

Charter School for Applied Technologies
317 Vulcan Street, Buffalo NY 14207

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING 06/12/18

MINUTES

Board Members Present: David Quackenbush, Andrea Pasioka, John Cinquino, Michael Keller, Karen Kelley, Joseph Berti, Robert Mikulec, Ian Donnelly, Kenneth Robinson, Danielle Salasavage **Absent:** Lisa Smith

Others Present: Efrain Martinez, Ann Morgante, Sue Jurewicz, Tanya Moore, Garrick Loveria, Tralina Middlebrooks, Fred Carstens, Thomas Sullivan, Andrew Lyle, Yaritza Draine, Adam Brignone, Laurie Ferraro, Derek Mears, Charles Gilbert (parent), Belmari Mendez (parent)

MINUTES

Motion to approve the May 8, 2018 Minutes including permanent committee reports and those submitted under ad hoc committee; Mr. Cinquino requests a clarification to the Finance Report, pg. 3...line 3, strike the words "and the landlord will be the tenant". Motion to approve with the clarification, made by Mrs. Kelley, seconded by Mr. Keller. Minutes approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Teacher Derek Mears read a letter from the teachers expressing their concern over the recent incident at the Middle School. The letter expressed their feelings that a lack of support and consistency is evident in both academic and behavioral issues. Mr. Quackenbush would like a copy of the letter to add it to the official record. Parent Charles Gilbert also referred to the incident at the Middle School...his daughter saw the student who was injured afterwards and was traumatized. He also said his daughter has been bullied. Mr. Martinez interjected and said that bullying is a serious issue, and it is difficult at times to address as it is under-reported and misunderstood. Many times, students are in conflict, not bullying. Mr. Loveria shared with everyone an up-to-date accounting of incidents that have occurred at the Middle School this year. They are categorized into three areas, conflict, harassment and bullying. The great majority of those incidents are conflict. Mrs. Kelley asked if the investigation that happened after the incident has led CSAT to make any policy changes. Mr. Loveria mentioned that hall monitors are in next year's budget that should help. Mr. Robinson asked how the school communicates to the students on how they can report a conflict or bullying concern. Mr. Loveria said that the counselors meet with the students

at the beginning of the year to explain the procedure that is in place. There is also an anonymous reporting platform on CSAT website. Mr. Robinson feels that the school should meet with the students more often so that they know the school takes this issue seriously. Later in the meeting, Parent Belmari Mendez expressed her concern about what happened at the Middle School as she has a daughter in 6th grade. Her daughter is having such a difficult time with bullying that she is in therapy and does not want to go to school...she is afraid to speak up. Mr. Martinez assured her that the school wants to help her and her daughter. Mr. Loveria will meet with Ms. Mendez privately to assist.

FOLLOW UP FROM PREVIOUS MEETING(S)

- None

PRESENTATION

- None

PERMANENT BOARD COMMITTEES

- **Quality Assurance** – Mrs. Pasioka discussed the recent QA meeting. The results of the NYS testing showed CSAT did better in math than in ELA. The state gives schools the option of taking the test on-line...CSAT did not participate in that option this year. There were a number of technical issues that were experienced at other schools. The Dashboard is still being populated by staff, a few tweaks still to work on. The new strategic plan that will be on the Dashboard includes the following five goals...academic, behavioral (social/emotional), technology integration, finances and family engagement. The goals will be aligned to the charter renewal for next year.

AD HOC BOARD COMMITTEES

- **Negotiations**- Mrs. Kelley noted that a great deal of work and progress has been made to address some of the issues, notably, time management, AIS, Hall Monitors, etc, still more work to be done. The remainder of the report will be given in Executive Session.
- **Appeals** – Mrs. Kelley mentioned that there are 4 appeals open, they just arrived and will be reviewed. For this school year, 22 appeals have been filed, which is less than previous years...trending in the right direction.

OLD BUSINESS

- **The 2018-2019 Dress Code/Cell Phone Policy-** Mr. Loveria stated that all changes that were discussed at the May meeting were made, blue is new language, red is language removed. As there were no comments made, a motion to accept the new policies was made by Mr. Berti, seconded by Mrs. Pasiaka, motion approved.

NEW BUSINESS

Enrollment – Mr. Martinez reviewed the enrollment report which illustrates that the current enrollment of the school stands at 2,164 students. Mrs. Kelley asked if any changes in trends from elementary to middle and beyond are of concern. Mr. Martinez said there is some minor drop-off but nothing significant or of concern.

Personnel Report – Mr. Martinez also reviewed the personnel report; new hires, position and salary changes, resignations, leaves of absences, and anticipated leaves of absences. He noted the new administrative hires in the Middle School & High School.

A motion to accept the enrollment and personnel report was made by Mr. Robinson, seconded by Mr. Berti. Motion approved.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

- None

Motion to move into executive session at 5:30pm was made by Mrs. Kelley, seconded by Mr. Mikulec.

AGENDA SETTING

- **Next meeting June 26, 4:30 p.m.**

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:26 p.m.