

ENTERPRISE CHARTER SCHOOL

Minutes: Regular Board of Trustees Meeting  
February 11th, 2013 5:30 PM 275 Oak Street, Buffalo, NY 14203

Trustees Present: Dr. David Cantaffa; Rachael Martin; Richard Morrisroe, Chairman; David Stieglitz; Michelle Williams, and Lyle Wallace.

Liaisons Present: Kristine Graham and Linda Morgan.

Staff Present: Heather Lyon, CAO; Stanley Simmons, Dean of Students

Other Staff Present: Kevin von der Empten.

Visitors Present: J. Baldwin (Damon & Morey)

I. Opening Items

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Richard Morrisroe, Chairman, at 5:31 PM with a quorum of 6 present.

Public Notice was confirmed.

The minutes of the 1/14/2013 meeting of the Board of Trustees were approved as amended, on a motion by Dr. Cantaffa, second by Mr. Stieglitz, with all in favor and no abstentions.

II. Directors's Report: Dr. Heather Lyon

Renewal Status Report:

Dr. Lyon reported that Angela Cullen delivered the revised charter to Enterprise. Jessie Baldwin is reviewing the document.

III. Financial Report: Mr. Wallace

A review of the December 2012 Financials was conducted with nothing outstanding to report. There was an ongoing salary differential. A motion was made by Mr. Wallace to approve the December 2012 Financial Report and seconded by Dr. Cantaffa with all in favor and no abstentions.

The 990 for 2011-2012 was presented. The document was previously reviewed in detail by Lisa Kirisits and Lyle Wallace. There is nothing of material to note in terms of variances. The only correction was to change the signature line from Brenda McDuffie, our former Board Chairperson, to Ms. Norton, our CEO, who will be signing off on the 990. Mr. Wallace made a motion to accept the 990, seconded by Dr. Cantaffa, with all in favor and no abstentions.

IV. Academic Excellence Report /Academic Excellence Committee: Heather Lyon

Dr. Lyon shared information regarding Rtl and a recent visit from Jim Wright. It was discussed how Rtl is delivered this year versus last year. There was a comparison regarding how ECS performed last year against other charters and how we have allocated Support Services versus other charters. The Board was informed and invited

to attend the upcoming Academic Pep Rally.

At the Academic Committee Meeting, a presentation took place by Marisa Adams and Kate Nicosia, the ECS Reading Specialists. Dr. Lyon spoke regarding a comparison of support services at ECS as compared to other charters. A discussion ensued regarding whether we need to redirect resources to support our students. Many students have needs that are greater than the classroom teacher can provide and we have very few resources to support the needs of the children. Assessment scores for this year were compared to the scores from last year. Given that the students didn't do well last year, we have reason for concern for how they will perform this year. Though parents are thrilled with the progress that their children are making, it still may not be enough progress.

V. Dean of Students: Stanley Simmons

Mr. Simmons shared comparison data for this year versus last year. We have seen a decrease in "one student being responsible for multiple infractions". A student left the building and a discussion took place regarding how that happened as well as how we will prevent that from happening again. At the January All Staff Meeting, the entire staff examined disciplinary data. Wednesdays appeared to be the day of the week with the most write ups. Although our students are not violent, horseplay is on the rise. The gym locker room is a hot spot for incidents.

VI. Committee Reports:  
HR/Personnel Committee

Pre-strategic planning meetings are occurring. The Committee is discussing evaluations of the CEO and CAO, as well as formal ways to create board goals and recruitment goals to improve things going forward. Teacher Recruitment Day in Buffalo is scheduled for April. The staff needs to know when/if they can apply for that. There is nothing that needs to be stated that the end of this charter is a termination for employees; it can be called a lay-off due to restructuring. What happens should someone be offered a job at ECS but they decline the offer? How does that impact Unemployment benefits? An employee will have a difficult time securing Unemployment if they declined an offer for equivalent employment. We need to move forward assuming that SED is going to renew us. The word we have at this point is that the Regents will give strong deference to BPS's recommendation. The Board also needs to think about their own application to the position.

There was a discussion about staffing updates for the replacement of Ms. Rice, the second grade teacher, and Mr. Schmidt, the Physical Education teacher, who have resigned. There was also discussion about the Social Worker position for the replacement of the school counselor. There was also a broader conversation about resources to support students.

Finance Committee: Lyle Wallace

Mr. Wallace spoke with Lisa Kirisits today. There is nothing material to mention. Ms. Kirisits and Ms. Norton will be getting together for the first pass at the 2013-2014 budget. Should there be a subcommittee of the strategic planning group to look at what is needed regarding the budget? We need to be mindful of being both financially and academically solvent.

VII. Executive:

There were no legal issues brought forward.

VIII. Other Business:

Dr. Cantaffa made a motion to accept Nicole Valint as the new second grade teacher. The motion was seconded by Mr. Stieglitz with all in favor.

A motion was made at 6:33 PM by Dr. Cantaffa, seconded by Ms. Martin to go into Executive Session to discuss a confidential personnel matter. At 6:51 PM, a motion was made by Dr. Cantaffa, seconded by Ms. Martin to end Executive Session.

Jesse Baldwin briefly went over the 3<sup>rd</sup> Renewal Operating Agreement. This is not the application. This is how the district and the ECS BOT will interact. The "5<sup>th</sup> Where As" clause mentions that the PBS has satisfied the renewal. The reason to go through the Operating Agreement line by line is due to a SED mandate that all charters need to use as of this year. The most notable point is in section 5.3. The last paragraph is something that the BOE is requiring that SED does not require. It is an internal audit and will be an additional cost to us. Challenging this as a condition for renewal will go nowhere. SED will not come to our rescue if we say no, so there is no reason to challenge it. It's meant to place a little more leg work on us. Under section 5.3, the last paragraph, add the word "days" after the number 30. Additionally, they brought up wanting us to agree to the change in the funding level per student, but the one in the contract states the standard funding. Ms. Martin made a motion to accept, with Mr. Stieglitz seconding and all in favor.

Enrollment Report: Nancy Krug

Ms. Krug was not available to present the enrollment report but there was a discussion about how we are still attempting to fill our vacant seats. It becomes more and more difficult as the year goes on as parents aren't interested in moving students this late in the school year.

There was no public comment.

IX. Closing Items

On a motion by Ms. Martin, second by Mr. Stieglitz, with all in favor and no abstentions, the meeting was adjourned at 7:28 PM.

I, Rachel Martin, Secretary of Enterprise Charter School Board of Trustees, was present at a meeting held 2/11/2013. I verify that the foregoing minutes are accurate and that the board has approved them for publication.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rachel Martin