



Endeavor Board Meeting Agenda: July 25, 2021

7:00 PM via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84256878711?pwd=cEwrcmY2OFdnbmd5L3NJJaWc2clVvQT09>

Present:

Board Member	Position	Committee	Term Start	Term Ending	Present
Amy Tharrington Start: 4/8/2019	Member	RDC	7/1/2019	6/30/2022	Yes
Jaclyn Parks Start: 4/8/2019	Member	RDC (Chair)	7/1/2019	6/30/2022	Yes
Bill Kroll Start: 5/19/2016	Chair	Finance	7/1/2019	6/30/2022	Yes
Chris DeRienzo Start: 2/23/2021	Member	Governance	7/1/2019	6/30/2022	Yes
Tracy DeMarco Start: 6/15/2017	Secretary	Governance (Chair)	7/1/2020	6/30/2023	Yes
Ashley Hicks Start: 6/15/2017	Member	RDC	7/1/2020	6/30/2023	Yes
Kim Keith Start: 5/25/2017	Vice-Chair	Governance	7/1/2020	6/30/2023	Yes
David Roy Start: 2/23/21	Member	Finance	7/1/2020	6/30/2023	Yes
Nick Cerullo Start: 3/19/2018	Member	RDC	7/1/2018	6/30/2021	Yes
Israa Kanfoud Start: 6/12/2018	Treasurer	Finance (Chair)	7/1/2018	6/30/2021	Yes
Dustin Embrey Start: 2/23/2021	Member	RDC	7/1/2018	6/30/2021	Yes

Call to Order:

Bill Kroll

- Bill Kroll called the meeting to order at 7:11 p.m.
- Mission Statement: Endeavor Charter School's mission is to engage K-8 students by integrating a challenging, hands-on academic program with multi-faceted fine arts courses in a familial environment.
- Vision 2018: Endeavor Charter School's vision is a community of educators and families working together to graduate students who are motivated and curious, capable and confident, and prepared to make a positive impact on the world around them.

Approval of Agenda:

Tracy DeMarco

- Tracy DeMarco moved to approve the July 25, 2021 Agenda. Bill Kroll seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Building Completion Update:

Bill Kroll

- Bill Kroll reported that, as is evident, construction is still ongoing for the new building. Last week, the Town of Wake Forest conducted an inspection for the Temporary Certificate of Occupancy (“TCO”). Generally, a TCO is granted when construction is substantially complete, but there are still some final touches that need to be addressed. The TCO signifies that the building is safe for occupancy, and it will allow us to be in the building while BCCG completes final nits in the construction process.
- The Town did not grant us a TCO last week, but is preparing a final punch list of items that need to be completed before it can issue the TCO. Bill reported that we expect to get that list from the Town tomorrow.
- Bill reported that BCCG still believes that the new building should be able to open on time. The next inspection will be on Tuesday or Wednesday, and we will know at that time whether we will have the TCO in time for the first day of school.
- Bill reported that he has toured the new building several time, and the new space looks ready for students.
- Regardless of timing, grades K-5 will not be affected. Those classrooms are inside the old building, and there are no issues accessing that space while we are working to obtain the TCO for the new building.
- That said, to ensure that every student can learn in person on the first day of school, School leadership and the Board are exploring all options. Out of an abundance of caution, we are assuming the worst outcome—that the new building will not be open on August 4th—so that we can be prepared for any outcome.
- Bill stated that the School will announce plans for the middle school no later than Wednesday evening, which will give parents a week to plan before the first day of school. He reiterated that we remain hopeful for a normal opening, but are exploring options to ensure all students have space for in person learning.
- Christi Whiteside reported that there has been significant work completed on campus in the past week. The parking lot has been re-painted, classrooms are a day from being complete, the K-5 playground was expanded. Tomorrow, BCCG plans to spread mulch and replace the playground fence. She reiterated that the inside of the building is looking really good, and we are excited to be able to share it with the community.

StrongSchools Toolkit Update:

Tracy DeMarco

- Tracy DeMarco reported that the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services updated its StrongSchools Toolkit on Friday, July 23, 2021. She explained that both public and private schools in North Carolina are required by law to follow the guidance in this document regarding Covid protocols at school.
- Tracy explained that the revisions to the document give schools significantly more discretion to implement infection prevention methods that make sense for their individual school or school system than what was contained in previous versions of the Toolkit over the last school year.
- While the Governance Committee is still reviewing the new guidance, one of the most significant changes is to the required quarantine guidance. In past versions of the Toolkit, schools were required to quarantine students exposed to another student who tested positive for covid for 14 days. As a result, ECS was required to quarantine a

significant number of healthy student last year who never developed any symptoms for covid or tested positive. While we did not identify any instances of in school spread last year, we were still required to exclude exposed students from school for 2 weeks at a time.

- The new version of the Toolkit allows schools to waive quarantine requirements for exposed students when both parties were masked at all times during the exposure. In other words, schools are no longer required to quarantine students if they were masked at the time of the exposure.
- Accordingly, the Governance Committee is recommending that ECS maintain its policy that all students and staff must be masked while indoors. This policy will allow us to keep healthy kids in school as much as possible.
- Tracy explained that no Board vote is needed since there will be no change in the existing policy. Tracy represented that the Governance Committee would assess the masking policy on an ongoing basis throughout the school year and as changes to the NCDHHS guidance are implemented.

Public Comment:

- A teacher asked where middle school teachers would be working during teacher work days this week. Christi Whiteside responded that there is a plan in place that will be communicated to teachers shortly. She confirmed that there will be a safe space for every teacher to work.
- A parent asked what is meant by a TCO? Bill Kroll explained that TCO stands for Temporary Certificate of Occupancy. This confirms that the building is safe for occupancy. While there may be some additional tasks to complete, those tasks have no impact on the safety of the building.
- A parent asked what plans the School is working on for middle school students? Christi Whiteside responded that there are eight alternate plans currently being assessed. She recognized that this is a stressful situation for our middle school families, and we are doing everything possible to make sure that any slight delay in the building opening date has a minimal impact on our community. She noted that the delays in the building process were not the fault of either the School or BCCG. We experienced an unprecedented 50 days of rain in the spring (a 30-year record) as well as materials shortage caused by the pandemic, both of which contributed to delays that could not be avoided. That said, Christi emphasized that the new building will be a fantastic addition to our community. The new classrooms, gym, and auditorium will be game changers for the ECS experience.
- Chris Gorman asked when the School would reconsider its masking policy. Tracy DeMarco stated that the Governance Committee would consider the issue more fully at its next meeting.

Closed Session:

- Bill Kroll moved to go into closed session at 7:37 p.m. Tracy DeMarco seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.
- Bill Kroll moved to go into open session at 8:14 p.m. Kim Keith seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Adjournment:

Bill Kroll adjourned the meeting at 8:14 p.m.

Bill Kroll

