Board Meeting Minutes
BONNIE CONE SCHOOLS
16105 Poplar Tent Road Huntersville, NC 28078
BCLA Upper School | 9-16-2025 at 4:45 p.m.

Board of Directors' Access:
Video call link: https://meet.google.com/wsj-ybme-ydc
Or dial: (US) +1 224-900-6823 PIN: 768 395 576#

I. **Call to Order:** Chairman Marty McCarthy

II. **Pledge of Allegiance** **IMAGE**

III. **Reading of the Mission Statement:** Read by Director Judy Russo
The Bonnie Cone Schools mission is to equip students with the tools of learning to think critically, reason effectively, and communicate persuasively through the rigors of a classical education.

IV. **Spoken Invocation** Director William Mills

V. **Roll Call:** Director Judy Russo

Board Member	Title	Term	Attendance
Marty McCarthy	Chair	June 2028	Present
Brian Puckett	Vice Chair/Treasurer	June 2028	Present
Stephanie Newbrough	Secretary	June 2028	Present
William Mills, III Esq	Director	June 2028	Present
Judy Russo	Director	June 2028	Present
George Gately	Director	April 2028	Present
Jeffrey Sich	Director	August 2028	Present

VI. **Approval of the agenda:** A **Motion** to approve the agenda by Director Willimiam Mills. Second by Director Judy Russo. The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote of 6-0.

VII. Public Comment:
No one was present for public comment.

VIII. Management Reports:

Great Hearts Leadership
Great Hearts Administrative Leadership, Jason Doughty

- The financial process under-way for NWA and Map can begin. The testing target date is the week before Fall break in early October. This will allow time to compile significant data to instructional intervention & assist in academic growth.

Charter One Leadership
President Charter One America, Eldon Pfile
There were no updates to share from leadership at this time.

Campus Report *

BCLA Upper - **Ramon Richardson, Upper School Director**
Enrollment:
Confirmed enrollment for BCLA Upper is currently at **594 students**.
Combined total enrollment with BCLA Lower is currently at **1,273 students.**
Events:
Parent-Teacher Conferences held 9/12 were well attended and parents took advantage of the opportunity to meet with their student's teachers. The New Student Behavior Assembly welcomed all students, 70 attended to learn more about the RAISE Values and how it impacts school culture, community and drives school standards.
Announcements:
Senior Sunrise Breakfast will be Student Services will host the Class of 2026 as part of building traditions for the Senior class, additionally they will attend a Common App Cafe following the breakfast.
Attend-DANCE is slated for September 26 for students that have perfect attendance for the month of September.
NC Check-Ins will be approaching the week of September 29 for the Junior High students, high school will begin October 3rd through the 7th.

BCLA Lower - Christy Williamsen, Lower School Director
Enrollment:
Confirmed enrollment for BCLA Lower is currently at 679 students.

Events:
Classical Curriculum and Culture Connection night held 8/26 was well attended by staff and families. The event featured a group meeting and an engaging Socratic seminar about classical education.

Patriot Day: Breakfast and lunch were provided for first responders. Students shared hundreds of handwritten thank-you notes with the first responders in attendance, and these notes were delivered to multiple first responder departments. A moment of silence as a community before the morning pledge. Students all dressed in red and blue.

Announcements:
The CC&CC nights will be a monthly event, September's event is being rescheduled to accommodate staffing shifts.

BCCA - **Pamela Franklin, Lower School Director was not present, Ramon Richardson gave the BCCA Report on her behalf.**
Enrollment:
Confirmed total enrollment for BCCA stands at 703 students.

Events:
Parent-Teacher Conferences: Our Parent-Teacher Conferences went very well—every family had the opportunity to meet with their child's teacher last week.

Book Fair Success: BCCA had their first book fair of the year and our first partnership with Literati, it was a huge success!

Announcements:
Curriculum and Culture Night will be on September 22nd. September 26th, we will celebrate with a structured "Yes Day." October 10th, BCCA will hold their first Ball of the year.

For the breakdown in enrollment and the full campus report please see it attached in the link as Campus Reports at the top of this section.

Charter One Financial Update:
Trevor Denham, Head of Finance, Charter One America
Jeff Patterson, Chief Financial Advisor, Charter One

- **Financial Summary**
  Trevor Denham reported on key messages & shared specific status on cash flow and bond covenants (DSCR and DCOH) along with next steps for the Board, and SY26 Financial outlook.

  Chairman Marty McCarthy asked for Cash flow monthly reports to be made for the Board, and to keep the Board informed on auditor financial statements by including them on the communications.

- **BCCA**
  - **Budget Remaining**
    - Year to Date
    - Balance Sheet
- **BCLA**
  - **Budget Remaining**
    - Year to Date
    - Balance Sheet

IX. Approval of the Consent Agenda: A **Motion** to approve the Consent Agenda as presented by Secretary Stephanie Newbrough. Second by Vice Chair/Treasurer Brian Puckett. The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote 6-0.

1. **Approval of Board Meeting Minutes:**
   - **8.26.2025 BCS Draft Minutes**

2. **August New Hires:**
   - **BCCA:**
     1. Patrists Baker - Lunch Aide
     2. Mary Jefferson - EC Teacher

X. Discussion/New Business/Action Items (Motion, Second, Discussion, Vote):

- **Amended BCCA Bylaws to align with EMO Agreement:**
  - **2025 Restated & Amended Bylaws - Clean Copy**
  - **2025 Restated & Amended Bylaws - Redline Copy**

A **Motion** to approve the Amended BCCA bylaws with adopted changes made by Director William Mills. Second by Vice Chair/Treasurer Brian Puckett. Discussion was for Director William Mills to correct noted grammatical errors and changes followed up with a date and signature from Bonnie Cone

Secretary, Stephanie Newbrough. The motion to approve the amended bylaws and adopted changes passed unanimously with a voice vote 6-0.

- **BCS Policy Manual: Amendment Update**
  Tina Letchworth, Director of Federal Programs, Grants and Compliance
  Informed the Board of the recent NC legislation policy updates that were passed after the creation of the 2025/26 BCS Policy Manual. These three policies need to be added to the existing manual. Ms. Letchworth explained each amendment, and when they are due. Immediate approval of these policy amendments were required immediately to stay in compliance with the state law.

  A **Motion** made by Director Judy Russo. Second by Vice Chair/Treasurer Brian Puckett. The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote 6-0.

- **BTSP Plan with updated revisions**
  BCLA School Administration
  Director Christy Williamsen spoke to this update for her campus. The change on this plan is being audited and the administration has made the minor language revisions to stay in compliance.

  A **Motion** to approve the revisions to the BCLA BTSP Plan as presented was made by Director Judy Russo. Second by Vice Chair/Treasurer Brian Puckett. The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote 6-0.

XI. **Closed Session:** A **Motion** to go into Closed Session made by Director Judy Russo. Second by Vice Chair/Treasurer Brian Puckett. Motion passed unanimously with a voice vote 6-0 at 5:45pm. Pursuant to **§ 143-318.11(a)(4)(5)Closed Sessions**

A **Motion** to come out of Closed Session made by Vice Chair/Treasurer Brian Puckett. Second by Director Judy Russo. The motion passed unanimously with a voice vote 6-0 at 7:06pm.

XII. **Announcements**

The next regular scheduled Board meeting is Tuesday, October 21, 2025.

XIII. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 7:06pm.