

ENTERPRISE CHARTER SCHOOL
Minutes: Regular Board of Trustees Meeting
June 10th, 2013 5:30 PM 275 Oak Street, Buffalo, NY 14203

Trustees Present: Rachael Martin; Richard Morrisroe, Chairman; Lyle Wallace; David Stieglitz, Dr. David Cantaffa (arrived at 6:16 PM)
Trustees excused: Orlando Perez
Liaisons Present: Linda Morgan, Kristine Graham
Staff Present: Jill Norton, CEO; Kevin von der Empten, Lisa Yonkosky, Stanley Simmons, Dr. Heather Lyon, Nancy Krug
Guests Present: Jesse Baldwin (Damon & Morey), Melissa Perez

I. Opening Items

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Richard Morrisroe, Chairman, at 5:28 PM with a quorum of 4 present. Public Notice was confirmed.

The minutes of the 5/14/2013 meeting of the Board of Trustees were approved on a motion by Mr. Wallace, seconded by Ms. Martin, with all in favor and no abstentions. The minutes for the Executive Committee for 5/14/2013 were also approved on a motion by Mr. Wallace, seconded by Ms. Martin with all in favor and no abstentions.

Mr. Morrisroe took a moment to recognize Mr. Thomas Ess, as an official Board of Trustee, as approved by the Buffalo Board of Education. On a motion by Mr. Wallace, seconded by Mr. Steiglitz, with all in favor and no absentions, Mr. Ess was welcomed to the Board.

II. Director's Report: Jill Norton
Renewal Status Report:

Ms. Norton provided a recap about the one year renewal agreement explaining that the Buffalo Board of Education (BOE) was asked to reconsider their original vote for a three year renewal. They changed their vote to a one year renewal. Ms. Norton indicated that Enterprise did not agree to one year as we did not sign an operating agreement for the one year, we signed an operating agreement for three years. Buffalo agreed that this was a procedural error. When asked why the decision had changed, the Buffalo Board of Trustees stated that they did not know they could look at academics as part of the renewal and when all areas were reviewed, the change took place. There are currently two litigations against the state due to flawed processes.

Ms. Norton is looking for answers for a one year renewal such as when would a site visit take place and when would we submit another renewal? It is difficult to know how to proceed as a one year term has no clear rules or direction.

III. Financial Report: Mr. Wallace

The April 2013 Financials were reviewed by the Finance Committee and Mr. Wallace stated there was nothing material to report. Enterprise is still on target and negative variances are offset by positive variances. A motion was made by Mr. Wallace to

approve the April 2013 Financial Report and seconded by Ms. Martin, with all in favor and no abstentions.

The following contracts were reviewed by Mr. Wallace:

Philadelphia Insurance for General Property, Liability, and Auto insurance coverage to June 2014

Palmisano Architecture for a schedule of capital improvements

Lumsden McCormick for the External Auditing Contract from 2013-2015

The Food Service Contract between ECS and the Buffalo Board of Education

Buffalo Hearing and Speech to provide speech services for the upcoming academic year

A discussion took place on the importance of the upkeep and build-out of our facility for our students, families, visitors and site visits.

On a motion by Mr. Wallace, seconded by Mr. Ess, with all in favor and no abstentions, all five contracts were approved.

IV. Academic Excellence Report: Heather Lyon

Dr. Lyon reported on the grant updates noting the Tower Grant was coming to a close. iPad Mini's were purchased using the Tower Grant funds for classrooms to record data. There is an upcoming PICCS meeting for possibilities for next year. RTTT networking with BOCES discussions are underway for qualified services. Title IIA is still in process with the writing scope and sequence consultants.

Dr. Lyon discussed the student readiness index and the formula used to determine whether a student is promoted or retained. 4% of Enterprise students were retained.

Dr. Lyon also reported that as of June 3rd, all observations were completed for employees hired before February 2013.

Mr. Simmons informed the board about a spike in suspensions, many were repeat offenders. Gateway Longview has received a number of referrals from Mr. Simmons and Ms. Morgan. Ms. Fegley, our school Social Worker, is also working with many students. Mr. Simmons stated that we set high standards for our students, which keeps our VADIR report numbers down.

Committee Reports:

Academic Committee: Dr. Cantaffa

See above notes from Dr. Lyon

Executive Committee –Richard Morrisroe

There are no emergency conditional appointments at this time.

There was no public comment.

Finance Committee: Lyle Wallace
The Finance Committee items were discussed earlier in this meeting.

HR/Personnel Committee-Richard Morrisroe
The Employee Handbook went before the HR/Personnel Committee. Edits were completed and our HR Consultant gave his approval. A motion was made to accept the revised Employee Handbook by Mr. Wallace, seconded by Dr. Cantaffa with all in favor and no abstentions. A motion was also made by Mr. Wallace to accept the job description changes, seconded by Mr. Stieglitz, with all in favor and no abstentions.

Letters will be mailed home by the end of the week for staff notification of their return to Enterprise, as well as the total compensation package. All contracted staff will receive a letter (not per diem employees). Data for determination of these letters includes prior evaluations and walk throughs. Lunch monitors will be notified in August after we review whether our mandated services for ESL have changed. Dr. Lyon strongly requested that the board find the funds to cover lunch monitors so certified staff members can be attending to certified needs. A review will take place at the upcoming Finance Committee meeting

Enrollment Report – Jill Norton

Ms. Norton reported enrollment stayed steady throughout the year. We had 4 recent expulsions.

Legal Operations and Personnel Issues – A motion was made at 6:44 PM by Ms. Martin to go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues, seconded by Mr. Wallace, with all in favor and no abstentions.

A motion was made by Ms. Martin at 6:59 PM to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Ess, with all in favor and no abstentions. Mr. Morrisroe reported that a few people will be asked not to return to Enterprise, most people will be invited back. The liaisons are to inform employees to follow the handbook for any questions.

A motion was made at 7:06 PM by Dr. Cantaffa, seconded by Mr. Stieglitz, with all in favor and no abstentions to go into Executive Session again to discuss the charter renewal and the potential litigation.

A motion was made by Mr. Stieglitz at 8:06 PM to come out of Executive Session, seconded by Mr. Ess, with all in favor and no abstentions.

A motion was made by Dr. Cantaffa, seconded by Ms. Martin with all in favor, except Mr. Ess who abstained, to engage Damon and Morey to begin litigation against the Buffalo Board of Education, the State Education Department and the Board or Regents.

A motion was made by Mr. Stieglitz, seconded by Mr. Wallace with 4 in favor, one nay (Ms. Martin) and one abstention (Mr. Ess) to reject the 1 year renewal because the

Board of Education failed to tell us (ECS) a timetable for the renewal process. This board will not agree to the arbitrary and capricious change from a three year renewal to a one year renewal. Furthermore, we believe the school, the staff, and families it serves deserve the three years.

I. Closing Items

On a motion by Ms. Martin, second by Mr. Ess, with all in favor and no abstentions, the meeting was adjourned at 8:08 PM.

I, Rachel Martin, Secretary of Enterprise Charter School Board of Trustees, was present at a meeting held 6/10/2013. I verify that the foregoing minutes are accurate and that the board has approved them for publication.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rachel Martin, Board of Trustees