



EXECUTIVE EDUCATION ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

555 Union Boulevard | Allentown, PA 18109
610-841-7044 | fax 610-841-7187 | www.ee-schools.org

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Public Meeting **MEETING MINUTES** **February 22, 2024**

A public meeting of the Executive Education Academy Charter School Board of Trustees was held at 6:00 pm on February 22, 2024 at the Executive Education Academy Charter School located at 555 Union Boulevard, Allentown, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania.

Trustees Attending:

Barry Dobil – present
Ty Reed – present
Jim Rivera – present
Dr. Betsy Swope – present
Tracy Becker – present

Invited Attendees:

Robert Lysek, CEO – present
Stephen Flavell, COO – not present
Dr. Selma Chehouri Abi-Daher, CFO – present
Kim Bjorkman – Secretary to Board - present

Invited Attendees (continued):

Naomi Centrella - Counsel – present
Michael Ricciutti – CSO – present
Tiffany O'Brien – CAO – not present
Kiersten Yeakel – CSD – present
Tamara Klas – CSD – present
Matthew Wilttrout – CSD – present
Kiomara Quinones – Student Representative – not present

Visitors:

Stephan Wiltshire
Tim Ramos

ITEM ONE - CALL TO ORDER

Board President Mr. Barry Dobil called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. EEACS Board Meeting dates were posted for public announcement in the Wednesday, July 5, 2023 edition of The Morning Call in accordance with the Pennsylvania Sunshine Act 65. Mr. Dobil reported that prior to the meeting, an Executive Session was held for discussion of personnel and safety matters with no votes having been taken. The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a roll call of the Board of Trustee Members.

ITEM TWO - APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY 22, 2024 AGENDA ITEMS

The Board was provided with a copy of the Agenda on Thursday, February 15, 2024. Mr. Dobil asked for a motion to accept the Agenda as written. Dr. Swope motioned to approve the Agenda as written and Mr. Reed seconded. The Agenda was approved unanimously.

ITEM THREE - APPROVAL OF JANUARY 24, 2024 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The Board was provided with a draft of the Minutes for the January 24, 2024 board Meeting on Thursday, February 15, 2024. Mr. Dobil asked for a motion to approve the January Minutes as written. Mrs. Becker motioned to approve the Minutes and Mr. Rivera seconded. The Minutes were approved unanimously.

ITEM FOUR - PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS



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- a. **CEO's Report** was presented by Robert Lysek, CEO. Mr. Lysek stated that four Allentown School District (ASD) representatives visited the school today in regards to the Charter renewal. ASD will be at the school in March for a visit for academics. The elementary playground is the next project on the schedule. Student Anabelle Ramos placed ninth in districts for wrestling. The boys' and girls' basketball teams qualified for districts. The ribbon cutting ceremony for the Fieldhouse is scheduled for April 4th. The cyber charter hearing was held on February 13th which went well. The More Than an Athlete event will be moved to Fall.
- b. **Financial Report** – Dr. Selma Chehouri Abi-Daher, CFO, supplied the Board with the January 2024 financial report on Thursday, February 15, 2024. There were no additions or corrections to the report and it was submitted to record. The financial reports will be placed on file for audit.
- c. **Chief of Operations Report** was presented in part by Mr. Lysek (see notes above).
- d. **Chief Staff Officer Report** was presented by Michael Ricciutti. The school is currently fully staffed. Interviews for athletic coaches will begin shortly.
- e. **Chief Academic Officer Report** was not presented.
- f. **Lower Grades (K-5) School Report** was presented by Kiersten Yeakel. Students celebrated 100 days of school. Black history month will be celebrated by having a wax museum. Read Across America will begin on March 1st, with a visit from an author and Iron Pigs mascot. Girls on the Run will be coming up.
- g. **Middle Grades (6-8) School Report** was presented by Tamara Klas. The middle school students have been having mock PSSAs and working daily on testing stamina. A new math curriculum is being explored and will be chosen soon. Students will be visiting the Da Vinci Center on March 6th. During the Spring students will have their Spring photos, assemblies on cyber bullying and vaping. The middle school faculty are tackling attendance problems and have seen great success. The next school year there will be a fifth section added to seventh grade.
- h. **Upper Grades (9-12) School Report** was presented by Matthew Wiltout. There are currently 71 seniors that have been accepted to 2- or 4-year colleges, 1 accepted to the Air Force, and worth over \$3.4 million in scholarships. In March select students will be visiting the LVHN Center in Center Valley. In May students in the healthcare pathway will participate in a human cadaver dissection. Nine students have been accepted for the LVHN internships program. There are 5 students that are currently interviewing with the electrical union.
- i. **Student Representative Report** was not presented.
- j. **ITEM FIVE – PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA RELATED ITEMS**

Mr. Dobil opened the floor to the submission of public comments on Agenda items, but none were submitted.

ITEM SIX – NEW BUSINESS

- a) None

ITEM SEVEN - DISCUSSION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES



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Mr. Reed asked what Middle School students were struggling with during testing and what the percentage was of those struggling. It was stated that approximately 60% of the students struggle with completing the open-ended questions. It seems that the 6th grade students are doing well, but the 9th grade students seem to have the greatest struggle. Mr. Reed extended the invitation for the otter pool at the Da Vinci Center and agreed to nail down a date. He also mentioned that he had breakfast with the Allentown mayor and proudly announced that the mayor thinks highly of EEACS and stated that the school has their act together. Mr. Rivera asked if it was known what the cause of the truancy issues were. It was shared that there is a variety of reasons, no one common reason.

ITEM EIGHT – PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA RELATED ITEMS

Mr. Ramos stated that he currently has 5 children that will all proudly graduate from EEACS. He thanked the school for the improvements in the food program this year. He went on to express concerns over the girls' wrestling singlet and that it appeared that the boys' basketball team was sharing uniforms.

ITEM NINE - ADJOURNMENT

With the completion of all Agenda items, Mr. Dobil asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Rivera motioned to adjourn. Mr. Dobil seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned at 6:34 pm. The next Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, March 21, 2024 at 6:00 pm in the Board Room.