Prepare | Explore | Empower

Board of Directors
Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 18, 2024

Board Members Present:	
Sarah Drewlow	Chairperson
Dan Klenjoski	Treasurer
Kristen Cofrades	Board Member
Autumn Coffee	Secretary
Amy McDuffee	Vice Chairperson
Larissa Fransua	Board Member-online

Also Present:	
Brent Reckman	Executive Director
Sarah Gramarossa	Chief Academic Officer
Andrea Foust	Director of Finance
Stacy McCleskey	Exec. Admin. Manager
John Cutler	Auditor-online

Minutes of the regular board meeting of The Academy held at 11800 Lowell Blvd, Westminster, CO 80031 in Adams County on November 18, 2024.

I. Open Meeting
A quorum being present, Mrs. Drewlow called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

II. Consent Agenda
a. Mrs. McDuffee moved to approve the October 28, 2024, minutes. Seconded by Ms. Drewlow.

Discussion:	None
Ayes:	Mrs. Cofrades, Mrs. Coffee, Mr. Klenjoski, Mrs. Fransua
Nays:	None

III. Public Comment
a. Public comments were made by two middle school students regarding food offering in the cafeteria.
b. Public comment was made by a parent who was interested in the construction project and how it impacted athletics.

IV. Presentation and Discussion

a. Annual Financial Audit – presented by Auditor John Cutler

i. An Unmodified report was issued. This is the best report to be given.

ii. There were no errors or disagreements with management.

b. Sunflower Bank Financing

i. The loan closed on November 14, 2024.

ii. The interest rate was locked in at 6.2%.

c. Name Change Policy

i. The updated policy has 3 layers.

1. Informal use of chosen name- Colorado statute states that a school must use informal name as the student requests.
2. Formal use of chosen name-the change in PowerSchool requires a form to be completed by parent/guardian and counselor.
3. Legal name change-family/guardian goes through process outside of school with state government and completes legal documents.

ii. CSI recommends using guidelines of ethics from American School Counselors Association (ASCA).

iii. Colorado statute states that we must have a policy in place.

iv. Colorado statute considers it discrimination if the school does not use student's chosen name.

v. Counselors must use their judgement and recognize the obligation to the student but balance the obligation with an understanding of parent/guardian rights to be the guiding voice in child's life.

vi. Mr. Reckman will do a revision to include language emphasizing the importance of parent notification while maintaining alignment with ASCA ethical standards. The revised language will be reviewed at the December meeting

d. Updated Suspension & Expulsion Procedures

i. There was a discussion on the updates to the state statute regarding habitually disruptive designation and the internal process.

e. Executive Session-Not needed.

f. Work Session Summary

i. Monthly Board Communications Review-discussed community feedback.

ii. Ongoing Policy Review-Family Engagement Policy was introduced due to use of Title I funds

iii. Board Self-Evaluation Revisions-the format seems appealing and intent seems workable.

iv. Executive Director Evaluation-working to finalize questions and process.

V. Reports from Directors, Principals, and Committees
    a. Executive Director Report
        i. No updates for finance or operations.
        ii. Updates to the scorecard will be done after Winter Break.
        iii. Communication to community will be sent regarding upcoming construction.
    b. Chief Academic Officer Report
        i. CAO Is continuing to develop moderate needs specifications for SPED.
        ii. Attendance is hovering around 92%. Of the 92%, there are approximately 540 students with an average of 10 days of absences. Here are the steps that are being taken to address the attendance issues:
            1. Start tier 2 and 3 support for students and families.
            2. Continue to share the "why" with families
            3. Continue communications and incentives.
    c. Committee Reports
        i. Finance
            1. Monthly financial report was straight forward and simple.
            2. The October count was 1845 students and budget was set at 1835 students. Enrollment is stable and consistent with prior years.
        ii. SACademic
            1. Curricula for High School Math and Business Marketing and Principles of Accounting/Finance were presented.
            2. Andy with Academy Music Parent (AMP) spoke about encouraging volunteering.
        iii. PTO – see meeting minutes
        iv. #BeABlessing Campaign
            1. The plan for donations, staff favorites, and events will be similar to last year.
            2. Mrs. Fransua will forward the video explaining the campaign.

VI. Executive Summary
    a. Name Change Policy – will discuss in December

VII. Board Meeting Self-Scoring Board Self-Scoring – Today's meeting was both efficient and met expectations, so the score is 4.

VIII. Adjourn Meeting– Mrs. Drewlow adjourned the meeting at 8:58 pm.