

CHESTER CHARTER SCHOLARS ACADEMY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

6:30 pm, Tuesday, July 21, 2020

Date of Approval: Tuesday, August 21 2020

Call to Order: The Board of Trustees for the Chester Charter Scholars Academy held a public Board Meeting in Chester, PA on June 21, 2020. The meeting convened at 7:00 pm. An Executive Session took place in advance of the public Board Meeting to discuss personnel and litigation matters. Members of the Board in attendance (at the time of the call to order): President Barbara Klock (ph), Don Delson (ph), Marilyn Henkelman (ph), Ellen Milgrim (ph), Alice Turbville (ph), Ramona Jones (ph), Dion Lewis (ph), Judy Owen (ph) Ian Wilcox (ph), Ben Berger (ph), and Head of School Akosua Watts (ph). Special guest in attendance, Jennifer Camp (ph), acting as secretary. Absent: Joan Richards

Public Comments: No Public present.

Approval of Minutes

- The Board reviewed and adopted the minutes of the June 16, 2020 meeting of the Chester Charter Scholars Academy Board of Trustees subject to changes provided during review discussion.
 - Motion – Barbara Klock
 - Second – Ian Wilcox
 - Ayes: 11 Nays: 0 Absent: 1

President's Report

Barbara Klock (President)

- Introduced new board member Judy Owen. Board members took turns introducing themselves. Judy recited the CCSA Board Oath.
- Solicited board members for strategies on best ways to communicate and come to consensus when approached by the press for comments.
- Thanked those who participated in the board evaluation and survey and solicited feedback on how to achieve one hundred percent participation in the future.
- Don Delson gave an update on CCSA Foundation's upcoming endowment campaign: "CCSA from K-Life."
 - The goal is to raise ten million dollars.
 - Currently there are board pledges totaling \$850,000, plus \$300,000 from other sources.
 - There is a very active committee working hard to make this campaign a success.

School Report

Akosua Watts, Head of School/CEO

- Shared a Power Point presentation reviewing options for school reopening plans as well as pros and cons.
 - All reopening plans are guided by the principle that the health and safety of students, family and staff take the highest priority.
 - Families and staff were surveyed on three options: blended reopening model, total remote model, and total in-person model. Survey results showed:
 - ✓ The majority supported a blended reopening model, with a consecutive day schedule.
- Brief discussions ensued on the following points:
 - Recent concern from faculty and staff regarding returning to in-person instruction, including risk of exposure, health of self and extended family members, and childcare.
 - The benefits of a totally remote first trimester, which would allow for optimization of that learning model, especially based on knowledge gained from the spring.
 - The loss of learning with a remote-only option, particularly amongst the K-3 group.
 - Chester is higher in deaths than other parts of Delco; CCSA's students are far more impacted on a percentage basis.
 - Health and safety management of a blended opening.
 - Challenges around bussing and transportation; no bussing contracts have been finalized yet.
 - Challenges around administering state testing.
- Health and Safety Plan
 - Provisional approval of the current plan was discussed, contingent upon a July 23, 2020 meeting of the Facilities Committee.
 - Language will be added to the plan to reflect remote learning options.
 - The final plan needs to be submitted before the official start of school.

Nominating and Governance Report

Dion Lewis and Ben Berger (Co-chairs, Nominating and Governance Committee)

- Due to time constraints, it was determined a report on the board survey will occur at the August meeting.

Financial Report

Alice Turbiville (Finance Committee, Chair)

- Reviewed the adoption of the blended reopening budget.
 - Discussed the fact that there is no material difference between the budgets for remote learning versus blended learning.
 - An all remote plan will reduce some costs but will not affect revenues as long as we have the same number of students.
 - The finance committee will review the budget to determine the need for any adjustments in case of total remote learning.

Motion to Adjourn

- Motion – Barbara Klock

- Second – Ellen Milgrim
 - Ayes: 11 Nays: 0 Absent: 1

Next Board Meeting: Tuesday, August, 21 2020 at 7:00pm preceded by Executive Session at 6:30pm

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Minutes provided by Jennifer Camp

Executive Session immediately followed to discuss Head of School evaluation.