

## PCCS Board of Directors Strategic Planning

September 25, 2021 9:50 a.m.

High School Auditorium

**Board Members present:** Jennifer Barker, Charlene Crawford, Star Hamilton, Lisa Largent, Scott McRaney, and Alex Poole. A quorum was present.

**Others in attendance:** Jennifer Killen, Head of Schools, and Colton Ballard, David Benfield, Ernie Bridges, Sheila Richards, Holly White, and Claire Wilson.

J. Killen opened the Planning session at 9:50 a.m. She presented the Historic Enrollment and Statistics for the school. PCCS is the 4<sup>th</sup> largest Charter School in North Carolina.

- Enrollment Numbers: 2012 had 1145 students. 2021 had 1883.
- New Students to PCCS: 2020-2021 school year 612 new students; 2021-2022 school year 375
- Diverse Staff- Currently 199 staff with 8% diverse. Always recruiting to increase diversity by many different strategies with job postings, college job fairs, onsite job fairs, utilizing Teachers for Tomorrow, assisting with immigration/citizenship status.
- Student Demographics- more diverse over the past 7 years. PCCS reasonably reflects Gaston County Demographics.

J. Killen shared the current challenges:

- Effects of COVID-19 such as acclimating new students to the PCCS school culture and reintroducing the students to a regular school week, the daily school routine, Behavior issues/immaturity, and academic skill gap.
- Tardies
- Dress Code

Suggestions were shared:

- L. Largent suggested the PCCS Board send a heartfelt message to the families that says we are all in this together. We should do this now since we have their ear and attention with the ongoing mask requirement. A. Poole will draft a message.
- J. Killen invited the Administration to join a school support group similar to the one she attends.

C. Wilson gave a budget update:

- Still no state budget. Goal is for it to be released in mid-October. House and Senate still have to submit a comprising budget to the Governor.
- Where we are now:
  - PCCS is in good standing due to last years state funding
  - PCCS met its ADM for this year. Currently it stands at 1883. C. Wilson explained ADM (Average Daily Membership) and gave a budget projection based on the new ADM
- PCCS received an Employee Tax Credit for the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter.

A. Poole announced the goal for today is to get a picture of where PCCS stands currently. He reminded the attendees that Board Members need to serve based on the PCCS mission statement and core values. He identified the key concerns or areas the PCCS must succeed in order to properly fulfill the stated mission and promote the core values.

- Health and Safety: COVID, continue to trust the decisions of the Administration, no committee at this time.
- Academics: Recovery mode with Academics from COVID school years. The NC DPI School report card grade continues to rise. This report comprises 80% proficiency and 20% growth. Proficiency includes graduation and ACT test scores. The Enrichment Committee tracks and communicates the Academic results.
- Budget & Finance: Wrapping up major projects. Finance Committee has oversight with the Budget and Finance. Need to work through capital spending.
- Policy & Governance: State Government pressure and mandates to create policies. Governance Committee and Administration oversee this area. Need to fill seats and plan to replace those who are rolling off the Board soon (succession planning). Recruitment is the preferred path to Board membership. Vital to protect what we have and to continuously improve. Need to fill 2 seats (MS Staff Rep, Board position- either at large or HS Parent Rep). Working on Dress Code Policy. Need to discuss whether more Committees or Ad-Hoc Committees are needed. All Committee Chairpersons need to review the bylaws and make sure the Committee is adhering to the criteria.

Tenure left: C. Crawford 1 year, M. Stephens 1 year, A. Poole 2 years, J. Barker 3 years, S. McRaney 4 years, L. Largent 4 years, W. Greemon 5 years, M. Mauldin 6 years.

Committee Chairpersons: Executive- A. Poole, Governance- C. Crawford, Finance- M. Stephens, Facilities- M. Mauldin, Enrichment- L. Largent, and Athletics- J. Barker

- Stakeholder Satisfaction: Being affected by all the above pressures. Enrichment Committee tracks this area. Need to ensure there is input from all stakeholders- staff survey and parent survey.

Next Strategic Board Meeting: Discuss and make plans for the key concerns A. Poole presented. Saturday, October 16 at 9:00 a.m. at the High School

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer Barker, PCCS Board Secretary