



Achievement House Cyber Charter School Board of Trustees

Public Meeting Minutes Tuesday, March 18, 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) – 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 February 18, 2025, Board meeting.
 1. Motion to approve the minutes from February 18, 2025, Board meeting by Bob Maranto.
Seconded by Don Fraatz. All ayes, unanimous.
- VI. Finance/Business Report
 - A. Ryan Schumm provided a summary of the monthly Treasurer's Report and highlighted some of its items. He noted that the President has recently proposed ending the U.S. Department of Education (DOE) as part of a broader vision to reduce federal government involvement in local affairs. So far it is good news for K-12 public schools since those cuts have largely targeted higher education and the Office of Civil Rights within the Department of Education, neither of which administer funds to K-12 public schools.
 - B. M. Strangarity called for a motion to approve the written Treasurer's Report.
 1. Motion to approve the written Treasurer's Report by Kristin Chettle. Seconded by D. Fraatz. All ayes, unanimous.
- VII. Personnel
 - A. New Hires:
 1. Jami Romano, Special Education Teacher, 2/26/25
 2. Kateri Johnson, Help Desk Technician, 3/12/25
 3. Laura Giering, Special Education Teacher, 3/12/25
 4. Jane Wood, Special Education Coordinator, 3/26/25
 5. Kelly Barber, Special Education Teacher, 5/7/25
 - B. Position Changes:
 1. Morris Hendrics, IT Specialist
 - C. Open Positions:
 1. Special Education Coordinator
 - D. M. Strangarity called for a motion to approve all the personnel changes identified by the HR Manager listed above with salaries as discussed in the Executive Session.
 1. Motion to approve all the personnel changes as identified by the HR Manager as listed above with salaries as discussed in the Executive Session by B. Worn. Seconded by D. Fraatz. All ayes, unanimous.
- VIII. Governance
 - A. We are required to review our Title I District-Wide Parent Family Engagement Policy annually. It was reviewed, and no changes were made. M. Strangarity called for a motion to pass the current Title I District-Wide Parent Family Engagement Policy.

1. Motion to pass the current Title I District-Wide Parent Family Engagement Policy by D. Fraatz.
Seconded by B. Maranto. All ayes, unanimous.
 - B. The Guidance Department created a Student Pregnancy and Parental Leave Policy which was reviewed by the Board and a few changes were made by Brian Leinhauser. M. Strangarity called for a motion to approve the new Student Pregnancy and Parental Leave Policy.
 1. Motion to approve the new Student Pregnancy and Parental Leave Policy by B. Maranto.
Seconded by K. Chettle. All ayes, unanimous.
 - C. The Guidance Department created a Subpoena Records Request Policy which was reviewed by the Board. M. Strangarity called for a motion to approve the new Subpoena Records Request Policy.
 1. Motion to approve the new Subpoena Records Request Policy by K. Chettle. Seconded by Lisabeth Sweeney. All ayes, unanimous.
 - D. Statement of Financial Interest Form (SOFI) – All board members must annually provide a SOFI to AHCCS. The forms have been mailed to the board members for completion. B. Leinhauser noted the change in the law which requires us to keep them on file at the school.
 - E. Bob Maranto left the meeting at approximately 7:28 pm.
- IX. Discussion 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 noted he was glad to see more parent participation in the parent/student conferences.
 - D. Fraatz asked A. Alderfer to explain how the conferences work and she explained the process.
- X. Discussion Special Education Video Report
- A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the Special Education Video Report and there were none.
 - B. Trina Knauff did not have any updates for the Board.
- XI. 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.
 - C. D. Asplen asked J. Byrne to share about the Microsoft training that recently took place in our office. She explained how the Microsoft Certified Coach Program is a certification for instructional coaches that aims to provide them with a strong foundation and strategies for navigating the modern teaching and learning landscape. It provides techniques for coaching and teaching people to be their best. We hosted it in our office and had 10 staff members participate. Katie Bonesteel attended the training and added that it was very hands on and informative with great PowerPoint to go with each lesson. It is built around the ISTE Standards for teachers and coaches. They now have 6 to 9 months to complete a portfolio and then get their certification.
- XII. Introduction of staff members attending the meeting and an update from the Global Studies AHOPE Team
- A. M. Strangarity noticed some staff members in the meeting and asked them to introduce themselves and let everyone know what they do at Achievement House and thanked them for joining tonight.
 1. Karen Leonard, 9th grade Mentor
 2. Kelly Kniha, Geometry Teacher and runs the AHOPE Data Team
 3. Michelle Riehl, Science Teacher
 - B. K. Bonesteel is part of our Global Studies AHOPE Team and shared about our friendship bracelet exchange project. Our students made friendship bracelets to send to schools in Rwanda, Tanzania and Latvia and in return we received bracelets from these schools. The Board members were sent a package with a friendship bracelet that was made by students at the Rwanda site. Our connections with the schools in Tanzania and Rwanda were facilitated by Dr. Gerri Light. Additionally, we established connections with schools in India and Kenya through our Microsoft Showcase School Facebook Group. The connection with Latvia was made possible by Anna Berzins, one of our Special Educations Teachers, who is Latvian and has family residing there. Approximately 40 students participated in the project, sending notes along with their bracelets and learning about different styles of beads and beading techniques from each country. The students were thrilled to receive their bracelets and expressed a strong interest in participating in this project again.
- XIII. 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 was not able to attend the meeting tonight so D. Asplen shared for her. We now have 1040 students enrolled.

XIV. 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 and noted that we now have 14 Special Education Teachers and 7 Compliance Teachers.

XV. Discussion Guidance Video Report

- A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the Guidance Video Report.
- B. Angela Galie shared that the two new counselors are settling in, and we are heading into graduation season which is very exciting.

XVI. 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 had no updates from his report for the Board but wanted to share that they held a successful cyber strategy meeting with 15 different organizations being represented. Every cyber school was represented except for Aspira. We have a plan in place and there is a strategic movement afoot to address the pending potential cyber cuts.

XVII. New Business

- A. M. Strangarity asked if there was any new business.
- B. D. Asplen noted that during the private session, the Board agreed with the tentative plan to establish a standalone marketing department. This new department will be centered around the social media team that has been assembled, along with a few additional hires and the implementation of new strategies and goals.

XVIII. Public Comment

- A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any public comments.
- B. S. Frank gave a shout out to Ryan Schumm's team, specifically Danielle, Michelle, and Andrea. She highly enjoys working with them and appreciates the partnership.

XIX. Adjournment

- A. M. Strangarity called for a motion to adjourn the public meeting at 7:56 pm.
 - 1. Motion to adjourn the public meeting by D. Fraatz. Seconded by B. Worn. All ayes, unanimous. The next meeting will be held on May 20, 2025.