



Achievement House Cyber Charter School Board of Trustees
Public Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, August 15, 2023

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
Dr. Lisabeth Sweeney (Vice President) – Present
Mrs. Kristin Chettle (Treasurer) – Not Present
Mr. Don Fraatz (Secretary) – Present
Dr. Bob Maranto – 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 June 20, 2023 Board meeting.
 1. Motion to approve the minutes from the June 20, 2023 Board meeting by Lisabeth Sweeney.
Seconded by Don Fraatz. Unanimous.
- VI. Discussion of Academic Video Report
A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the Academic Video Report.
B. Neal Thomas did not have any updates for the Board and turned the floor over to Susan McCarter our Art Teacher, who shared her Art Museum Student Showcase presentation of amazing artwork from her summer school art class.
- 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 shared with the Board that currently our graduation rate for students with an IEP is at approximately 77%. Bob Maranto noticed that there are a lot of staff activities going on with Dream Box Math, Power Up Literacy, Multi-Sensory Math, and the Evidence-Based Writing System and asked if she was worried about staff burnout or if everyone was adjusting well. T. Knauff explained that one advantage to Dream Box and Power Up Literacy is that they will become assignments that teachers don't have to create because it is automated through the system and feels that they would be a benefit for the teachers since it does not create more work for them. For the writing curriculum, there is some training necessary but it comes with all the lesson PowerPoints already made and they can adapt them to their individual classes. She always makes sure that the program will benefit the students and hopes it will enhance the instruction and will be feasible for the staff to implement. This curriculum was based on the end-of-year survey that she sent to the teachers.
- VIII. Discussion Curriculum Video Report
A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the Curriculum Video Report.
B. Jodi Byrne shared how she asked Jacob Roache to show some specific information in a report for her and he was able to generate the report she needed right away and she said she just wanted to showcase him for what great work he is doing. She also shared a thank you note from a graduating student that was sent to one of our mentors which praised the school, staff and teachers.
C. M. Strangarity stated she was happy that our summer school program was going so well and asked if we could survey the students and get some feedback. J. Byrne said she thought that was a great suggestion and N. Thomas said we could pull a list from guidance and send out a survey to the students who are coming back in the fall. N. Thomas also noted that we may be at our maximum capacity for summer school and may need to put caps on the number of students for next year.

- 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 and said that we have 91 students who will start Orientations on Thursday. We are also launching our new Launch Pad 2.0 course which was revamped to make it as much like a traditional course as we possibly could and it will include live teaching every morning.
- 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 will share her updates during the Personnel section.
- 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 updated the Board on summer school graduates and promotions to the next grade level. We had 224 graduates for the class of 2023.
 - C. M. Strangarity asked if there were other colleges interested in working with us besides RAC and A. Galie noted she has talked to Reading Area Community College and Montgomery County Community College.
- XII. Finance/Business Report
 - A. Ryan Schumm provided a summary of the monthly Treasurer's Report and highlighted some of the items in the report. This is the first report for fiscal year 2024. R. Schumm stated we engaged a new audit team this year and the audit is underway. We will also be closing out the ESSER Grant cycle this year and hope to be done by June 30, 2024.
 - B. M. Strangarity asked about the potential budget disruption in regard to the state budget and R. Schumm summarized the situation.
 - C. M. Strangarity called for a motion to approve the written Treasurer's Report.
 - 1. Motion to approve the written Treasurer's Report by L. Sweeney. Seconded by D. Fraatz. 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 thanked N. Thomas and his team who went out to give a personal graduation ceremony to one of our students who had been homeless since she could not make it to our ceremony. N. Thomas then shared how a small team of staff drove out to meet her to give her the diploma which made her very happy.
 - C. D. Asplen noted that on our sojourn to become a Microsoft Showcase School we passed the first hurdle and we are now an Incubator School. He asked Gerri Light to give us an update on our Microsoft Showcase pursuit; which she did. Four of our teachers are all candidates to be our Microsoft Innovator Educator Experts (MIEE). All staff members are welcome to apply to be a MIEE.
 - D. D. Asplen stated that in a previous Board meeting one of the members asked to see the history of our comp and lit scores so he shared his screen and showed our history. It was observed that we excelled during COVID-19 (2021 and 2022) and did not have lost learning years.
 - E. M. Strangarity and other members of the Board shared that though they miss having G. Light on the Board they are very excited to have her working for the school. G. Light was thankful for all the support and excited to be in her new role at AHCCS.
 - F. G. Light announced that on August 25th we will have a special Zoom call to connect with a school in Tanzania that we will be working with this year. We will be meeting with their IT Director and some of their teachers and students and will introduce them to some of our faculty and staff as well.
- XIV. Personnel
 - A. M. Strangarity called for a motion to amend the agenda to add the following two new hires:
 - 1. Caitlin Renner, English Teacher
 - 2. Michelle Riehl, Science & Technology Teacher
 - a. Motion to amend this evening's public agenda to add the two line items listed above by L. Sweeney. Seconded by B. Maranto. Unanimous.
 - B. S. Frank updated the Board on the following information.
 - C. New Hires:
 - 1. DeAnn Eisenhut, Special Education Teacher

2. Jennifer Woods, Special Education Teacher
3. Nicholas Stagliano, Social Studies Teacher
4. Cullen Scott, Science Teacher
5. Katherine Scholl, English Teacher
6. Caitlin Renner, English Teacher
7. Michelle Riehl, Science & Technology Teacher

D. Promotions:

1. Amanda Reighard, Curriculum Coach
2. Andrew Guy, Educational Design Lead
3. Shana Harris, School Social Worker

E. Transfers:

1. Angela Barger, Part-Time Science Teacher
2. Matt McGeehan, Full Stack Developer/Teacher
3. Mike Kass, Transition Teacher
4. Eva Thierry

F. Salary Increases:

1. Amy Gazzillo
2. Kathleen Gonzalez
3. Nicole Strollo

G. Separations:

1. Beth Anne Stork
2. Carmela Curatola
3. Nicole Renninger
4. Patrice Sorbicki
5. Bruce Williamson
6. Alexa Szabo
7. Leah Throckmorton
8. Katie Mastauskas
9. Latania Roberts
10. Marie Sabatelli
11. Julia McGlone
12. John Hulik
13. Alyssa Wright

H. Stipends:

1. Team Captains: \$5,500
2. AHoPE – Program of Excellence Leaders: \$1,500
3. Curriculum POCs: - \$1,600
4. Lead EL/WIDA Coordinator - \$2,500
5. Special Education Instructional Mentor: \$2,500

I. Open Positions:

1. ICA Teacher
2. Special Education Teacher
3. English Teacher
4. Science Teacher
5. Reading Specialist
6. School Resource Manager
7. Transition Coordinator

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

1. Motion to approve the new hires and separations as listed above and with salaries as discussed in the Executive Session by L. Sweeney. Seconded B. Maranto. Unanimous

K. M. Strangarity called for a motion to approve the promotions and transfers as listed above.

1. Motion to approve the promotions and transfers as listed above by L. Sweeney. Seconded B. Maranto. Unanimous.

XV. Governance

A. SIP (School Improvement Plan)

1. D. Asplen stated that the SIP has been developed over the last several months and has been posted on the public website for 28 days and is now asking for a motion from the Board to accept and approve the School Improvement Plan that has been posted on the website.
2. M. Strangarity called for a motion to accept and approve the School Improvement Plan that has been posted on the website.
 - a. Motion to accept and approve the School Improvement Plan that has been posted on the website by L. Sweeney. Seconded by D. Fraatz. Unanimous.

XVI. New Business

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

XVII. Public Comment

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

XVIII. Adjournment

- A. M. Strangarity called for a motion to adjourn the public Board meeting at 8:15 pm. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 19, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
 1. Motion to adjourn the public meeting by D. Fraatz. Seconded by L. Sweeney. Unanimous.