

Charter School for Applied Technologies

Board Meeting Minutes

March 10, 2026



Public Comments

Minutes

- Minutes from 02.10.2026
 - Motion to Approve – Mr. Kottakis
 - Second – Mr. Cornacchio
 - Motion approved.

Presentation: Food Service Update – Mr. Zuercher

- Mr. Zuercher discussed the food service program for K-12. Average daily participation, CEP information, state information, serving percentages, meal regulations (NYS and USDA), the National School Lunch Program, what's new in food service at CSAT, financials, nutrition information of meals
 - Reimbursement rates (\$3.04 breakfast, \$4.68 lunch – per student, daily) – covers all costs including food service employees – on every meal served
 - Adult meals are set prices by NYS – those are taxable meals
 - K-5 – use of lunch tags and head count (breakfast)
 - 6-12 – use of head counts for both breakfast and lunch
 - New: Chef Keith's role (expanded to MS as well, also including catering), new vending machines (can track sales), potential new custom serving lines for MS and ES

Administrative Reports – Mr. Lyle

- **Administrative Report** – Mr. Loveria
 - March 19 – Susan Gibbons visits with the board – 9:00am
 - March 18 – NFL Football Kickoff (with Tapestry, Maritime)
 - From Andy in an email: CSAT benchmark goals report updated, proposed 26-27 school calendar – please look at prior to next board meeting
 - M&T Foundation has partnered with Howard University – “alternative spring break” (16 students – 8 in K-5, 8 in HS), could help promote us and also help with forward recruitment efforts (staff)
 - Recruiting update: Mr. Loveria handed out “Recruitment Summary: Open Enrollment 2025-2026”
 - Outlines recruitment efforts to date this year
 - 10 applicants so far from Niagara Falls, 1 from Lewiston
 - Everyone is struggling for Kindergarten recruitment (parents are not sending their children)
 - Lottery: Impartial observer is Geoffrey Elder
 - Presentation next month for lottery, recruitment, and enrollment
- **Principal's Report** - Mr. Heyden
 - Mr. Heyden gave a midyear report about the status of the middle school
 - Focus: faithful implementation of the MTSS process
 - *Academics*: focus on opportunities for improvement including action plans for students failing more than one course, accelerated math, expansion of AIS and academic intervention
 - Summer enrichment program assessment – pushing students academically in jeopardy to attend the summer program, continuity of educational experiences
 - Breakfast of Champions for students (high/honor roll, etc.) and On-a-Roll for student improvement
 - Alternate Site Instruction (ASI) for suspended students is going very well – participation is high
 - Study Hall for Athletes – huge increase in sports participation and student attitudes, how they are carrying themselves
 - RALPH expectations for code of character and daily behavior in schools, push for continued consistency, emphasis with intention on school safety
 - Shift in disciplinary data - #1 went from Physical Aggression (last year) to #3
 - Strong emphasis on attendance with incentives, tier 1 classroom-based incentives
 - School culture and student leadership opportunities are being emphasized

Permanent Board Committees

- **Quality Assurance** – Mrs. Pasieka – see notes, pp.4-5
 - High School: review of student schedules/classes setup, new model of semestering, results from January 2026 Regents exams
 - Middle School: review of student data for IXL (ELA and math), AIS
 - Disproportionality rates discussion – CSAT is much lower than other schools
- **Finance** – None
- **Career Readiness** – Mr. Kottakis – **MOVE TO NEXT MONTH**
- **PTO** – Mr. Campbell

Ad Hoc Board Committees

- **Appeals** – Mr. Donnelly – 1 new one, under consideration

Old Business

- **None**

New Business

- **Policy: Descha's Law (receive)** – Mr. Loveria – **MOVE TO NEXT MONTH**
- **Enrollment** – Mr. Loveria
 - **2301 currently** – anyone will get in until just before the lottery
- **Personnel Report** – Mr. Lyle
 - Mr. Lyle discussed the personnel report.
 - Motion to Approve – Mr. Donnelly
 - Second – Mr. Kottakis
 - Motion approved.

5:47 pm - Executive session

- Motion to move into Executive session to discuss matters of personnel – Mr. Donnelly
- Second – Mr. Kottakis
- Motion approved

The Board left Executive session at 6:55 pm and in public session voted to appoint Eon Verrall as the next CSAT Superintendent upon Andy Lyle's retirement effective July 1st, 2026.

- Motion to approve Mr. Verrall as superintendent – Mr. Cinquino
- Second – Mr. Kottakis
- Appointment approved

- Motion to adjourn – Mr. Berti
- Second – Mr. Cinquino
- Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.

Agenda Setting

Next meeting is **April 14, 2026**

Attendance in person: Joseph Berti, Bryan Carlo, Andrea Pasieka, John Cinquino, Steve Kottakis, Jason Campbell, Kevin Cornacchio, Lisa Smith, Ian Donnelly, Tyrell Chambers

Others: Andrew Lyle, Garrick Loveria, Tanya Moore, Sue Jurewicz, Brett Lutterbein, Patrick Heyden, Dara Seeley, Sarah Monaco, Lindsay Gress, Tara Jefferson, Shane Lynch, Dan Scholze, Tara Puff