

SOUTHEASTERN EARLY COLLEGE AND CAREER ACADEMY, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
August 15, 2019

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Garrett Wilcox, Superintendent, Vidalia City Schools
Barry Waller, Superintendent, Toombs County Schools

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Andy Kimbell, STC Board Representative
Allen Rice, Business Representative
Fred Godbee, Business Representative
Don Betts, Business Representative
Bruce Asberry, Board Representative, Vidalia City Schools BOE
Melissa Barrow, Parent Representative, Montgomery County
Kelly Tippett, Parent Representative, Vidalia City Schools
Ronald Baker, Parent Representative, Treutlen County
Debbie Evans, Business Representative
Michele Johnson, Business Representative

MEMBERS UNABLE TO ATTEND:

Tommy Smith, Parent Representative, Toombs County Schools
Clint Williams, Board Representative, Toombs County
Josh Kelly, Board Representative, Treutlen County
Henry Price, Board Representative, Montgomery County

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Shelly Smith, CEO, SECCA
David Avery, High School Director, SECCA
Tim Smith, Advisor
Sabrina Campbell, Special Programs Coordinator
Donna Collins, SECCA Instructor
Blake Parker, Sweet City Landscapes
Captain DeCarlos Ware, JROTC
Dr. Scott Barrow, MCHS Principal
Dr. Barry Dotson, STC

In the absence of Chair Henry Price, Shelly Smith called the meeting of the Southeastern Early College and Career Academy, Inc. (SECCA) Board of Directors to order at 6:00 pm. David Avery offered an invocation, and the board reviewed the school vision and goals. On a motion by Andy Kimbell and

second by Fred Godbee, the board approved the agenda. On a motion by Don Betts and second by Bruce Asberry, the board approved the May 16, 2019 meeting minutes.

Nominees as board members were introduced: Kelly Tippett, Vidalia parent; Ronald Baker, Treutlen parent, Michele Johnson, Toombs-Montgomery Chamber; and Debbie Evans, Toombs-Montgomery Chamber. On a motion by Don Betts and second by Bruce Asberry, all nominees were approved.

David Avery presented a proposal by the Toombs Fire and Rescue to provide, free of charge, search, rescue, and fire fighting training for SECCA students. On a motion by Fred Godbee and second by Allen Rice, the board approved the inclusion of the training as a part of the JROTC curriculum. Students who successfully complete the training and assessment will be issued certification for search and rescue. If the program is expanded, students will be able to complete Fire Fighter 1 certification as well.

Blake Parker of Sweet City Landscapes spoke with the board about the possible inclusion of Green Industry Certification classes at area high schools. The board recommended that the SECCA high school director and CTAE leaders meet to determine where this instruction might be integrated, specifically in agriculture pathways.

Shelly Smith presented the annual MOU among the four member school districts, Southeastern Technical College, and the Technical College System of Georgia. On a motion by Fred Godbee and second by Allen Rice, the board approved the 2020 MOU.

David Avery presented the revised budget for FY 20 which includes staffing changes. The budget was reduced by approximately \$55,000 with lower costs for a healthcare instructor and the loss of a drone instructor. On a motion by Fred Godbee and second by Andy Kimbell, the revised budget was approved.

Shelly Smith share a plan to “grow our own” drone instructor. A local teacher is taking course work and seeking FAA certification in order to be ready to teach the drone pathway in August 2020. Additionally, Ms. Smith described an opportunity through the Georgia Tech Logistics Initiative and Proctor and Gamble. Students would be able to take logistics courses on line, free of charge until February 2020. The board discussed the mission of SECCA and noted that all options for students are good but spreading the available manpower and funds too thin may become an inhibitor to accomplishment of the academy goals. Ms. Smith will meet with system representatives and Charles Easley of Georgia Tech to determine whether member schools will choose to participate.

David Avery shared current enrollment data. As of August 15, SECCA student enrollment was 433. Though the drone pathway was dropped this year, the newly introduced energy pathway has kept student interest and enrollment high. Toombs County has the greatest enrollment, totaling 234 students.

The board discussed the date and time of scheduled board meetings. Traditionally, meetings have been held on the third Thursday at 6:00 pm. Discussion revealed that a change to a luncheon meeting would limit time for the meetings and several members could not attend during the work day.

On a motion by Bruce Asberry and second by Andy Kimbell, the meeting was adjourned.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next meeting will be held October 17, 2019 at 6:00 pm.

Henry Price, Chair

Shelly Smith, Secretary