

**SOUTHEASTERN EARLY COLLEGE AND CAREER ACADEMY, INC.**  
**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES**  
**November 15, 2018**

**EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**Garrett Wilcox**, Superintendent, Vidalia City Schools  
**Hugh Kight**, Superintendent, Montgomery County Schools  
**Henry Price**, Board Representative, Montgomery County

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

**Don Betts**, Business Representative  
**Andy Kimbell**, STC Board Representative  
**Josh Kelly**, Board Representative, Treutlen County  
**Tommy Smith**, Parent Representative, Toombs County Schools

**MEMBERS UNABLE TO ATTEND:**

**Melissa Barrow**, Parent Representative, Montgomery County  
**Larry Calhoun**, President, Southeastern Technical College  
**Clint Williams**, Board Representative, Toombs County  
**Barry Waller**, Superintendent, Toombs County Schools  
**Allen Rice**, Business Representative  
**Cathy Middleton**, Parent Representative, Vidalia City Schools  
**Bruce Asberry**, Board Representative, Vidalia City Schools BOE  
**Fred Godbee**, Business Representative

**OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

**Shelly Smith**, CEO, SECCA  
**David Avery**, High School Director, SECCA  
**Tim Smith**, Advisor  
**Sabrina Campbell**, Marketing/Career Counseling Coordinator  
**Donna Collins**, WBL and TAP Instructor

Chair Henry Price called the meeting of the Southeastern Early College and Career Academy, Inc. (SECCA) Board of Directors to order at 6:00 pm. The invocation was given by Hugh Kight, and the board reviewed the 2018 vision and goals. On a motion by Andy Kimbell and second by Don Betts, the board approved the agenda. On a motion by Don Betts and second by Andy Kimbell, the board approved the October 18, 2018 meeting minutes.

Shelly Smith proposed changes to by-laws including the establishment of the CEO as the secretary to the Board of Directors and establishment of a president-elect. After a second by Andy Kimbell and discussion of the proposal, the board unanimously approved the revisions to the by-laws.

The board discussed the need for additional business representatives among the membership. Dr. Wilcox noted that the elected local board members and parent members are also businessmen and women. Ms. Smith will seek a board member appointed by the Toombs-Montgomery Chamber of Commerce, and Dr. Wilcox will see a board member appointed by the Toombs-Montgomery Development Authority. Other members will be sought from the manufacturing sector. Additionally, Greg Hudgins with Georgia Power will be asked to join the board because of his involvement with the STEM camp and the Energy Pathway.

With the addition of the Energy Pathway, materials and equipment will be required for instruction. On a motion by Don Betts and second by Andy Kimbell, the board approved SECCA contracting with a local grant writer, Nancy Edge, to apply for funds to support the Energy Pathway. Ms. Edge has written many successful grants including some for Montgomery County and Toombs County Schools.

The board reviewed the proposed schedule for the external team visit in January. Of special note were the board and business partner interview segments to be held from 11:15-12:15 on January 15, 2019. Mrs. Smith also shared the interview guidelines that will be followed during the visit.

Board members who have not yet signed conflict of interest acknowledgement forms were asked to do so. Those with forms on file include Allen Rice, Tommy Smith, Hugh Kight, Garrett Wilcox, Clint Williams, Don Betts, Andy Kimbell, Larry Calhoun, and Henry Price.

The board reviewed progress to date on implementation of the strategic plan. Of note were the 65 special education students who have completed or are currently participating in PASSPORT, an employability and transition course; 22 students enrolled in PLUS, a regular education soft skills course; 116 students enrolled in Work-Based Learning (WBL) while working in 88 businesses and industries; and the addition of Coastal High School students in the SECCA YouScience initiative. Board members noted the few manufacturing sector employers with WBL students, and SECCA agreed to seek more manufacturing work opportunities. The widespread prohibition on students under 18 working with or near machinery has proven to be a hindrance to the employment of WBL students.

The board reviewed the annual report data regarding dual enrollment and graduation rates. Dual enrollment rates rose from 82 in 2014-15 to 248 in 2018-19. Graduation rates in member high schools rose significantly from 2014-15 to 2017-18: Montgomery County from 47% to 89%; Toombs County from 71% to 88%; Treutlen County from 71% to 85%; and Vidalia City from 76% to 94%.

David Avery, High School Director, reported that Sergeant Leona York will leave SECCA and begin work at Benedictine Military School in Savannah on January 4, 2019. She was recruited by the senior JROTC officer there, a person with whom Sergeant York served in the US Army. Mr. Avery also informed the board about student recruiting efforts, eighth grade tours of SECCA, and upcoming academy activities.

On a motion by Tommy Smith and second by Andy Kimbell, the meeting was adjourned.

**NEXT BOARD MEETING**

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

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Henry Price, Chair

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Shelly Smith, Secretary