



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Meeting Minutes

October 22, 2020

I. *Call to Order*

The meeting was held via Zoom as authorized by Act 15 of 2020. Adequate notice of this meeting was advertised in The Morning Call as well as the school website stating that this meeting would take place at 6:01 PM on Zoom and the Zoom link was posted on the AA ECS website on Monday, October 19, 2020. At the beginning of the meeting, the President read the statement attached as exhibit A.

Flag Salute

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call

Present: Ms. Amy Best, Board President; Mr. Casey Gallagher, Treasurer; Ms. Zanetta Groff, Board Member; Ms. Angela Sigley-Grossman, Board Member; Mr. Aldo Cavalli, Chief Executive Officer, Ms. Janear Hankerson, Board Secretary; , Ms. Cristal McCollum, AA ECS Principal; Mr. Brandon Leydic, Director of Operations; Mr. Daniel Fennick, ESQ, Board Attorney.

Absent: Ms. Sally Ann Hanzlik, Board Member, Ms. Rosalee Sabo, Board Vice President;

Motion to amend agenda: 1st Sigley-Grossman 2nd Gallagher All Unanimous

II. *Reading of the Mission Statement*

Ms. Groff recited the AA ECS Mission Statement.

III. *Public comments for items listed on the agenda*

As this meeting took place over Zoom, members of the public could not physically attend. The notice advertising the meeting provided the public with a mechanism to comment in advance or during the meeting. The board secretary advised the President that no one had sent comments in advance and no one requested the opportunity to comment during the meeting. No comments were received after the meeting.

IV. *Motion to approve Board Minutes*

A motion to approve the September 24, 2020 Board minutes was made by Mr. Gallagher, seconded by Ms. Groff, and it was unanimously approved.

V. *Reports & Announcements*

There were no reports and announcements this month.

VI. *Chief Executive Officer's Recommendations*

The following recommendations were presented in the Chief Executive Officer's report:

A. *Technology*

1. Mr. Leydic gave an update on the iPad distribution for Kindergarten and 1st grade students.
2. Mr. Leydic reported that teachers and staff have received their new Windows laptops.
3. All students who were identified as having a need have received a hot spot.
4. Zoom Educator Licenses were purchased for the entire staff.

B. *Principal's Report*

1. Ms. McCollum provided an update on remote learning and student progress and stated students and parents have a combined 100% participation rate in remote learning.
2. Ms. McCollum shared that Universal Screening was completed.
3. Parent surveys regarding remote learning were distributed and 96 parents responded.
4. Throughout the first marking period, the administration kept current regarding the CDC/PA Department of Health guidelines, while also monitoring COVID-19 cases in the Lehigh Valley. On October 2, 2020, the principal sent out a parent survey to solicit their input. To date, we have received 102 responses, which are consistent with the responses we received in August. Since our decision on August 27, 2020 to open as a virtual-only program, the CDC/PA Department of Health guidelines have not changed. Additionally, according to the PA Department of Health website, COVID-19 cases in the Lehigh Valley are increasing. Therefore, the administration is proposing to the Board of Trustees that the Arts Academy Elementary Charter School continue with the current virtual programming until further notice.

C. Middle States Update

1. The steering committee met and established Reading, Math, and Arts pilot groups.
2. Ms. McCollum provided the Board with a Middle States update and stated that the Leadership team requested a March visit from Middle States.

D. Facilities

1. Mr. Leydic stated the facilities team is continuing to follow the Covid-19 health and safety plan requirements, as well as continuing with general beautification projects.

E. Policies

1. There was no policy report.

F. Personnel

1. Ms. Hankerson reported personnel changes:
 - a. Notification of the hiring of Gina Dispensa as a 5th grade teacher effective October 19, 2020.

G. Finance

1. A motion to approve the September 2020 financials as submitted by the Finance Committee was made by Mr. Gallagher, seconded by Ms. Sigley-Grossman, and unanimously approved.
2. A motion to approve a new salary scale for Special Education teachers to become effective in the budget for the 20/21 school year was made by Mr. Gallagher, seconded by Ms. Sigley-Grossman, and unanimously approved.

VII. Old Business

1. There was no old business.

VIII. New Business

1. There was no new business.

IX. *Public Comment*

1. There was no public comment.

X. *Executive Session*

1. A motion to move into executive session was made by Mr. Gallagher, seconded by Ms. Groff, and unanimously approved at 6:21 P.M.
2. A motion to exit executive session was made by Mr. Gallagher, seconded by Ms. Groff and unanimously approved at 6:41 P.M.

XI. *Adjournment*

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mr. Gallagher seconded by Ms. Groff, and unanimously approved at 6:45 P.M.

Janear D Hankerson
Board Secretary

The next meeting is scheduled for November 19, 2020 at 6:00 P.M.