

Attendees::

- Present: Kristina Vargo, Ashlee Marshall, Susie Kamman, Emma Bullock, and Barburhan Uzum.
- Non-voting board associates present: Dr. Ronny Knox, SHSU Charter School Superintendent; Lisa Box, Administrative Associate; Rebecca Carruthers, District PEIMS Coordinator; Richard Ray, Charter School Business Manager; and Ginger Yount, TSUS Office of General Counsel.
- Appearing via Zoom: Alicia Hernandez, M.Ed., SHSU Charter School Principal; Victoria Burch, and the fourth and fifth grade classes from Cypress Trails.

1. Call to Order and Establish Quorum

- Dr. Kristina Vargo, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m., and noted a quorum was present.

2. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes of the December 6, 2022 Board Meeting were unanimously approved.
- Minutes of the January 23, 2023 Board Meeting were unanimously approved.

3. Charter School Reporting

○ COVID-19 Update

Dr. Knox provided the following:

- Two COVID-19 cases (family members) were reported the week of February 6, 2023.

○ Campus Updates

Principal Hernandez provided the following:

- Principal Hernandez recognized several students from the Cypress Trails' campus. Those recognized for their continued dedication to fellow students and staff at Cypress Trails were Princess Niala Kyles, Gideon Oten, Avynn Small, Khloe Smith, Kingston Thompson, Paysli Young, Noah Marshall-Massey, Aaydin Collins, Mable Ramon, Jaxon Dulworth, Rylan Taylor, Gracelynn Thompson, Aubrey Burch, Natalia Murillo, and Christian Ortega. These students comprise the Safety Patrol for their campus. Many parents were present at the campus in honor of their recognition.
- Staff member of the month is Mrs. Allyson Cobb, Cypress Trails paraprofessional. Mrs. Cobb organized the Cypress Trails Safety Patrol.
- The upcoming edition of Bearkat Buzz was shared. The Charter School is preparing for Benchmark tests.
- The Charter School recently hired Leslie Gay. Ms. Gay is a Licensed Specialist in School Psychology (LSSP).
- Currently open positions are posted for a classroom teacher and a paraprofessional.
- School progress reports will be included in the upcoming newsletter.
- The Charter School achieved an overall B rating for the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR®). The Charter School has outperformed other schools in overall performance.

○ Student Enrollment and Attendance Update

Dr. Knox provided the following:

- Enrollment was projected to be 517 as of February 16, 2023.
- The budget is built on enrollment of 504.

- Last week, the Charter School concluded its 4th sixth week with enrollment at 93% (potentially due to flu cases). This week enrollment was back at 94%, which is still below average.

- Financial Reporting

Dr. Knox turned the meeting over to Richard Ray, the Business Manager for the Charter School.

- Mr. Ray presented the Financial Report as of January 31, 2023.

- Conflict of Interest Forms

Dr. Knox provided the following:

- Dr. Knox provided background regarding why the conflict-of-interest forms are necessary. The purpose is to have Board members identify and acknowledge any potential conflicts of interest. None of the Board members are paid by the Charter School. These conflict-of-interest forms will accompany the governance certification.

- School Board Recognition

Dr. Knox provided the following:

- The Charter School students prepared a video to show their appreciation of the Board members entitled, "Why I Love Being a Bearkat." Each Board member will receive a gift in appreciation of their service.

- 2023-2024 Academic Calendar

Dr. Knox provided the following:

- The teachers voted on the Charter School Academic Calendar. Only 58% of staff voted on the upcoming Academic Calendar. There are several student holidays built into the Academic Calendar that provide for four-day weekends. The new Academic Calendar will be posted soon.

- Round Two SHSU Charter School Superintendent Selection

Dr. Knox provided the following:

- The Dean would like for the candidates to submit presentations at a special meeting of the Board. During this meeting, there will be morning and afternoon interviews at The Woodlands Center Campus. Dr. Knox does not wish to limit the Board to pre-scripted questions. Board members will bring three questions for each candidate. The Board chose Thursday, March 9, 2023, at 10 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. as the date of the presentations.

- 2023-2024 Lottery Update

Dr. Knox provided the following:

- Rebecca Carruthers was commended for her work on the lottery which went very well.

4. Discussion and Possible Board Action

- Approve Nominations for Charter School Board Member Replacement

Dr. Knox presented Dr. Vargo to discuss two faculty members who are being considered: Dr. Will Blackwell has researched Charter Schools and has a Special Education background. Dr. Benita Brooks is an Associate Professor who has a niece and nephew who attend the Charter School and is the Assistant Dean of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion ("DEI") for the College of Education. She is involved in community-based service programs. The Board's nominating committee reached out to the two candidates, and both are willing to serve. Benita Brooks was nominated to replace Position 2.

Motion by Emma Bullock, seconded by Ashlee Marshall and was unanimously approved.

5. **Public Comments**

- No public comments were presented.

6. **Adjourn**

- There being no further business, Dr. Kristina Vargo announced the meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.


Dr. Kristina Vargo, Chair