



Achievement House Cyber Charter School Board of Trustees

Public Meeting

Minutes

Tuesday, September 20, 2022

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
 - Mrs. Lisabeth Sweeney (Vice President) – Present
 - Mrs. Kristin Chettle (Treasurer) – Present
 - Mr. Don Fraatz (Secretary) – Present
 - Dr. Bob Maranto – Present
 - Dr. Gerri Light – Not 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 from the August 16, 2022 Board meeting.
 1. M. Strangarity noted an error in the minutes on the date of the next board meeting. The date of the next meeting should say September 20, 2022.
 2. M. Strangarity called for a motion to make a change in the August 16, 2022 minutes with the edit that was mentioned above.
 - a. Motion to make the change in the August 16, 2022 minutes and approve the minutes by Don Fraatz. Seconded by Kristin Chettle. Unanimous.
- VI. Discussion of Academic Video Report
 - A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the Academic/SE Video Report.
 - B. Neal Thomas stated that he thinks that we should consider using asynchronous and synchronous tracts in the future and explained why he thinks this should be considered. Some discussion followed. Bob Maranto thought this was a great idea and it is worth trying. Lizabeth sweeney noted that asynchronous involves more parent involvement.
 - C. M. Strangarity asked how often we have MAPs and N. Thomas explained our MAPs testing process.
- VII. Discussion of Special Education Video Report
 - A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the Special Education Video Report.
 - B. Trina Knauff updated the Board and noted that our enrollment numbers have gone up again.
 1. M. Strangarity asked T. Knauff if she was excited about the UDL task that she was assigning to the teachers to collect data. She noted that she is excited about it and encouraged the teachers to start off the year with this.
- 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 her Board report but did want to give a shout out to all her colleagues in this meeting because she has been meeting with different colleagues about the cross curricular projects and UDL projects and everyone has been excited and wanting to contribute and helping to get all of these things rolled out.
 - C. M. Strangarity loves all the cross curricular projects that we are working on.

- IX. Discussion Enrollment/Marketing Video Report
 - A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the Enrollment/Marketing Video Report.
 - B. Alane Butler updated the Board on our enrollment numbers. We now have 948 students enrolled in our school.
 - C. A. Butler also talked about her and Don's recent visit to Chester where they visited the with Angelique Hunter who recently founded the Athena House. It is a residential facility for adjudicated girls aged 12 to 21.
 - A. Hunter proposed that it would be a great idea to have schooling in-house for them with cyber as opposed to trying to send them out into the Chester/Upland School District. There are some details to be worked through but it is something we are considering. Some discussion followed.
- X. Discussion HR Video Report
 - A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the HR Video Report.
 - B. Stefani Frank noted she would be reviewing the new hires later in the meeting.
 - C. M. Strangarity asked that with all the changes from last year to this year is she finding that she is doing well or are there things that the Board could do to help. S. Frank said things are going well and that recruiting wise she feels we are finding quality candidates but some positions are taking a little longer than other positions.
- XI. Discussion of Guidance Video Report
 - A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the Guidance Video Report.
 - B. Angela Galie had the following updates for the Board:
 - 1. She noted we are still seeing lots of students enrolling; this past week we added 42 students.
 - 2. She noted they had their first field trip to Maple Grove.
 - 3. We are in the process of setting up a tour at the Community College of Philadelphia.
 - C. Don Asplen shared a photo that was taken at one of our NHRA events.
- XII. Finance/Business Report
 - A. Ryan Schumm provided a summary of the monthly Treasurer's Report and highlighted some of the items on the report. He also spent some time talking about the performance indicators.
 - B. 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 L. Sweeney. Unanimous.
- XIII. Discussion CEO Video Report
 - A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the CEO Video Report.
 - B. D. Asplen updated the Board and let them know that he reached out to Eva Thierry today. She is a Special Education Teacher and we had asked her to spend two hours per day with our Lauch Pad Coordinator, Amy Gazzillo, specifically with the special education students. E. Thierry had really good things to report about how she is able to help A. Gazzillo and she was also able to take children directly under her wing. D. Asplen was pleased to hear that this is working out well.
 - C. D. Asplen asked Jim Flick to talk about the picnics that he is planning.
 - 1. J. Flick updated the Board on our upcoming picnics. They will be held at three different locations to reach as many students as possible.
 - a. Philadelphia, Berks and Alleghany Counties
 - 2. M. Strangarity asked if we could look at using the Mobile Maker Space on that day as well.
- XIV. Personnel
 - A. S. Frank updated the Board on the following information:
 - B. New Hires:
 - 1. Susan McCarter King – ICA Teacher
 - 2. Tara Stine – Special Education Teacher
 - 3. Angela Barger – Science Teacher
 - 4. Janeen Emsurak – Math Specialist
 - 5. Shannon Gottschalk – ICA Teacher
 - 6. John Wingerter – Administration Mentor
 - C. Promotions:
 - 1. Arthur Forwood – Educational Design Lead
 - 2. Nicole Chapman – Math Teacher
 - 3. Susan Antonucci – English Teacher

D. Open Positions:

1. Assistant Teacher
2. Student Mentor
3. Part-Time Teacher
4. IT

E. M. Strangarity called for a motion to approve the new hires and promotions as listed above with salaries as discussed in the Executive Session.

1. Motion to approve the new hires and promotions as listed above with salaries as discussed in the Executive Session by B. Maranto. Seconded by D. Fraatz. Unanimous.

XV. New Business

A. D. Asplen noted that the Pennsylvania Coalition of Public Charter Schools is holding their annual convention in Lancaster at the Wyndham Hotel Resort and Conference Center from September 21 -23. They introduced a legacy award for educators in the charter space that have been doing this awhile and have made a difference.

It was exciting to see that we had three people nominated from our school.

1. The people nominated were:

- a. Marylou Strangarity
- b. Neal Thomas
- c. Nicole Longenecker

XVI. Public Comment

A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any public comments.

B. N. Thomas thanked the Board for all the resources that we have so that we were able to set up all the new initiatives that we have. He noted that a lot of them are done behind the scenes and the teachers don't need to feel overwhelmed or worry about it but they are able to show up and enjoy them. We have our van, cross curricular courses, field trips, picnics, the possible center we may affiliate with, etc.

C. Kris Botes noted that she and Angela Alderfer started at AHCCS in 2007 and that year she was a Mentor and has had the same phone number this entire time. She recently received a text from a student who she had in 2007 and the student sent her a picture of her diploma from 2007 and she said that she just wanted to let K. Botes know that she was accepted into a nursing program and she wanted to thank her because she remembers the day that they had met at a MacDonalds and she was ready to give up and drop out but she didn't after meeting with her. This made K. Botes realize that she is at the right place, doing the right thing. She also noted that this year she has been able to spend more time talking to families and students since we hired more counselors and she wanted to thank the Board for that. D. Asplen asked A. Butler to add this success story to our website.

D. D. Asplen shared that he had asked A. Galie to add a little more information in her report this month and he asked M. Strangarity to share what impact it had on her. M. Strangarity was saddened to hear about the number of homeless students that we have but loves what we are doing for them. Also, as a Board these are some of the things that they support us for. We are here to educate them academically because that will be a tool to get them out of their situations. But we are also here to care about how they are doing. Thank you everyone for everything that you do.

XVII. Adjournment

A. M. Strangarity called for a motion to adjourn the public Board meeting. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.

1. Motion to adjourn the public meeting by L. Sweeney. Seconded by K. Chettle. Unanimous.