

Franklin Academy Meeting Minutes
August 10, 2015

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. Members who were present were Bob Luddy, Al Merritt, and Rick Eddins.

Minutes from previous meeting were reviewed. Rick Eddins asked to pass a resolution to change the adjourned time to 6:40 pm from 6:00 pm. Al Merritt motioned that they be approved with correction and all approved.

Denise Kent reviewed the Read to Achieve. All 3rd graders must pass a standard reading test at the beginning of the year or pass the EOG at the end of the year to advance to the 4th grade. All of our students met one of the required standards. Last year we had 83.4% that passed and this year 83.6% passed. We increased by 3 more students.

David Mahaley reviewed ACT scores for Franklin Academy students. The benchmark set by the ACT is a score that shows a student is “college ready”. We typically are 2-4 points higher than in all four categories, English, Math, Reading, and Science than the state averages. Thirty six percent of our 11th graders met the score criteria in all four categories to be college ready. The state was at 15%.

Denise Kent reported that the IOWA test has historically been administered to K-2 in the spring and grades 3 through 8 take the test in the fall. We have decided to move the K-2 testing to the fall so that comparing data and growth of our students will be more meaningful. When the tests are given at different times during the year they are normed differently and do not provide an accurate comparison.

David Mahaley announced there is a new grading scale for NC high schools. They are moving from a 7 point scale to a 10 point scale. Now a student will receive an A and the appropriate quality points for a 90 and above. There is also a change with the quality points earned for taking advanced level courses. Franklin Academy High School will use an incremental increase giving more points/weight so there will be a difference in points awarded for a 90 versus a 98. This will be more reflective of the students performance as opposed to the 10 point scale. K-8 will be using the 10 point scale along with keeping our mastery program. A student would need to score 85 or higher for mastery. Bob Luddy – is (change in scale) that grade inflation? Mahaley – not really, just opens the door for more students to pass and increase NC graduation rate. Eddins, So if a student had to pass with a 70 they now can make a 60? Mahaley – Yes. This was a DPI decision. This is their solution for keeping more kids in school and lower the drop out rates. Al Merritt – “what about Trade Schools for those students who don’t perform well” . Mahaley – most of the funding has been eliminated for these programs.

Dave Mahaley reported that we are in our final stages of getting all of our teachers and students enrolled in DPI’s new program, Power School. This program has not worked well and the state is not providing much help with the issues. It has been a very

frustrating situation and will likely get worse before better as the traditional schools will go on-line in a week or so.

Denise Kent gave an update starting our 18th year, 1600 students, 151 staff members, 19 new teachers. New administrators, James Kornegay at the high school, Amy Daniels is at 3-4, and Melissa Lloyd at K-2.

Meeting adjourned 6:15 pm