Achievement House
CYBER CHARTER SCHOOL

Achievement House Cyber Charter School Board of Trustees

Public Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 16, 2025

The Executive Session commenced at 6:00 p.m. and continued until approximately 7:00 p.m.

I. Pledge of Allegiance

II. Roll Call
   Mrs. Marilou Strangarity (President) – Present
   Mr. Bob Worn (Vice President) – Present
   Mr. Don Fraatz (Secretary) – Present
   Dr. Bob Maranto (Member) – Present
   Dr. Lisabeth Sweeney (Member) – Not Present
   Mrs. Maryanne Cullen (Member) – Present

III. Notification of Recording
   A. Marilou Strangarity announced that the Public Session would be recorded on an audio device.

IV. Executive Session Statement
   A. M. Strangarity announced that the board held an Executive Session this evening to discuss personnel matters, financial matters, and legal issues.

V. Approval of the Minutes
   A. M. Strangarity called for a motion to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2025, board meeting.
      1. Motion to approve the minutes from August 19, 2025, board meeting by Bob Worn, seconded by Don Fraatz. All ayes; unanimous.

VI. Discussion Academic Video Report
   A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the Academic Video Report and there were none.
   B. Angela Alderfer did not have any updates for the Board.

VII. Discussion Special Education Video Report
   A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the Special Education Video Report.
   B. Trina Knauff did not have any updates to add to her report.
   C. B. Worn asked about the newly formed Gifted Education Cyber Collaboration Group. As our school is new to gifted education, T. Knauff expressed interest in leveraging the collaboration to support our students and involve them in events and competitions.
   D. B. Worn requested an update on the number of Level I Special Education Teachers currently employed. T. Knauff reported that out of our fourteen Special Education Teachers, only two hold Level I certification. He then also asked about the General Education Teachers and A. Alderfer reported it was very similar to the Special Education Teachers since we had a few get their level II certifications last year. She also noted that we have a number of our level I teachers who are taking courses to pursue their level II as well as their graduate degrees. Bob Maranto noted he is impressed with the amount teachers who are doing so much training.
   E. Don Fraatz requested an explanation of the Family School Checkpoint System Survey. T. Knauff explained that these surveys are distributed to parents to gather feedback on their child's experience with special education services and programming. The responses are then reviewed and used to make adjustments aimed at addressing any concerns raised by families.

VIII. Discussion Curriculum Video Report
   A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the Curriculum Video Report.
   B. Jodi Byrne did not have any updates to add to her report.
   C. D. Fraatz requested an overview of the upcoming CDT testing. J. Byrne explained that the Classroom Diagnostic Tools (CDT) is a diagnostic assessment administered to all students, replacing the NWEA MAPs testing. Developed by the Pennsylvania Department of Education, the CDT links to the standards portal,

providing teachers with targeted lessons and supplemental resources to support students in specific areas. It also serves as our Gifted Universal Screener and helps teachers analyze data to inform instruction. The data is immediately available. Some discussion followed regarding this process.

IX. Discussion Enrollment/Marketing Video Report
   A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the Enrollment/Marketing Video Report and there were none.
   B. Becky Aller was not able to attend tonight's meeting, so Don Asplen offered to take any questions in her absence. He noted our enrollment is at approximately 800 students.

X. Discussion HR Video Report
   A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the HR Video Report.
   B. Stefani Frank provided an update to her report, announcing that David Knauff was promoted to Systems Administrator, effective August 1, 2025.
   C. M. Strangarity inquired about the new payroll system, UKG. S. Frank reported that implementation has been smooth on both the front and back ends, and she has received positive feedback from employees. She also noted that UKG's customer service has been excellent throughout the transition.

XI. Discussion Guidance Video Report
   A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the Guidance Video Report.
   B. Kris Botes indicated she had no additional updates to her report.
   C. B. Worn expressed appreciation for the strong student re-enrollment numbers. K. Botes attributed this success to the supportive environment our school provides for students.

XII. Finance/Business Report
   A. Ryan Schumm presented the monthly Treasurer's Report, offering a clear summary and highlighting key items for discussion. He emphasized that Achievement House maintains full financial transparency, with all incoming and outgoing funds clearly documented and accessible. The financial report was unredacted and all categories of expenses and revenue are identified. This commitment ensures that the Board and the public have a complete view of the school's financial operations.
   B. D. Asplen noted that the state budget has not yet been passed and acknowledged that some reductions to cyber education funding are anticipated. However, based on the school's current financial position, he assured everyone that there are no plans to eliminate any positions at Achievement House Cyber Charter School.
   C. M. Strangarity called for a motion to approve the written Treasurer's Report.
      1. Motion to approve the written Treasurer's Report by B. Maranto, seconded by D. Fraatz. All ayes; unanimous.

XIII. Discussion CEO Video Report
   A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the CEO Video Report and there were none.
   B. D. Asplen announced that R. Schumm is now the Senior Vice President of Vertex Education. Congratulations went out to R. Schumm!
   C. D. Asplen updated the board on his recent meeting with Representative Bryan Cutler, who currently serves as the Republican Chairman of the Pennsylvania House Education Committee. They discussed three Senate Bills:
      1. Senate Bill 927 – This bill outlines wellness check requirements for cyber charter schools. We support the legislation and have requested minor wording changes. D. Asplen emphasized that schools should not be penalized if students do not respond to wellness checks by not opening their door or turning on their camera.
      2. Senate Bill 934 – This bill would require cyber charter schools to verify student residency twice per year. D. Asplen explained the challenges this presents and that we proposed language to help mitigate these concerns, including verifying residency once per year instead of twice and sharing documentation with districts. He also highlighted the burden this places on families, especially those protected under McKinney-Vento.
      3. Senate Bill 984 – This bill updates attendance policies for charter schools. We do not support this bill, and Representative Cutler indicated it is unlikely to pass in the House.

D. D. Asplen noted the group learned a lot from this meeting and what is important is that we continue to build relationships with key legislators.

XIV. M. Strangarity called for a motion to amend the public agenda to include the personnel change of David Knauff who was promoted to Systems Administrator effective August 1, 2025.

A. Motion to amend the public agenda to include the personnel change of David Knauff who was promoted to Systems Administrator by D. Fraatz, seconded by Maryanne Cullen. All ayes, unanimous.

XV. Personnel

A. Changes:

1. Ann Clymer, Student Mentor – 8/25/25

B. Promotions:

1. David Knauff, Systems Administrator – 8/1/2025

C. Open Positions:

1. Gifted Resource Teacher
2. Auxiliary Teacher

D. M. Strangarity called for a motion to approve the employee changes and promotions as identified by the HR Manager and listed above with salaries as discussed in the Executive Session.

1. Motion to approve all the employee changes and promotions on the amended agenda with salaries as discussed in the Executive Session by D. Fraatz, seconded by B. Maranto. All ayes; unanimous.

XVI. Governance

A. AP Student Compact Agreement

1. M. Strangarity called for a motion to approve the AP Student Compact Agreement.
    a. Motion to approve the AP Student Compact Agreement by B. Worn, seconded by B. Maranto. All ayes; unanimous.

XVII. New Business

A. M. Strangarity asked if there was any new business and there was none.

XVIII. Public Comment

A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any public comments and there were none.

XIX. Adjournment

A. M. Strangarity called for a motion to adjourn the public meeting at 8:03 pm.

1. Motion to adjourn the public meeting by B. Worn, seconded by B. Maranto. All ayes; unanimous. The next meeting will be held on October 21, 2025.