

Charter School for Applied Technologies
24 Shoshone Street, Buffalo, New York 14214
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING 10/11/2022

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: In person, Joseph Berti, Michael Keller, John Cinquino, Lisa Smith, Ian Donnelly, Kevin Cornacchio, Jina Gentry

UNABLE TO ATTEND: Andrea Pasioka, Steve Kottakis, Danielle Salasavage, Michael Stevens

OTHERS PRESENT: In person: Andrew Lyle, Garrick Loveria, Tanya Moore, Ann Morgante, Brett Lutterbein, Patrick Heyden, Dara Seeley, Thomas Sullivan, Tara Jefferson, Nicole Killian, Daniel Scholze, Michael Walter, Keith Banas, Kristin Elmore-Garcia (guest).

MINUTES

Motion to approve the September 13, 2022 Minutes, including permanent committee reports and those submitted under ad hoc committee, made by Mr. Donnelly, seconded by Mr. Cornacchio. Minutes approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

PRESENTATION

Mr. Berti introduced Ms. Kristin Elmore-Garcia. Ms. Elmore-Garcia is a practicing attorney in Buffalo and is attending today's meeting as a possible new Board member.

Mr. Michael Walter, Director of Family Support & Engagement presented an overview of the services provided by the Family Support Center, both during and after COVID. There were many challenges during COVID to provide families with basic needs which included direct food deliveries, school and emotional support. Even after COVID, these issues continue for some of our families. The school has partnered with local community centers, mental health providers, The Salvation Army and Girl Scouts of America to provide assistance for our families. This year we will once again have our Holiday Adopt-A-Family drive which last year provided over 100 families with gifts for the

Holidays. Mr. Walter thanked those Board members who participated and invited them to consider donating this year.

Mr. Berti asked Mr. Walter to keep the Board informed about upcoming events so they can be more supportive.

Mr. Berti also asked what one thing the Board could provide to help him in his work.

Mr. Walter replied that hiring an Attendance Officer would be helpful.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Cabinet Report- Mr. Lyle reported that busing continues to be a contentious issue. We are looking to partner with other Buffalo area Charter Schools to see if we can work to resolve this. We also plan to engage with the State Charter School Office and the local churches to assist us. With their help and families of charter school students, we will approach the Buffalo Board of Education to work on a permanent solution to busing. Mrs. Smith noted that this is an equity issue that needs to be emphasized to Buffalo.

Principals Report

9-12: Mr. Lutterbein reports that the High School has been focusing on social-emotional needs of the students. Administration recently met with Summer Bridge participants and representatives from Buffalo State College. The school has been emphasizing our RALPH program and recognized students who are living up to the goals of RALPH. We also convened a meeting with our 9th graders to help promote a positive culture and community.

6-8- Mr. Heyden mentioned that the Middle School will be having House assemblies to help reset our behavioral goals. Mr. Heyden will be attending a PBIS conference in the next few weeks. Our PD sessions this week will focus on how to achieve the school's goals for the school year.

PERMANENT BOARD COMMITTEE

Quality Assurance- Mr. Lyle discussed a new approach to providing Quality Assurance reports and updates in order to provide a better understanding to the Board of the critical issues we need to address to help improve student achievement. The Academic Vision of CSAT will focus on Design, Leadership, Development and Student Services. Mr. Lyle asked the Board to review the handout provided to each member and offer feedback on the proposal.

Mrs. Smith expressed support for this new way of reviewing data. She also expressed support for additional investment in our teachers for CSAT to achieve its academic vision.

Career Readiness- Mr. Loveria discussed the recent Career Readiness meeting that emphasized Program Evaluation. The purpose of the review was to determine how we are preparing our High School students professionally via our career readiness experiences. The committee will continue to review the Foundational Skill Rubric (see pages 5-8) of the Board packet in our next meeting.

AD HOC COMMITTEES

Appeals- None

OLD BUSINESS- None

NEW BUSINESS

Enrollment-Mr. Loveria announced that the current enrollment stands at 2315, which is 50 under maximum. We recently enrolled a number of new students which is not reflected in those numbers. An update will be provided in November.

Personnel-Mr. Lyle reviewed the personnel report. He highlighted the number of new hires, including several new coaches who are not necessarily current CSAT staff members. We continue to actively recruit substitute teachers. You can also see we've had position changes, several resignations, and terminations. Other than that, the report is self-explanatory.

A motion to accept the Enrollment and Personnel report made by Mr. Cinquino, seconded by Mr. Cornacchio. Motion approved.

A motion to adjourn the regular meeting@ 6:00pm was made by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mrs. Donnelly. Motion approved

Next Meeting: November 8, 2022 @ 4:30pm