

Charter School for Applied Technologies
317 Vulcan Street, Buffalo, New York 14207
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING 6/21/2022

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: In person, Joseph Berti, Michael Keller, John Cinquino, Lisa Smith, Andrea Pasioka, Ian Donnelly, Danielle Salasavage, Steve Kottakis, Kevin Cornacchio, Jina Gentry

UNABLE TO ATTEND: Michael Stevens

OTHERS PRESENT: In person: Andrew Lyle, Garrick Loveria, Tanya Moore, Robert Shannon, Susan Jurewicz, Ann Morgante, Brett Lutterbein, Dara Seeley, Thomas Sullivan, Tara Jefferson, Nicole Killian, Keith Banas, Trevor McCabe

MINUTES

Motion to approve the June 7, 2022 Minutes, including permanent committee reports and those submitted under ad hoc committee, made by Mr. Kottakis, seconded by Mr. Cinquino. Minutes approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

PRESENTATION

Teacher Recruitment- Mr. Lyle began the discussion on teacher recruitment by stating that CSAT is hemorrhaging with the loss of teachers. The major issue at CSAT is the length of school day. In a discussion with Susan Gibbons at Charter School Office, he indicated that the state may be willing to entertain changes to help. Ms. Gibbons stated that she has heard from many charters on this issue. Mr. Lyle turned the meeting over to Ms. Morgante.

Ms. Morgante convened a meeting recently with HR & PR offices on ways to better advertise and market CSAT to prospective teachers. Thanks to Lori Allen and Emily Lyons, we now have a more uniformed listing of current teaching openings on our employment page. We've found that the WNYRIC site is not helpful so we are looking at social media sites such as LinkedIn and Indeed to post job openings.

For next year, we are exploring our own Career Fair and Open House for prospective teachers. We believe the marketing efforts we've used to recruit students, which has been successful, should be used utilized for teachers. We have a lot to brag about and will be refining our message in the weeks and months to come. We will continue to meet over the summer and fall to plan these ideas out.

In addition, we will reach out to reestablish partnerships with area colleges in student teaching, including colleges south and east of Buffalo (i.e. Fredonia State, and Rochester area colleges). Diversity and a passion to work with students and families in underserved communities needs to be a focus for future teacher recruitment. We should look to City Year and Teach for America for ideas on how they recruit individuals to work in the schools they partner with.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Cabinet Report- Mr. Lyle reported that he has not heard any updates from Susan Gibbons at SED regarding the initial visit. Mr. Lyle asked Mr. Loveria to comment on the recent meeting with the M&T Bank Foundation. Mr. Loveria said that the meeting was regarding the ECCP program. The meeting went very well and as a result, M&T awarded CSAT \$25,000 for ECCP. The Foundation is very impressed with CSAT and Mr. Loveria feels we could be in line for future funding from M&T.

Principals Report

K-5: Mrs. Jurewicz reported that the Elementary School is wrapping up the school year with various class celebrations. We still have some students who need to finish up their end of year diagnostics. Main issue is absenteeism. We have well over 90% complete.

9-12: Ms. Morgante mentioned that graduation is tomorrow evening at Kleinhan's Music Hall. There is a separate room for the Board members to gather. Parking is going to be an issue so arriving before 6pm is recommended. We are still working with seniors who likely will not graduate in June. We are down to 9 and with additional help that number could drop to 4 for August graduation. Mr. Lyle commented that those are good numbers compared to charter and public schools, so kudos to the High School staff.

6-8- Mr. Lyle said that Middle School is also wrapping up end of year activities. The new principal Mr. Hayden met with the faculty and staff this week.

PERMANENT BOARD COMMITTEE

None

AD HOC COMMITTEES

Appeals- None

OLD BUSINESS

Policy on Sexual Harassment-Mr. Loveria provided the Board with an update to the Sexual Harassment policy that was presented at the June 7 meeting. A motion to accept

the updated Sexual Harassment Policy was made by Mrs. Pasieka, seconded by Mr. Cornacchio. Motion approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Policy on Child Abuse-Mr. Loveria referenced pages 6-12 in the packet on update to Child Abuse policy. The new language is in red, green is language that was moved to other areas of the policy. The main addition is annual training that most districts are now doing electronically. The guidelines for the Child Abuse Policy are provided by BOCES. A motion to accept the Child Abuse Policy update was made by Mr. Cinquino, seconded by Mr. Donnelly. Motion approved.

2022-23 Dress Code-Mr. Loveria referenced pages 13-14 of the packet on update to Dress Code. The proposal is to remove the words Gentlemen and Ladies. The Board members discussed the issue at length and decided to affirm the current policy.

Enrollment-Mr. Loveria discussed the proposed enrollment for 2022-2023 which as noted is above the maximum enrollment. We tend to over enroll knowing that there will be families that will drop out as per historical attrition. Overall, the enrollment numbers are in a good place.

Personnel-Mr. Lyle reviewed the personnel report. He highlighted new hires, notably the new middle school principal. There were several resignations and terminations as well as the usual leave of absence and family leave of absence. Other than that, the report is self-explanatory.

A motion to accept the Enrollment and Personnel report made by Mr. Keller, seconded by Mrs. Smith. Motion approved.

A motion to adjourn to Executive Session @5:35pm was made by Mrs. Pasieka, seconded by Mr. Donnelly. Motion approved. No votes were taken in Executive Session. A motion to adjourn the regular meeting@ 6:40pm was made by Mr. Keller, seconded by Mrs. Salasavage. Motion approved

Next Meeting: August 9, 2022 @ 4:30pm