August 17, 2018

The meeting of the State Board of Private Academic Schools convened on Friday, June 15, 2018 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
James Buckheit
Dr. Charles R. Glean
Kyu Hwang
Carol Lopus
Gwendolyn Morris
Dr. Roberta L. Schomburg

Robert Tomaine, Senior Board Counsel

Staff

Sara Hockenberry, Assistant Counsel
Monica L. Washington, Board Secretary
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
ROLL CALL
J. McKenzie conducted the roll call of Board members. Representatives of the schools being presented are 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 J. Buckheit, seconded by K. Hwang, the Minutes of the June 15, 2018, meeting of the State Board of Private Academic Schools was approved by unanimous voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS
Hearing Requests – Robert Tomaine
Mr. Tomaine reported that currently there are no active hearing requests.

Presentation of Motions – Sara Hockenberry
No motions were presented.

Previously Submitted Applications – Staff
None to present.

NEW BUSINESS
New Supplemental Applications for Board Approval
Twenty-six schools submitted supplemental applications for Board approval.

Upon a motion by C. Glean, seconded by J. Buckheit, nineteen schools: Watson Institute – Friendship, Watson Institute South, Yocum Institute, Bridgeway School, Children’s School at St. Johns, Pathway School, YWCA York, Mahoning Valley Academy, Bradley School, New Story, Mountville, Mission for Education Children w/Autism, New Story, Reading, Merakey Pennsylvania, Merakey Philadelphia, Merakey Woodhaven, River Rock Academy, Highlands Hospital Regional Center for Autism, and Mom’s Inc. supplemental applications were approved as submitted by unanimous voice vote to include Creating Landscapes being approved with a waiver for the occupancy permit based on information provided from town authority.

Upon a motion by C. Lopus, seconded by G. Morris and after K. Hwang recused herself, Davidson School supplemental application was approved.

After brief questions by the Board and clarification by representatives from the school, upon a motion by C. Glean, seconded by C. Lopus, Yellow Breeches – Boiling Springs, Yellow Breeches - Carlisle, and Yellow Breeches – Annville supplemental applications were 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 R. Schomburg, St. Stephen’s Academy supplemental application was conditionally approved by unanimous voice vote. The condition that must be met before licensure is:

1. Provide a revised progress report that includes science and social studies and more detail for art, music, physical education, and library.

After brief questions by the Board and clarification by representatives from the school, upon a motion by R. Schomburg, seconded by J. Buckheit, Summit Academy’s supplemental application was conditionally approved by unanimous voice vote. The condition that must be met before licensure is:

1. Provide a revised progress report that provides space for narrative comments.

After brief questions by the Board and clarification by representatives from the school, upon a motion by R. Schomburg, seconded by K. Hwang, Dr. Gertrude A. Barber Center’s, supplemental application was conditionally approved by unanimous voice vote. The condition that must be met before licensure is:

1. Describe when during the kindergarten schedule students will have opportunities for social interactions.

After brief questions by the Board and clarification by representatives from the school, upon a motion by C. Lopus, seconded by J. Buckheit, I’m Big Now Learning Center’s supplemental application was conditionally approved by unanimous voice vote. The condition that must be met before licensure is:

1. Provide a revised answer to question 12 which includes transitioning of students moving on to a different school.

New Schools and Directors for Board Approval

Nineteen new schools were presented for Board approval.

Aspire Nursery School. Application was presented to the Board. There were three representatives in attendance to answer questions from the Board. The Board commented that they enjoyed reading the write up, that a lot of information was provided. They had questions about the progress reports and how they worked with other agencies. Upon a motion by R. Schomburg, seconded by C. Lopus, Aspire Nursery School was conditionally approved for Nursery 3 & 4 by unanimous voice vote. The conditions that must be met before licensure are:

1. Business registration.
2. Provide a progress report that includes all of the arts, including dramatic play.

Beanstalk School. Application was presented to the Board for approval. There were two representatives in attendance to answer questions from the Board. The Board appreciated the well-done application, esp. the curriculum and assessment diagram.
Upon a motion by R. Schomburg, seconded by K. Hwang, Beanstalk School was approved for licensure of Kindergarten by unanimous voice vote.

Central Bucks Children’s Academy. 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 room arrangement, curriculum, special education evaluations and the progress reports. Upon a motion by C. Lopus, seconded by R. Schomburg, Central Bucks Children’s Academy was approved for licensure of Kindergarten by unanimous voice vote.

Devine School, Macungie. 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 teacher to student ratio and the schedule. Upon a motion by G. Morris, seconded by C. Lopus, Devine School, Macungie, was approved for licensure of Kindergarten by unanimous voice vote.

Devine School, Wescosville. 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 center time. Upon a motion by J. Buckheit, seconded by R. Schomburg, Devine School, Wescosville, was approved for licensure of Nursery 4 by unanimous voice vote.

Holy Family Institute Specialized Learning. Application was presented to the Board. There were two representatives in attendance to answer questions from the Board. The Board had questions about the teaching staff, report cards and the transitions of students. Upon a motion by C. Glean, seconded by J. Buckheit, Holy Family Institute Specialized Learning was conditionally approved for Elementary (1-8), Secondary (9-12), Special Education Elementary/Secondary: SED, SLI, MR, LD, by unanimous voice vote. The condition that must be met before licensure is:

1. Department of Environmental Protection.

Hope Academy - Conway. 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 age range for the autism and SED classrooms. The board liked the response to the question regarding the transitioning of students. Upon a motion by C. Glean, seconded by R. Schomburg, Hope Academy - Conway, was approved for licensure of Special Education Preschool/Elementary/Secondary (N4-12) Autism, MR/SED/LD/S&L by unanimous voice vote.

Joshua Learning Center. Application was presented to the Board. There were three representatives in attendance to answer questions from the Board. The Board applauds the mission of the school and appreciated the very through answers to the questions. Upon a motion by R. Schomburg, seconded by C. Lopus, Joshua Learning Center was conditionally approved for Kindergarten by unanimous voice vote. The condition that must be met before licensure is:

1. Department of Environmental Protection.
Mehoopany Nursery School. Application was presented to the Board for approval. There were three representatives in attendance to answer questions from the Board. The Board commented that the submitted application was great! They particularly liked the answer to how they communicate with the parents of the students. Upon a motion by J. Buckheit, seconded by C. Lopus, Mehoopany Nursery School was approved for licensure of Nursery 3 & 4 by unanimous voice vote.

Rabbit Hill Nursery School. 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 including students with special needs and parental involvement. Upon a motion by C. Glean, seconded by R. Schomburg, Rabbit Hill Nursery School, was approved for licensure of Nursery 3 & 4 by unanimous voice vote.

Sarah A. Reed Children’s Ctr – Hamilton and Sarah A. Reed Children’s Ctr.- Millcreek. Both school applications were presented to the Board. There were two representatives in attendance to answer questions from the Board. The Board had questions about the progress reports, staffing, and the curriculum. Upon a motion by C. Lopus, seconded by R. Schomburg, both Sarah A. Reed Children’s Ctr. – Hamilton and Sarah A. Reed Children’s Ctr. Millcreek were conditionally approved for Special Education: Preschool/Elementary/Secondary (k-12) Regular Education: Kindergarten/Elementary/Secondary (K-12) SED/LD by unanimous voice vote. The condition that must be met before licensure is:

1. Temporary Teaching Certificates at both locations.

Soaring Heights - Scotland. Application was presented to the Board for approval. There were three representatives in attendance to answer questions from the Board. The Board applauds the solid application and very detailed schedules. Upon a motion by R. Schomburg, seconded by G. Morris, Soaring Heights – Scotland was approved for licensure of Special Education: Preschool/Elementary/Secondary, Autism and SED, by unanimous voice vote.

Sylvan Learning Center. Application was presented to the Board. There was one representative in attendance to answer questions from the Board. The Board commended the great answers to questions. Upon a motion by R. Schomburg, seconded by C. Lopus, Sylvan Learning Center was conditionally approved for Tutoring: Elementary, Secondary, Special Education Educational Testing & Remedial: Reading Center, by unanimous voice vote. The conditions that must be met before licensure are:

1. FBI clearance on teacher.
2. TB results for several staff members.

Tiny Tot Child Development Center - New Brighton and Tiny Tot Child Development Center - Rochester. Both applications were presented to the Board for approval. There were three representatives in attendance to answer questions from the Board. The Board commended both schools for achieving Keystone Star 4. Upon a motion by C. Glean, seconded by R. Schomburg,
Tiny Tot Child Development Center – New Brighton and Tiny Tot Child Development Center – Rochester, were approved for licensure of Nursery 3 & 4 by unanimous voice vote.

Turning Point Academy. 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 students, schedules, instructional resources and professional development. Upon a motion by R. Schomburg, seconded by J. Buckheit, Turning Point Academy was approved for licensure of Elementary (1-5) by unanimous voice vote, provided staff recalculate the student/spacing.

Yellow Breeches - Newville. Application was presented to the Board for approval. There were three representatives in attendance to answer questions from the Board. The Board commends the school on the submitted schedules. Upon a motion by C. Glean, seconded by K. Hwang, Yellow Breeches – Newville was approved for licensure of Special Education: Secondary (SED/LD) by unanimous voice vote.

Your Guardian Angel Preschool and Childcare II. Application was presented to the Board. There were two representatives in attendance to answer questions from the Board. The Board acknowledged the school for the great application. Upon a motion by C. Glean, seconded by G. Morris, Your Guardian Angel Preschool and Childcare II was conditionally approved for Nursery (3 & 4) by unanimous voice vote. The condition that must be met before licensure is:

1. Clearances for three teachers.

Directors for Board Approval

Upon a motion by R. Schomburg, seconded by C. Glean, nineteen new Education Directors were approved by unanimous voice vote.

DISCUSSION/INFORMATION

The revisions to the private academic school regulations continues with the reviewing process.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items of business and upon a motion by R. Schomburg, seconded by C Lopus, the meeting was adjourned at 12:14 a.m.

[Signature]

Monica L. Washington
Secretary to the Board