



Classical Charter School Association
3310 N. Durkee St.; Appleton, WI 54911
Phone: (920) 997-1388; Fax: (920) 997-1390
www.classicalcharter.com

MEETING MINUTES

January 16, 2025 @ 6:30 p.m.
Classical School

Mr. Champaign called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Ms. Meisel, Mr. Layher, Mr. Dugal, Mr. Cotti, Mr. Champaign, Ms. Grosskreutz, Ms. Zeimet, Mr. Shober, Ms. Abbi, Ms. Behm, Ms. VanRyzin. Board Guests: Mr. Winch (ex-officio), Ms. Davis. (ex-officio)/; Ms. Foley, Ms. Schroeder

Guests: Ms. Crownhart, Ms. DeGoey

Public Comment: Ms. Nagreen: Class sizes in K-1; we're at 26 students now. Could we have a card-flip system back in K-1.

Approvals:

Agenda:

Amend agenda: After Virtues: By-laws discussion added. Ms. Grosskretz / Ms. VanRyzin All in Favor, as amended

Minutes: VanRyzin/ Layher All in Favor

Administrative Update (**Mr. Winch**):

Music concerts last week were well attended.

Construction on pace, hoping that the upstairs will be finished soon; lower level probably ready in July. Some blueprint updates based on teacher feedback. Spanish Room will remain as it was in the original plan, rather than moved next to the music rooms. Special Ed would likely be next to proposed band room instead; some other options for student testing needs are available. We will need to see how this works over time. **Ms. Ziemet**: Teachers' lounge will remain? **Mr. Winch**: Yes.

1-½ Gaga pits acquired due to fundraising and a Appleton Education Association grant.

Classical Site Budget: \$47446.68; we have been reimbursed by AASD with charter funds (due to different curriculum). Although we spend the money in the fall, it does not come until

January; it is an annual reimbursement. There is also an ASCI ("textbook fund") money account available for new curriculum or changes: Currently \$38,637.88.

Applications for K:63 students on list; 166 total. (18 Kindergarten siblings); Last year at this time 175; 190; 189. Applications close February 21; there should be a boost in the first or second week of February when open enrollment opens. Ms. Schroeder has been advertising in the district generally, and there has also been a 4K mailer. Two parent nights. Charter Fair last Saturday; more than 100 visitors.

Finance (**Ms. Ziemet**)

4861.44 BlueSky

102,966.89 BMO Most of this money will go for construction.

Budgeted and donation for the Gala \$5,500. Costs were \$5,643.95 on Gala.

Mr. Champaign: The Pegasus Project project estimates come to \$63,332. **Ms. Ziemet:** Total donations were \$91,522.88. **Mr. Dugal:** Wasn't AASD going to cover 11% overages. Other overages will need to come from us. **Mr. Champaign:** All the funds will be spent for construction projects, but we will need to save some for overages, as there is not a cap on expenses **Motion:** Sent \$63,332 to AASD for construction project (projects Alt 1 and Alt 3 per AASD). (**Ziemet/Dugal**) **All in favor**

DPI Student Report Cards:

Largely the same as last year, still "4 stars." **Ms. Abbi:** Are other schools available? **Mr. Winch:** Yes, DPI and AASD will provide them. **Mr. Champaign:** Are there any points of concern for you? **Mr. Winch:** These scores are effectively rolling averages of math and reading; and we have very high scores. Perhaps working on the lowest quartile improvement; before Covid, Classical had a 97 in this area.

STEM update

February 3: New 0.5 FTE STEM teacher will begin as a "temporary hire" as the position must be reposted for next year per AASD rules. This year there have been challenges filling the post: 12 different groups of students (without being the science teacher). Also had challenges acquiring the curriculum. Teachers have gained 50 minutes extra prep time, most to help coordinate with STEM teacher. **Ms. Meisel:** Are there any plans to showcase this to parents? **Mr. Winch:** Yes, I hope to do this with the new STEM teacher. There might be a chance to do this at the same time at the 8th grade science fair.

Reading PLC proposal:

Move novels back to grades identified in the Core Knowledge sequence. Lessons 5 and 10 have historically been done together on a students' own time, but many of these lessons help support the books, so the proposal would include these individually. **Ms. VanRyzin:** Does this basically mean that the novels will move back to original places? **Ms. Schroeder:** Yes, this is just to clarify that there is room for Direct Instruction and that it is acceptable to not finish

reading material if there is not enough time. **Mr. Champaign:** This will be on the agenda for a vote next month.

Act 20 (Mr. Winch and Ms. Schroeder)

Started screening yesterday; we have through 1/29 to identify students who need Personal Reading Plan for anyone who scores in the bottom quartile, as required by law. **Ms. Schroeder** would like to thank the many para-professions who have helped to do screening and largely avoid instruction time. Some grades are finished. The burden will be in K and 1. Generally, this has worked like clockwork so far. About 10 minutes per child. AASD estimated about 1,902 PRP plans for the district, Ms. Schroeder expects between 10 and 25 at Classical.

Core Virtues (Ms. Davis)

Overwhelmingly, students liked the new emphasis on Core Virtues as well as the length of lessons. Overall, both staff and students would like these in homeroom for about 5 to 8 minutes. For next year, we may move to three grade bands (e.g. K-1), and doing different topics for different grades. **Mr. Champaign:** This seems like a very good change and very much like what we would like to see. **Ms. Behm:** There will be no Second Step next year, correct? **Ms. Davis:** Correct, all grades will be using these Core Virtue lessons. **Ms. Ziemet:** Is there a disciplinary impact? **Ms. Davis:** Have been able to have better real-world conversations than before, although we only started last year, so we can't tell from a data view, but I think these have been positive. We've also looked at implementing consistent signage and implementing some professional development.

By-law discussion

Mr. Champaign: Authorizer checklist from AASD. They want an annual governance handbook.

Ms. VanRyzin: Two things I saw in by-laws 1) Board members should not respond directly to parental concerns beginning in 2020, but the by-laws say board members may reply. 2) Should remove voting cannot be conducted by electronic communication. **Mr. Champaign:** We will consider changes in the next meeting.

Public Comment: None

Motion to move to closed session: **Layher/VanRyzin** All in Favor

Motion to move out of closed session **Meisel/VanRyzin** All in Favor

Motion to Adjourn: **VanRyzni/Layher** 8:31p.m.