

Charter School for Applied Technologies
317 Vulcan Street, Buffalo, New York 14207
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING 6/23/2020

MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: In person, David Quackenbush, Michael Keller, John Cinquino, Robert Mikulec, Joseph Berti, Kenneth Robinson **Via Teleconference:** Andrea Pasioka, Michael Stevens, Ian Donnelly, Karen Kelley, Lisa Smith

UNABLE TO ATTEND: Danielle Salasavage

OTHERS PRESENT: In person: Andrew Lyle, Tanya Moore, Robert Shannon, Garrick Loveria, Thomas Sullivan, **Via Teleconference:** Ann Morgante, Sue Jurewicz, Gregory Mott, Brett Lutterbein, Daniel Scholze, Nicole Killion

MINUTES

Motion to approve the June 9, 2020 Minutes, including permanent committee reports and those submitted under ad hoc committee, made by Mr. Mikulec, seconded by Mr. Cinquino. Minutes approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

PRESENTATION

None

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Cabinet Report- Mr. Lyle said that the first set of guidelines for reopening schools will be issued by State Ed sometime in mid-July. However, CSAT is not waiting until then and has prepared reopening plans and will adjust once the state has sent guidelines. One of the main concerns is transportation and whether the current thinking of one child per seat is realistic. The Charter School Office is requiring us to send out a parent survey with a return date of early July. We are not provided with those results, so CAST is doing a separate survey to parents and staff to gauge their feelings on such topics as how they feel about sending their child back to school, would they transport their child to and from school and if athletics should be held.

Principals Report- Mr. Lyle asked each building principal to give a brief report for the Board:

K-5: Mrs. Jurewicz said that the last 3 1/2 months have been very challenging, but that the teachers and staff have been amazing. Special thanks for Alison Kuitems for her work with technology. Teachers were asked to document each contact they have had with parents and to date, over 10,000 contacts were made! This week we are having a Kindergarten celebration (reverse parade) followed by the same for students in grades 1-5.

6-8: Mr. Mott also sends out kudos to the faculty and staff at the middle school. A virtual celebration of the 8th graders was shared with the Board as an example of what each teacher is doing for their students.

9-12: Ms. Morgante also shared her thanks to the teachers and staff at the high school, who she felt went above and beyond expectations. We are finishing grades this week. The graduation ceremony was a real highlight and a video of the entire ceremony will soon be posted to the school's website. This year 169 of 170 seniors graduated!

On behalf of the Board, Mr. Quackenbush thanked the principals and all the teachers and staff for all their hard work during one of the most difficult times we've experienced.

There was a brief discussion on the pros and cons of remote learning vs. human interaction with teachers. Mr. Lyle mentioned that this is something we are looking at to determine its effect on learning in the future.

PERMANENT BOARD COMMITTEES

Finance- No report.

AD HOC COMMITTEES

Appeals- No report

Facilities- No report

OLD BUSINESS- No report

NEW BUSINESS

Enrollment- Mr. Loveria reviewed the current enrollment, which is down by 1 from last month, now at 2341.

Personnel- Mr. Lyle reviewed the personnel report. There are several position changes, notably the addition of a full time Athletic Director and a new Assistant Principal at the elementary building.

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

Mr. Quackenbush made one final mention of Mr. Mikulec's retirement from the Board and announced that Mr. Mikulec has attended 272 Board meetings in his 20 years on the Board!

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to move to Executive Session at 5:08 pm made by Mr. Mikulec, seconded by Mr. Robinson. Motion approved. During Executive Session, Mr. Mikulec proposed that a revised motion on the Pillars to Pathway program be prepared for a vote at the August 11, 2020 Board meeting which will create a Memo of Understanding with the necessary details associated with the potential program. The motion was seconded by Mr. Robinson. Motion approved. A motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:06pm was made by Mr. Mikulec, seconded by Mrs. Pasioka. Motion approved.

Next Meeting: August 11, 2020, 4:30pm