



Achievement House Cyber Charter School Board of Trustees
Public Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 21, 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
 - Mrs. Kristin Chettle (Treasurer) – Present
 - Mr. Don Fraatz (Secretary) – Present
 - Dr. Bob Maranto (Member) – Present
 - Dr. Lisabeth Sweeney (Member) – Not Present
- III. Notification of Recording
 - A. Marilou Strangarity announced that the Public Session would be recorded on an audio/video 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. Amendment to the Agenda
 - A. Brian Leinhauser called for a motion to amend the agenda to remove the discretionary spending item in the Governance section and to add the following motion to authorize the CEO to execute documents related to an employment matter discussed in the executive session.
 1. Motion to amend the agenda to remove the discretionary spending item in the Governance section and to add the following motion to authorize the CEO to execute documents related to an employment matter discussed in the executive session by Kristin Chettle. Seconded by Don Fraatz. All ayes, unanimous.
- VI. Approval of the Minutes
 - A. M. Strangarity called for a motion to approve the minutes from the October 15, 2024 Board meeting.
 1. Motion to approve the minutes from the October 15, 2024 Board meeting by Bob Worn. Seconded by Bob Maranto. All ayes, unanimous.
- VII. Discussion of Academic Video Report
 - A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the Academic Video Report.
 - B. Angela Alderfer did not have any updates for the Board.
 - C. B. Worn asked A. Alderfer about the showcase renewal, and she explained that now that we are a Microsoft Showcase School, this renewal process is done every year.
- VIII. 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 some positive news that the cyclical monitoring has been officially closed out.
- IX. 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 report.
- X. Discussion Enrollment/Marketing Video Report
 - A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the Enrollment/Marketing Video Report.
 - B. Becky Aller shared that our enrollment has increased since she sent in her Board report, and we now have 1,000 students. Some discussion followed about the new online enrollment process and the McKinney Vento Act students.
- XI. Discussion HR Video Report
 - A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the HR Video Report.

- B. Stefani Frank did not have any updates for the Board.
 - C. M. Strangarity asked S. Frank about the School Counselor open position, and some discussion followed about the hiring process.
- XII. Discussion of Guidance Video Report
- A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the Guidance Video Report.
 - B. Angela Galie did not have any updates for the Board. She will have an update on the seniors next month.
 - C. B. Worn inquired about the Coping With Loss Program mentioned in A. Galie's report. Hannah Sapko, one of our Social Workers, explained the program to the Board. Achievement House organizes its own support groups for students who have experienced a loss and are coping with grief.
- XIII. Finance/Business Report
- A. Ryan Schumm provided a summary of the monthly Treasurer's Report and highlighted some of its items.
 - B. M. Strangarity called for a motion to approve the written Treasurer's Report.
 - 1. Motion to approve the written Treasurer's Report by K. Chettle. Seconded by B. Maranto. All ayes, unanimous.
- XIV. Discussion CEO Video Report
- A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the CEO Video Report.
 - B. Don Asplen shared his appreciation for seeing all the staff members in the Board meeting tonight and thanked everyone for attending.
 - C. D. Asplen asked J. Byrne to share a request we received from the PDE. They asked if they could feature us in an article about school improvement due to our extensive efforts in this area. We now have a team dedicated to building systems and creating a sustainable plan. They were also interested in our status as a Microsoft Certified Showcase School and how our professional development has supported these initiatives. We have prepared an article for them, with both an AI version and a story version to submit.
 - 1. D. Asplen acknowledged J. Byrne as a crucial part of the entire SIP process, which is a detailed and challenging endeavor. He commended her and her team for their outstanding work.
 - 2. The Board congratulated everyone for a job well done.
- XV. Personnel
- A. New Hires:
 - 1. Brock Bellinger, Auxiliary Teacher
 - 2. Andrew Houpt, Auxiliary Teacher
 - B. Promotions:
 - 1. Faith Bull, English Teacher
 - 2. Alyssa Kline, Social Studies Teacher
 - 3. David Knauff, Jr. Systems Administrator
 - C. Changes:
 - 1. Don Asplen, Interim CEO
 - 2. Jennifer Brittingham, Engagement & Design Coordinator
 - 3. Lisa Seik, SE Teacher, increase after 3 months
 - D. Separations:
 - 1. Michael Gergely, Special Education Teacher
 - 2. Arthur Forwood, Health & PE Teacher
 - 3. Amy Miller-Spavlik, School Counselor
 - 4. Neal Thomas, CAO
 - 5. Gerri Light, CEO
 - E. Open Positions:
 - 1. School Counselor
 - 2. Art Teacher
 - 3. Help Desk Technician
 - 4. Gifted Resource Teacher
 - F. M. Strangarity called for a motion to approve the new hires, promotions, and separations as listed above with salaries as discussed in the Executive Session.
 - 1. Motion to approve the new hires, promotions, and separations as listed above with salaries as discussed in the Executive Session by B. Maranto. Seconded by D. Fraatz. All ayes, unanimous.

- G. M. Strangarity called for a ratification of the Board's decision to make Don Asplen the Interim CEO effective January 3rd, 2025.
1. Motion to approve the ratification of the Board's decision to make Don Asplen the Interim CEO by B. Worn. Seconded by D. Fraatz. All ayes, unanimous.
- H. M. Strangarity called for a motion to transition Don Asplen from the Interim CEO to the CEO, effective January 21, 2025.
1. Motion to approve the transition of Don Asplen from the Interim CEO to the CEO, effective January 21, 2025, by B. Worn. Seconded by D. Fraatz. All ayes, unanimous.
- I. M. Strangarity called for a motion to approve the changes for Jennifer Brittingham and Lisa Seik, as listed above.
1. Motion to approve the changes for Jennifer Brittingham and Lisa Seik, as listed above by D. Fraatz. Seconded by K. Chettle. All ayes, unanimous.

XVI. Governance

- A. M. Strangarity called for a motion to authorize the CEO to execute the documents related to the employee matter discussed in the executive session.
1. Motion to authorize the CEO to execute the documents related to the employee matter discussed in the executive session by K. Chettle. Seconded by B. Worn. All ayes, unanimous.

XVII. New Business

- A. M. Strangarity asked if there was any new business.
- B. D. Asplen shared that one of the things he will focus on in regard to marketing efforts is the idea of an exceptional level of customer service when it comes to communication. He wants to be able to offer an unparalleled communication level of customer service from the time they make that first phone call till the time they graduate. He stressed the importance of doing whatever it takes to offer a unique student experience, highlighting the personal touch as our distinctive value proposition that other schools may not offer.

XVIII. Public Comment

- A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any public comments.
1. B. Worn was happy to see so many people at the meeting and asked them to share why they attended this evening.
 2. Erika Replogle, Special Education Teacher, expressed her gratitude to Angela Galie for devising a plan to support a student who had a baby in November and was struggling to keep up with her studies, ensuring she could succeed and be on the path to graduating this year. She also thanked Trina Knauff for all she does.
 3. DeAnne Eisenhut, Special Education Teacher, shared her enthusiasm for our VIP service, expressing how happy she is to work with amazing colleagues, staff, and friends and to watch them authentically provide service and support to our students and their parents. She attended tonight because she feels honored to work at Achievement House, carrying a deep sense of responsibility, respect, and appreciation for her role. She is glad to be a part of something that is the threadwork of something that is dynamic and magical.
 4. Eva Thierry, Launch Pad Instructor, shared that she and Amy Gazzillo developed an assignment for new students to learn how to download and complete a Microsoft Word worksheet. The worksheet's theme is VIP, and it includes sentence starters for students to finish. The responses can be quite revealing and heartfelt. D. Asplen noted he would love to get some of the responses to post as testimonials on our website.
 5. B. Worn noticed that Amanda Reighard, who has been an employee with us for 13 years, was in the meeting and asked for an update on what she is doing. A. Reighard shared that she is no longer a teacher but is working under J. Byrne as a Curriculum Coach and works more with the staff than with the students now. J. Byrne noted that A. Reighard, as the Curriculum Coach, brings such creativity and is such an asset to the teachers in working with them to develop amazing lessons that engage students. Her talent in building curriculum is really valued.

XIX. Adjournment

- A. M. Strangarity called for a motion to adjourn the public meeting at 8:21 pm.
1. Motion to adjourn the public meeting by K. Chettle. Seconded by D. Fraatz. All ayes, unanimous. The next meeting will be held on February 18, 2025.