

Charter School for Applied Technologies
317 Vulcan Street, Buffalo NY 14207
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING 12/09/2019

MINUTES

Board Members Present: David Quackenbush, John Cinquino, Michael Keller, Karen Kelley, Andrea Pasioka, Joseph Berti, Lisa Smith, Robert Mikulec, Ian Donnelly, Michael Stevens

Unable to Attend: Danielle Salasavage, Kenneth Robinson

Others Present: Andrew Lyle, Tanya Moore, Garrick Loveria, Susan Jurewicz, Ann Morgante, Nadine Williamson, Gregory Mott, Tralina Middlebrooks, Brett Lutterbein, Adam Buffomante, Thomas Sullivan, Keith Banas, Daniel Scholze, Nicole Killian, Elaine Reynolds, Mark Struckmann, Susan Gibbons, Heather

MINUTES

Motion to approve the November 12, 2019 Minutes, including permanent committee reports and those submitted under ad hoc committee, made by Mr. Berti, seconded by Mr. Mikulec. Minutes approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Elaine Reynolds, Library Media Specialist, asked if the Board had any questions regarding the presentation made at the November meeting regarding the expansion of the Middle School library. Mr. Quackenbush said that the expansion would have to be vetted further by the Board but that it would be considered. Mrs. Reynolds mentioned that CSAT took First Place at the recent Battle of the Books competition. This is the second year in a row that CSAT took First Place.

PRESENTATION

Mark Struckmann, Music teacher, and his therapy dog, Gus were in attendance. Mr. Struckmann explained the benefits of the therapy dog program and the positive impact it has had at CSAT. At present, there are 5 therapy dogs that visit each of the buildings. The dogs all came from the same litter, except Lucy. Those dogs are six years old and will need to be replaced in the next few years. It takes up to 2 years to secure a puppy for the therapy dog program. Mr.

Struckmann asked the Board to consider a dedicated budget line of \$1,000 to be used for training and veterinarian bills for new dogs and staff that enter the program. The proposal will be forwarded to Mr. Lyle for further review.

PERMANENT BOARD COMMITTEES

Career Readiness- Mrs. Kelley referenced pg. 6 & 7 of the board packet regarding the recent Career Readiness meeting. The committee discussed how CSAT accesses career readiness and the tools and assessments used to identify career interest in order to assist students with proper courses and pathways choices. The annual Career Convention will be held March 26, 2020. This year, the seniors will not be attending as they have been through this for three years and many have already made their career choice. Gr. 9-11 will participate in workshops and visit with business vendors and area colleges. Several companies will conduct onsite interviews for current openings. At graduation this year, the seniors will receive only their school diploma. Their portfolios will now be available to them electronically.

AD HOC BOARD COMMITTEES

Appeals – Mrs. Kelley reported one appeal is currently in process.

OLD BUSINESS

Busing- Mr. Loveria discussed the recent controversy surrounding First Student and the Buffalo Public School Parent Association complaints about bus service. At CSAT, there has been slight improvement with regards to late bus service (after 4pm). There is a new 5 year agreement in place and we plan to continue to hold Buffalo and First Student to their commitment to have buses here on time and to get the students home at a reasonable hour. The Performance Expectation is a strong point in the new agreement. We are also now tracking lost teaching time as a result of late bus arrivals in the AM.

NEW BUSINESS

Enrollment – Mr. Loveria reviewed the enrollment report (pg. 8); the current enrollment is up slightly from November, 2,351. Open Enrollment has begun. We are finishing work on the marketing plan with local TV stations. Open House will be held at all three buildings in Feb. 2020.

Personnel Report – Mr. Lyle reviewed the personnel report (pgs. 9-10). The report is self-explanatory with new hires, new substitutes, position changes, resignations and Family Leave requests. A motion to accept the Enrollment and Personnel reports was made by Mrs. Pasioka, seconded by Mr. Cinquino. Motion approved.

Policy Vote- Mr. Loveria requested the Board approve an update to the school's policy on Instruction, namely removing the Gifted and Talented and Drivers Education section and

adding Health & Mental Health Education. A motion to accept the Policy Update on Instruction was made by Mrs. Kelley, seconded by Mr. Donnelly. Motion approved.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Cabinet Report- No Report

Principals Report- Mr. Mott provided a series of photos of the new Project Lead the Way classroom at the middle school. The stain glass windows in the room (formerly the chapel of Holy Angles Academy) were preserved. The renovations were on time and on budget.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:20pm was made by Mr. Mikulec, seconded by Mrs. Smith. Motion approved.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 14, 2020, 4:30pm