

**MEETING MINUTES  
OF  
CATALYST ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL  
September 1, 2020  
Remotely via Zoom**

Trustee Attendees: Rachel Amankulor, Carey Harris, Erin Stilling, Tom Walenchok, George Childs, Gretchen Generett\*, Allison McCarthy\*, Carl Cooper\* (\* indicates member joined the meeting after the voting items).

Other Attendees: Brian Smith, Darren Gray, Alan Shuckrow (Strassburger McKenna Gutnick & Gefsky)

The meeting was called to order at 6:05 p.m.

Initially, Rachel Amankulor celebrated that today had been the first day of school which is a huge achievement for Catalyst.

**Approval of Minutes of August 3, 2020 regular meeting and August 23, 2020 special meeting.** The Board reviewed the minutes as prepared. There was one correction noted on the August 23, 2020 special meeting minutes regarding the location of the potential learning center. *Motion by Carey Harris to approve the minutes for the August 3 and August 23 minutes, seconded by George Childs and carried unanimously.*

**Human Resources Report.** Brian Smith indicated that Myra Powell, who had been serving as a consultant for enrollment will be hired directly by Catalyst as a Parent Advisor which is a position that we budgeted for and we are able to utilize grant funding to cover the cost. Myra has done a great job and will transition well as a Catalyst employee. *Motion by George Childs to hire Myra Powell as a Parent Advisor, seconded by Carey Harris and carried unanimously.*

**Payments of Bills/to Vendors.** Brian Smith reviewed the bill list that the board had been presented. On the list was payment to Apple for the student iPad. It was noted that the iPad did arrive in time for school. *Motion by Tom Walenchok to approve the payments of bills, seconded by Carey Harris and carried unanimously.*

**Finance Report.** Brian Smith reviewed the current financial situation. The Board had some questions.

**Marketing and Enrollment Update.** Brian Smith reported that enrollment is sitting at 93-95 students. There are 30 in first grade and over 60 in Kindergarten. There is still a desire to add to the first- grade enrollment which may be able to happen during September as Catalyst is offering the learning center at the same time as the virtual instruction.

**Facilities Update.** There is progress being made at the Lemington School and we still believe we should be able to use the building by the end of September. There are some supply chain issues involving equipment that we need such as restroom partitions.

**Report on First Day of School.** Brian Smith and Darren Gray reported on the first day of school. A majority of the students have taken advantage of the learning center that we are offering at the former YMCA building at 120 South Whitfield. The families were very excited about the start of a new school. Overall, the first day was a success and the staff is anxious to continue to improve and offer what families want.

The Board congratulated Brian and Darren on getting the school open. This is a huge accomplishment, particularly given all of the obstacles. The Board commented that they hoped the next meeting on October 6 would take place at the Lemington School. Brian mentioned that he planned to invite the school's leadership team to the meeting to meet the Board.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:45.