June 9, 2017

The meeting of the State Board of Private Academic Schools convened on Friday, June 9, 2017 in the Honors Suite of the Pennsylvania Department of Education located at 333 Market Street, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. Public notice of the meeting was published in accordance with the Sunshine Meeting Act of 1986. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Jane Allis, Chairperson.

Board Members

Jane Allis
Jim Buckheit - Absent
Dr. Charles R. Glean
Kyu Hwang - Absent
Carol Lopus
Gwendolyn Morris
Dr. Roberta L. Schomburg

Patrick Lord, Senior Board Counsel

Staff

Sara Hockenberry, Assistant Counsel
Dr. Kerry Helm
Kelly Hudson, Staff
Renee Shade, Staff
Tina Weaver, Staff
Stephanie Nauss, Staff
Renee Lenker, Bureau of School Leadership and Teacher Quality
Mary Ann Olley, Office of Child Development and Early Learning
Joan McKenzie, Staff
Kyle Shemory, Staff
ROLL CALL
J. McKenzie conducted the roll call of Board members. Representatives of the schools being presented is attached at the end of the minutes.

SUNSHINE ACT MEETING NOTICES
Thursday and Friday Private Academic School Board meetings were published in accordance with the Sunshine Act of 1986.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES
Upon a motion by C. Glean, seconded by G. Morris, the Minutes of the April 21, 2017, meeting of the State Board of Private Academic Schools was approved by unanimous voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS
Hearing Requests – Patrick Lord
Mr. Lord reported that currently no formal hearing requests however an order to show cause has been granted an extension.

Presentation of Motions – Sara Hockenberry
Ms. Hockenberry presented no motions.

NEW BUSINESS
New Supplemental Applications for Board Approval
Three schools submitted three supplemental applications for Board approval.
By roll call vote after C. Glean recused himself from voting, Liguori Academy’s supplemental was unanimously approved.

After brief questions by the Board and clarification by representatives from the school, upon a motion by R. Schomburg, seconded by C. Glean, Grayson School’s supplemental application was approved by unanimous voice vote.

After brief questions by the Board and clarification by representatives from the school, upon a motion by C. Glean, seconded by G. Morris, Summit School of the Poconos supplemental application was conditionally approved by unanimous voice vote. The conditions that must be met before licensure is:

1. Teacher certification and clearances
2. Add to the schedule detailed information to describe how learning will be addressed for all students in the 7th – 9th grade group.
New Schools and Directors for Board Approval

There were ten new schools presented for Board approval.

Chesterbrook Academy. Application was presented to the Board. There were two representatives in attendance to answer questions from the Board. They had questions about the schedule, progress reports and how they integrate children with special needs. Upon a motion by G. Morris, seconded by R. Schomburg, Chesterbrook Academy was conditionally approved for licensure of Kindergarten by unanimous voice vote. The conditions that must be met before licensure are:

1. Occupancy permit.
2. Provide an expanded answer to question 7 which includes how you will work with specialists and the teachers to integrate IEP goals into the classroom.

Learning Experience Warminster. Application was presented to the Board for approval. There were two representatives in attendance to answer questions from the Board. The Board had questions about the schedule and progress reports. Upon a motion by C. Glean, seconded by R. Schomburg, Learning Experience Warminster’s application for licensure was conditionally approved for licensure of Kindergarten by unanimous voice vote. The condition that must be met before licensure is:

1. Provide a revised progress report which is more closely aligned with the PA early learning standards for kindergarten, particularly addressing social studies and including dramatic play.

A Step Up Academy. Application was presented to the Board for approval. There were two representatives in attendance to answer questions from the Board. The Board were very impressed with the submitted application and they questioned why the extra half an hour on the schedule. Upon a motion by C. Glean, seconded by G. Morris, A Step Up Academy’s application for licensure was approved, for Special Education: Preschool, Elem. 1-5 (exceptionalities of autism) noting that the Board made an exception to the policy adding the half hour to the school by unanimous voice vote.

Goddard School - Collegeville. Application was presented to the Board for approval. There were two representatives in attendance to answer questions from the Board. The Board had questions about the schedule. Upon a motion by R. Schomburg, seconded by C. Lopus, Goddard School – Collegeville’s application for licensure was conditionally approved for Nursery (4) and Kindergarten by unanimous voice vote. The condition that must be met before licensure is:

1. Provide a revised schedule of a school day licensed for no more than 6 hours.

Discovery School at Beechwood. Application was presented to the Board for approval. There was one representative in attendance to answer questions from the Board. The Board enjoyed reading about their program and appreciated the well answered questions. Upon a motion by C. Glean, seconded by G. Morris, Discovery School at Beechwood’s application for licensure of Nursery (3, 4) was approved by unanimous voice vote.
Goddard Murrysville. Application was presented to the Board. There was one representative in attendance to answer questions from the Board. The Board had questions about the schedule. Upon a motion by C. Lopus, seconded by C. Glean, Goddard was approved for licensure of Nursery (3, 4) by unanimous voice vote.

Goddard Pittsburgh. Application was presented to the Board. There were two representatives in attendance to answer questions from the Board. The Board appreciated the very thorough application. Upon a motion by R. Schomburg, seconded by C. Lopus, Goddard was approved for licensure of Nursery (3, 4) and Kindergarten by unanimous voice vote.

Little People Day Care School of Columbia. Application was presented to the Board for approval. There were three representatives in attendance to answer questions from the Board. The Board had questions about the schedule. Upon a motion by C. Lopus, seconded by G. Morris, Little People Day Care School of Columbia’s application for licensure was approved for Kindergarten with the exception approved to 51.111 requiring owners to be citizens of the United States by unanimous voice vote.

New Story, Reading. Application was presented to the Board. There were three representatives in attendance to answer questions from the Board. The Board applauded the very well-done application. Upon a motion by C. Glean, seconded by G. Morris, New Story Reading was approved for licensure of Special Education: Preschool, Kindergarten, Elementary -8th grade Autism/ MR, by unanimous voice vote.

NHS School, Lancaster. Application was presented to the Board for approval. There were two representatives in attendance to answer questions from the Board. The Board had questions about the progress reports, instructional materials, schedule and classroom libraries. Upon a motion by R. Schomburg, seconded by C. Glean, NHS School Lancaster’s application for licensure was conditionally approved for Special Education: Preschool, Elementary, Secondary, Autism, Socially/Emotionally Disturbed by unanimous voice vote. The conditions that must be met before licensure are:

1. Certificate of Occupancy
2. Letter of support from the home school district
3. Provide a revised progress report reflecting the various age groups, grades, and/or range of skill levels of the student you will serve.

Directors for Board Approval

Upon a motion by C. Glean, seconded by C. Lopus, six new Education Directors were approved by unanimous voice vote.

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

The Private Academic Schools Regulations are currently being reviewed and edited by the legal office attorneys.
ADJOURNMENT
There being no further items of business and upon a motion by C. Glean, seconded by R. Schomburg the meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Dr. Kerry Helm
Secretary to the Board