



Achievement House Cyber Charter School Board of Trustees

Tuesday, August 18, 2020

The Executive Session commenced at 6:00 p.m. and continued until approximately 7:25 p.m.

- I. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Roll Call
 - Mrs. Marilou Strangarity (President) – Present
 - Mrs. Lisabeth Sweeney (Vice President) – Present
 - Mrs. Kristin Chettle (Treasurer) – Not Present until 7:58 PM
 - Mr. Don Fraatz (Secretary) – Present
 - Dr. Bob Maranto – Present
 - Desmondé Pringle – Present
 - Dr. Gerri Light – Present
- III. Notification of Recording
 - A. Marilou Strangarity announced that the Public Session would be recorded on an audio device.
- IV. Officer Elections
 - A. As Solicitor of the Board of Trustees, Brian Leinhauser opened up the floor to announce any new board members or to reappoint board members.
 1. Lisabeth Sweeney nominated Gerri Light as a new board member. Seconded by Don Fraatz.
 2. Marilou Strangarity nominated to reappoint Bob Maranto as a board member. Seconded by Lisabeth Sweeney.
 3. Don Fraatz nominated to reappoint Kristin Chettle as a board member. Seconded by M. Sweeney.
 - B. As to the nomination of Gerri Light, Brian Leinhauser called for a roll call vote from the board members currently on the board:
 1. Marilou Strangarity – yes
 2. Don Fraatz – yes
 3. Lisabeth Sweeney – yes
 4. Desmondé Pringle – yes
 - C. As to the nomination for Bob Maranto, Brian Leinhauser called for a roll call vote from the board members currently on the board:
 1. Marilou Strangarity – yes
 2. Don Fraatz – yes
 3. Lisabeth Sweeney – yes
 4. Desmondé Pringle – yes
 5. Gerri Light – Yes
 - D. As to the nomination for Kristin Chettle, Brian Leinhauser called for a roll call vote from the board members currently on the board:
 1. Marilou Strangarity – yes
 2. Don Fraatz – yes
 3. Lisabeth Sweeney – yes
 4. Desmondé Pringle – yes
 5. Gerri Light – yes
 6. Bob Maranto – yes
 - E. As Solicitor of the Board of Trustees, Brian Leinhauser made a call for nominations for the **President** of the Board of Trustees for the coming term.

1. L. Sweeney called for a motion to nominate M. Strangarity. Seconded by D. Fraatz. Unanimous.
- F. Brian Leinhauser turned the meeting over to M. Strangarity, Board President, for the remainder of the reconstitution of the Board.
- G. M. Strangarity made a call for nominations for **Vice President** of the Board of Trustees for the coming term.
 1. D. Fraatz called for a motion to nominate Lisabeth Sweeney. Seconded by B. Maranto. Unanimous.
- H. M. Strangarity made a call for nominations for **Secretary** of the Board of Trustees for the coming term.
 1. L. Sweeney called for a motion to nominate Don Fraatz. Seconded by B. Maranto. Unanimous.
- I. M. Strangarity made a call for nominations for **Treasurer** of the Board of Trustees for the coming term.
 1. L. Sweeney called for a motion to nominate Kristin Chettle. Seconded by D. Pringle. Unanimous.
- J. M. Strangarity called for a motion to reappoint the board members to the committees they served on previously and to add Dr. Light to some committees next month.
 1. L. Sweeney called for a motion to approve the committees as stated above. Seconded by D. Fraatz. Unanimous.
- V. Approval of the Minutes
 - A. M. Strangarity called for a motion to approve the minutes from the July 21, 2020 board meeting.
 1. Motion to approve the minutes from the July 21, 2020 board meeting by D. Fraatz Seconded by G. Light. Unanimous.
- VI. Executive Session Statement
 - A. M. Strangarity announced that the Executive Session was held to discuss personnel and legal matters.
- VII. Discussion of Academic/SPED Video Report
 - A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the Academic/SPED Video Report.
 - B. Neal Thomas summarized what he talked about in his Academic/SPED video report regarding changing the grading scale. Some discussion followed. B. Maranto also commented that he loves the idea of having a mid quarter grading report.
 - C. B. Leinhauser called for a motion to approve the implementation of the new grading scale and for administration to administer the plan.
 1. Motion to approve the new grading scale and for administration to administer the plan by L. Sweeney. Seconded by D. Fraatz. Unanimous.
 - D. Kristin Chettle joined the meeting at 7:58 PM, immediately after the vote.
- VIII. 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 was very excited to announced that we have 160 orientations scheduled and we are still enrolling students. She has been very busy! M. Strangarity asked if we needed to hire someone temporarily to help out but A. Butler said she has everyone on her staff helping her, so she does not need extra help at this time.
- IX. Discussion HR Video Report
 - A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the HR Video Report.
 - B. Bob Worn shared that we hired some more people and was very happy to say that they all showed up today for new teacher orientation.
 - C. We want to work on engagement and support of our students, so we are going to hire five more mentors, four more subject area teachers, and one school-based counselor.
 - D. M. Strangarity stated that if B. Worn finds two excellent candidates in the same core subject, he has the flexibility to hire both if he would like.
- X. Discussion of Guidance Video Report
 - A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the Guidance Video Report.
 - B. Kris Botes shared that we had 104 students graduate from summer school and of that number, 17 were seniors so she is feeling really good about summer school.
 - C. Kris Botes announced that Guidance has hired an intern from Duquesne who is currently at West Chester University now getting her masters.

- D. G. Light commented that she is really enjoying learning about everything that has been happening at Achievement House. It has been extremely motivating to listen to the growth that has been going on.
- XI. Finance/Business Report
 - A. Ryan Schumm provided the monthly Treasurer's Report and gave a short summary.
 - B. Our Money Market Direct Sweep Investment Account was activated on August 11, 2020.
 - C. R. Schumm mentioned the PDE's interpretation of the March 13, 2020 school closure and how it relates to the charter school law and charter school tuition billing. If the PDE's interpretation stands, we could lose approximately \$700,000 in revenue. There is a lot of pressure on them to rethink this and it should be resolved in about a week.
 - D. 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 D. Fraatz. Unanimous.
- XII. Discussion CEO Video Report
 - A. M. Strangarity asked if there were any questions or comments about the CEO Video Report.
 - B. Don Asplen noted that maybe now is the time for us to find a little more grace to extend to the superintendents since they have even more variables to deal with than we do.
 - C. D. Asplen shared that our goal is to help the students through these trying times and so the theme that he is going to introduce to our staff this year is "Bridge Over Troubled Waters" (like the Paul Simon song). These are uncharted waters and we want them to know we are here for them.
- XIII. Discussion Curriculum Video Report
 - A. Declan French summarized what some of his goals are for this year:
 - 1. Working on curriculum revision and by the end of the year would like every teacher to rewrite one courses curriculum map. This is part of a three-year overhaul to get all of our curriculum maps rewritten.
 - 2. We are looking into equity this year. We have a company called Teaching Tolerance booked on January 29th to come in and talk with our teachers.
 - 3. Working on having a curriculum support person in each department.
 - 4. Going to build time for teachers to be revising curriculum and working with people in their departments for that process.
 - B. D. Asplen stated that D. French was very instrumental in putting the summer camps together, he helped out with the summer school program, and has jumped in to help out wherever he can. He is really pleased with how he has taken on his new curriculum role.
- XIV. Personnel
 - A. New Hires:
 - 1. Sherri Emrich, Special Education Teacher, \$55,000
 - 2. Michele Mazurek, English Teacher, \$55,000
 - 3. Matthew Steiger, Health & PE Teacher, \$43,000
 - 4. Laura Tarnoff, Part-time Math Teacher, \$28,000
 - 5. Diane Morian, Special Education Teacher, \$55,000
 - 6. Chris Gibson, Junior Help Desk Technician, \$14/hour
 - B. M. Strangarity called for a motion to approve the new hires with salaries as listed above.
 - 1. Motion to approve the new hires with salaries as listed above by G. Light. Seconded by D. Fraatz. Unanimous.
 - C. Separations:
 - 1. Amanda Martin, Special Education Teacher
 - 2. Melissa Tweed, Math Teacher
 - 3. Rebecca Kenzakowski, Part-time, Temporary ESY Teacher
 - D. M. Strangarity called for a motion to approve the separations as listed above.
 - 1. Motion to approve the separations by D. Fraatz. Seconded by L. Sweeney. Unanimous.

XV. Governance

- A. Ten-Year Employee Benefit – D. Asplen introduced this new employee benefit where it would be a one time \$1250 bonus for hitting a ten-year employment mark based on your date of hire.
 - 1. M. Strangarity called for a motion to approve the Ten-Year Employee Benefit.
 - a) Motion to approve the new Ten-Year Employee Benefit by D. Fraatz. Seconded by G. Light. Unanimous.
- B. School Reopening Health and Safety Plan – D. Asplen asked the Board to pass this plan as required by the PDE for submission to the PDE and publication on our publication website.
 - 1. M. Strangarity called for a motion to approve the School Reopening Health and Safety Plan.
 - a) Motion to approve the School Reopening Health and Safety Plan by D. Fraatz. Seconded by L. Sweeney. Unanimous.
- C. Revised PTO Policy – D. Asplen asked the Board to approve the revised PTO Policy which reduces the required number of work hours from 30 hours per week to 25 to have eligibility for PTO and it would be pro-rated.
 - 1. M. Strangarity called for a motion to approve the revised PTO Policy.
 - a) Motion to approve the revised PTO Policy by D. Pringle. Seconded by G. Light. Unanimous.

XVI. New Business

- A. M. Strangarity asked if there was any new business, but there was none.

XVII. Public Comment

- A. 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. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 15, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.
 - 1. Motion to adjourn the public meeting by K. Chettle. Seconded by L. Sweeney. Unanimous.