

Ocean Academy Charter School Board of Education

Minutes – Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, November 12th, 2024

In Accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act: Public Notice of this Meeting pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act has been given by the Board Secretary in the Asbury Park Press – Paper of Record. Ocean Academy Charter School, 1650 Massachusetts Avenue, Lakewood, NJ. Attendance by virtual or in person.

Anita Raynes Lepelstat – President - Absent
Jim Muzikowski – Vice President – 6:45 PM
Marshall White
Aase Marie Hare
Sharon Hollander
Roxanne Martin
David Corso
Raul Orellana

Valarie Smith (Board Secretary), Lorna Hassel (Head of School), Dawn Cobb-Fossnes (Middle School Principal), Stephen Nichol (High School Principal), David Block (School Business Administrator), Didi Yencer (Whole School Reform), and Board Attorney, Dave Hespe.

Meeting Called to Order at 6:24 PM

Salute to the Flag

Action Agenda

Public Session:

Old Business

Approval of Meeting Minutes of October 8th, 2024

Request was made by Marshall White to amend the minutes of the October 8th meeting to reflect who the speakers were that addressed PTO concerns. The speakers were identified as: Alejandra Morales, Itziqueri Sihauca Morales, and Rocio Aviles Paz.

Motion to approve the minutes of October 8th, 2024 with the adjustment to show the speakers was made by Marshall White

Seconded by Paul Orellana

Vote: Unanimously Approved by the Board

Principal's Report Presented by Lorna Hassel

Month of October

Total Staff 118

Full Days Taken Off 146

Half Days Taken Off 28

Total # of Students 546

Student Absences 546

HIB Report Presented by Lorna Hassel

Lorna Hassel presented an overview of the school's HIB incidences.

New Business

Update on New High School Building, Construction, etc – Presented by Stephen Nichol via Tom McMahon

- ✚ Major work to start next week - footings
- ✚ Steel was ordered and should be going up in December
- ✚ Currently working on storm water
- ✚ Fittings starting the 18th
- ✚ Still hopeful for August completion... planning for Dec. 31 worst case scenario.

High School Happenings Presented by Stephen Nichol

- ✚ Vo-Tech Presentation – Looking into Junior and Senior Year programs with the VoTech School
- ✚ Parent Conferences – To take Place on November 19th and the 21st
- ✚ Marking Periods – First Marking Period Closes on November 15th
- ✚ Standardized Testing
- ✚ School Year Planning
- ✚ Sports Round-Up: Soccer & Volleyball has started, and it well attended. We are looking into basketball and possible bowling for the winter months.

Discussion Followed

Field Trips – Presented by Valarie Smith

- ✚ Kindergarten & First Grade went to Storybook Land for their Halloween Celebration
- ✚ Third Grade went to the Aquarium at Point Pleasant
- ✚ Seventh & Nineth Grades will be attending the Christmas Spectacular at Radio City (December 11th)
- ✚ Fifth Grade – Production at the Algonquin Theatre: The Life of Dr. Martin Luther King (February 27th)

Discussion Followed – More trips are being planned for the 2024-25 School Year.

Financials – Presented by David Block

Approval of Monthly Financial Report as Presented

Monthly Financial Reports (Bill Listings for the Months of October & November)

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Annual Charter School Fiscal Questionnaire

Motion to approve the financials & the Annual Charter School Fiscal Questionnaire was made by David Corso

Seconded by Roxanne Martin

Vote: unanimously approved by the Board

David Block also reported that the school's covid funds had been used and the account has been closed. Our annual financial audit is ongoing. And we will be having a food service audit shortly.

Board Comments: None

Announcements: There is no meeting scheduled for the Month of December.

Next Board Meeting will be Tuesday, January 14th.

Motion to Adjourn:

Made by Sharon Hollander

Seconded Raul Orellana

Vote: Unanimously Approved by the Board

Adjourned at 7:02 PM

These minutes were approved by the Board at the January 14th, 2025 meeting