance – CSUSA
6. Stephanie Lowerre, Sr. Financial Analyst – CSUSA
7. Fabien McGill, Principal – Willie Jefferies School of Excellence - Zoom
8. Penny Walcott, State Finance Director, Carolinas – CSUSA

I. ADMINISTRATIVE

- **CALL TO ORDER**
Pursuant to public notice, Board President, Dr. Stewart Weinberg called the meeting to order at 6:42 P.M.
- **ROLL CALL**
Roll call was held, and quorum was established.
- **Pledge to the flag.**

II. EXECUTIVE SESSION

APPROVAL

MOTION: Motion was made by Cheryl and seconded by Brandi to go into executive session to discuss contractual matters at 5:30 P.M.

MOTION: Motion was made by Brian and seconded by Brandi to come out of executive session at 6:35 P.M. Motion passed unanimously.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE

- APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

- **MOTION:** Motion was made by Brian and seconded by Brandi to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.

- APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 25, MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: Motion was made by Cheryl and seconded by Brian to approve meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

- NEW WORDING OF BY-LAW CHANGES:

1. NUMBER AND ELECTION. THE NUMBER OF DIRECTORS ON THE BOARD (THE "DIRECTORS") SHALL BE EIGHT (8). AT ANY ANNUAL MEETING, THE DIRECTORS MAY FIX THE NUMBER OF DIRECTORS TO BE ELECTED AT THE MEETING BY RESOLUTION. IN THE ABSENCE OF SUCH A RESOLUTION, THE NUMBER OF DIRECTORS ELECTED AT THE MEETING, PLUS THE NUMBER OF DIRECTORS CONTINUING IN OFFICE, SHALL CONSTITUTE THE NUMBER OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION UNTIL THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING, UNLESS THE NUMBER IS CHANGED BY ACTION OF THE BOARD. EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE REQUIRED BY S.C. CODE ANN. § 59-40-50(9) (SEE "4. QUALIFICATIONS." BELOW), ONE (1) DIRECTOR WILL BE ELECTED BY EMPLOYEES AND PARENTS OR GUARDIANS FROM MEVERS SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE, ONE (1) DIRECTOR WILL BE ELECTED BY EMPLOYEES AND PARENTS OR GUARDIANS FROM BERKELEY PREPARATORY ACADEMY, ONE (1) DIRECTOR WILL BE ELECTED BY EMPLOYEES AND PARENTS OR GUARDIANS FROM WILLIE JEFFRIES SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE, AND ONE (1) DIRECTOR WILL BE ELECTED BY ALL THREE OF THE AFORESAID GROUPS VOTING TOGETHER. IN ADDITION, FOUR (4) DIRECTORS WILL BE APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION. DIRECTORS APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHALL BE ELECTED AT ANY ANNUAL OR SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD BY A VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF THE DIRECTORS THEN IN OFFICE. THE ELECTION OF DIRECTORS SHALL BE A PART OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS OF EACH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD.

MOTION: Motion was made by Brian and seconded by Brandi to approve bylaw amendment NUMBER AND ELECTION. THE NUMBER OF DIRECTORS ON THE BOARD (THE "DIRECTORS") SHALL BE EIGHT (8). AT ANY ANNUAL MEETING, THE DIRECTORS MAY FIX THE NUMBER OF DIRECTORS TO BE ELECTED AT THE MEETING BY RESOLUTION. IN THE ABSENCE OF SUCH A RESOLUTION, THE NUMBER OF DIRECTORS ELECTED AT THE MEETING, PLUS THE NUMBER OF DIRECTORS CONTINUING IN OFFICE, SHALL CONSTITUTE THE NUMBER OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION UNTIL THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETING, UNLESS THE NUMBER IS CHANGED BY ACTION OF THE BOARD. EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE REQUIRED BY S.C. CODE ANN. § 59-40-50(9) (SEE "4. QUALIFICATIONS." BELOW), ONE (1) DIRECTOR WILL BE ELECTED BY EMPLOYEES AND PARENTS OR GUARDIANS FROM MEVERS SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE, ONE (1) DIRECTOR WILL BE ELECTED BY EMPLOYEES AND PARENTS OR GUARDIANS FROM BERKELEY PREPARATORY ACADEMY, ONE (1) DIRECTOR

WILL BE ELECTED BY EMPLOYEES AND PARENTS OR GUARDIANS FROM WILLIE JEFFRIES SCHOOL OF EXCELLENCE, AND ONE (1) DIRECTOR WILL BE ELECTED BY ALL THREE OF THE AFORESAID GROUPS VOTING TOGETHER. IN ADDITION, FOUR (4) DIRECTORS WILL BE APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE CORPORATION. DIRECTORS APPOINTED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS SHALL BE ELECTED AT ANY ANNUAL OR SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD BY A VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF THE DIRECTORS THEN IN OFFICE. THE ELECTION OF DIRECTORS SHALL BE A PART OF THE ORDER OF BUSINESS OF EACH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD. Motion passed unanimously.

- APPOINTMENT OF 8TH BOARD MEMBER

MOTION: Motion was made by Brian and seconded by Cheryl to appoint to the board Wayne Murphy for one year. Motion passed unanimously.

Cheryl shared highlights from the annual Erskine banquet where Mr. Coles received Rookie of the Year in his first year of serving as principal and Dr. Weinberg received Advocate of the Year.

IV. SCHOOL PRESENTATION

Mevers School of Excellence – Mr. Kenneth Coles provided information about community events and how the school promotes itself. Showed the Mevers posters featuring the arts, athletics, and academics.

REPORTS

- Susan Gibson, State Director Report
Presented Spring benchmark data PowerPoint I-Ready Summary. Showing winter and spring data by schools. Both schools show growth in reading and math. Both schools have completed the state required testing but will not know data until early fall.

Susan showed major repairs schedule for Mevers and BPA and allow funds to be set aside on an annual basis. Stewart asked for financial staff come up with final number for both buildings.

Stewart and Cheryl expressed darker paint is faded different on the Mevers building. Asked buildings to be power washed.

Mrs. Gibson provided grant updates for both MSE & BPA.

- Mr. Coles gave an update on the strategic goals and school report card. Only 9 students required to attend summer program - recommended 22 students participate. Mevers hosted 3 days of spelling bees which was a big success, planning to start it earlier next year. Provided staff updates, recent hires, and current enrollment of 803 students.

- Berkeley Preparatory Academy Principal Report
Mr. Coward gave an update on BPA strategic goals and school report card information. Shared highlights the month of May including the Beauty and the Beast production as well as the 8th grade formal. Enrollment of 776 students and 132 on the waiting list. Playground is nearly done.

Brandi expressed a gap with parent communication.

Cheryl requested student zip code report for both schools.

- Willie Jefferies School of Excellence Principal Report
Dr. McGill gave an update on WJSE strategic goals including enrollment outreach. They have started to move dirt and student enrollment has increased to 401 students who have been accepted and enrolled.
- CSUSA Financials
The Board was updated on financials for Mevers and BPA schools.

MOTION: Motion was made by Brian and seconded by Cheryl to approve the Mevers financials for April 2024. Motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Motion was made by Brian and seconded by Brandi to approve the BPA financials April 2024. Motion passed unanimously.

V. BOARD DISCUSSION ITEMS

- SRO Contract for the 2024-2025 year

MOTION: Motion was made by Cheryl and seconded by Brian to approve SRO Contract for the 2024-2025 year. Motion passed unanimously.

- Willie Jefferies hires 2024-2025

MOTION: Motion was made by Brian and seconded by Brandi to approve hiring of Christopher Jones, Veronica Brown, Jeorgie Hicks, Morlon Gibbs, Anna Hewitt, Berlinda Adams, Keith Reyes, Courtney Singletary and Tyhesia Murph for the 2024-2025 year. Motion passed unanimously.

- Willie Jefferies Preliminary FY25 Budget

MOTION: Motion was made by Brian and seconded by Brandi to preliminary approve the WJSE FY25 budget. Motion passed unanimously.

- Willie Jefferies School of Excellence Handbook

MOTION: Motion was made by Cheryl and seconded by Brian to approve the Willie Jefferies School of Excellence Handbook. Motion passed unanimously.

- WJSE Financial Management Policy

MOTION: Motion was made by Cheryl and seconded by Brandi to approve WJSE Financial Management Policy, Fixed Asset Policy 3008, Purchasing Policy and Student Records and Retention Policy. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

VII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Motion was made by Cheryl and seconded by Tammy to adjourn the meeting of the Berkeley Charter Education Association. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

NEXT SPECIAL CALLED BUDGET WORKSHOP:

Thursday, June 27, 2024 @ 6:00 p.m.
Berkeley Preparatory Academy