

Charter School for Applied Technologies  
317 Vulcan Street, Buffalo, New York 14207  
**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING 8/10/2021**

**MINUTES**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: In person,** Michael Keller, John Cinquino, Kevin Cornacchio **Via Teleconference:** Joseph Berti, Lisa Smith, Andrea Pasioka, Ian Donnelly

**UNABLE TO ATTEND:** Kenneth Robinson, Michael Stevens, Danielle Salasavage, Steven Kottakis

**OTHERS PRESENT: In person:** Andrew Lyle, Garrick Loveria, Tanya Moore, Robert Shannon, Ann Morgante, Brett Lutterbein, Jared Lincourt, Meghan Mercurio, Thomas Sullivan **Via Teleconference:** Anthony Favata, Nicole Killian, Dara Seeley

**MINUTES**

Motion to approve the June 22 ,2021 Minutes, including permanent committee reports and those submitted under ad hoc committee, made by Mr. Cinquino, seconded by Mr. Keller. Minutes approved.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None

**PRESENTATION**

None

**ANNUAL MEETING BUSINESS-** Mr. Loveria presented the following as per the Annual Meeting Business for the 2021-2022 school year.

Ratification/Confirmation of Trustee Terms: John Cinquino's term will now expire on Sept. 9, 2024. A Motion to accept the new term for Mr. Cinquino was made by Mr. Keller, seconded by Mr. Cornacchio. Motion approved.

Election of Officers: Mr. Loveria presented the following individuals for election as Board officers: President: Joseph Berti. A motion to accept the nomination of Joseph Berti as presented made by Mr. Cinquino, seconded by Mr. Keller. Motion approved. Vice-President: Lisa Smith. A motion to accept the nomination of Lisa Smith as Vice-President was made by Mr. Berti, seconded by Mr. Keller. Motion approved.

Treasurer: John Cinquino. A motion to accept the nomination of John Cinquino as Treasurer was made by Mr. Berti, seconded by Mrs. Pasioka. Motion approved.  
Secretary: Andrea Pasioka. A motion to accept the nomination of Andrea Pasioka as Secretary was made by Mr. Cinquino, seconded by Mr. Berti. Motion approved.

Committee Assignments: Mr. Loveria referenced pages 9 & 10 of the Board packet regarding tentative committee assignments for Board Members. If any changes are needed, please notify Mr. Berti and Mr. Loveria.

By-Laws/Open Meetings Law: Mr. Loveria asked that the Board members to review the By-Laws and Open Meetings Law at their earliest convenience.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**Cabinet Report-** Mr. Lyle introduced the new high school assistant principal, Meghan Mercurio. Mr. Lyle reports that currently, the state is not providing specific guidance for reopening. Erie County has asked local superintendents to provide suggestions for them to consider. At CSAT, the plan is to open full in-person learning. There is no remote option. Busing will be an issue, mainly for afternoon dismissal because of a shortage of drivers. As for COVID testing, CSAT is not participating as a public site but may consider student and staff testing if needed. As you can see from the lengthy personnel report, there are a number of new hires. Teachers are in great demand. Many of those who left went to districts because of shorter school day and school year. The majority of the exit interviews were positive.

#### **Principals Report**

K-5: No Report

6-8: Mr. Lincourt and Mr. Favata mentioned that a priority for the new school year will be more time for intervention. The hiring process is on-going. There have been a number of very good candidate interviews so far.

9-12: Ms. Morgante indicated that the hiring process in the High School is also going well, with several positions still to be filled. The high school will be focusing on social/emotional issues. The ECCP program is going well. There are 46 students in the first group at Buffalo State.

### **PERMANENT BOARD COMMITTEE**

**Finance-** Mr. Cinquino reports that the finance office is working on concluding year end totals. There are likely to be savings because of fewer students in the building. This will be helpful to help offset costs of new contract. We do anticipate a positive outcome for the year. We will provide more specifics at the next Board meeting.

### **AD HOC COMMITTEES**

**Appeals-** No report

## **OLD BUSINESS**

**Superintendent Evaluation**-Mr. Berti reminded the members to complete their evaluation. We have utilized Super Eval for this and will continue for the upcoming school year. Mr. Lyle said that he will send a survey to all Board members to consider a date to hold a retreat and to establish goals/objectives for both himself and Board.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Mask Protocol**- A discussion on this will take place in Executive Session.

### **Annual Policy Affirmations**

**Code of Conduct**- Mr. Loveria referenced page 12 with updates to the Code of Conduct. A motion to accept the changes to Code of Conduct made by Mr. Berti, seconded by Mr. Keller. Motion approved.

**District Wide Safety Plan**- Members are asked to review the plan located on the school web site. A formal vote will take place at the September Board meeting.

### **Policy Revisions for Consideration**

**Civil Rights**-Mr. Loveria referenced pages 13-23. Members are asked to review those pages. A formal vote will take place at the September Board meeting.

**Therapy Dog**-Mr. Loveria reference pages 24-26 which contains language on standards and procedures for therapy dogs. The school requests that an addition to the procedures be made for insurance which covers dogs that are taken to the place of employment. The cost is \$1000 per year to be paid by the school.

A motion for the school to cover the cost of the insurance was made by Mr. Keller, seconded by Mr. Cinquino. Motion approved.

**Enrollment**-Mr. Loveria reports that enrollment as of August 8 is 2417, which is 52 over the maximum number. He indicated that the number will likely be lower in the next few weeks.

**Personnel**-Mr. Lyle reviewed the personnel report which as he indicated earlier in the meeting is quite lengthy. There are several new hires, some of which were hired using ESSER funds. They will be primarily AIS teachers who will work to close the learning gap for some of our students. Mr. Lyle reports that the exit interviews indicate that the reasons for teacher leaving include time constraints and moving closer to their homes. Money was not an issue. The teaching profession has been hard hit by COVID, with many experiencing burnt-out. We continue to actively recruit, with diversity being a major focus.

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

A motion to adjourn to Executive Session @5:35pm was made by Mr. Cinquino, seconded by Mr. Keller. Motion approved. No action requiring Board vote arose. A motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 5:55pm was made by Mrs. Smith, seconded by Mr. Cinquino. Motion approved.

**Next Meeting: September 14, 2021 @ 4:30pm**