

Ocean Academy Charter School Board of Trustees

Minutes – Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, October 11, 2022

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
Jim Muzikowski – Vice President
Marshall White
Thomas A. D’Ambola
Aase Marie Hare
Sharon Hollander
Roxanne Martin
Reverend Juan Angel Monge-Santiago - Absent

Valarie Smith (Board Secretary), Lorna Hassel (Principal), Dawn Dobb-Fossnes (Middle School Principal), David Block (School Business Administrator), Thomas McMahon (Facilities Consultant), and David Hespe (Board Attorney).

Meeting to be Called to Order – 6:15 PM

Salute to the Flag by Board President Anita Lepelstat

Action Agenda

Special Presentation of Five Year Founder Awards Presented by Lorna Hassel

Five Year Award Presentations to Founding Board of Trustee members: Anita Lepelstat, Jim Muzikowski, Marshall White, Aase Hare, Roxanne Martin, & Reverend Juan Angel Monge-Santiago.

Open Public Forum: Agenda Items Only No public representation in attendance.

Old Business

Update on School Turnaround – Presented by Nancy Guzman

Ms. Guzman gave a thorough presentation of what is happening in our School Turnaround Project regarding a more comprehensive initiative in targeting the State Standards and aligning & infusing them in our curriculum programs.

Update on High School Expansion Plans – Presented by Tom McMahon

Ocean Academy is moving forward on two fronts in regard to expanding from a K – 8 to a K – 12 school.

1 – Application to the Commissioner of Education is due on December 1st, 2022

Ocean Academy Charter School Board of Trustees

2 Tom is working with the Builder in regards to the physical High School which will be built on the lot next door.

3 Tom is also working with our Real Estate Attorney in drawing up the potential lease.

Marshall White motioned to give the Executive Director permission to sign a pending lease on the new facility based upon eventual permission for expansion from the NJ Department of Education upon Attorney Review.

Motion seconded by Sharon Hollander

Vote: Unanimously Approved by the Board

Threat Assessment Report – Presented by Valarie Smith

Ocean Academy has received a comprehensive Threat Assessment Review by the NJ State Police and Ocean County Office of the County Prosecutor under the guidance of NJ's Homeland Security Guidelines. Update and discussion of key findings.

Trespassing / Security Issue – The Fairways: We have experienced trespassers from the Fairways Community (the back portion of our land) cutting through school property to get to the Enclave development which is across the street. This has happened when school is in session and the students are out at play. Security has advised these individuals to please not cut across our property. It was met with strong resistance. We have contacted the Fairways Homeowners' Association about this situation.

Approval of Meeting Minutes of August 30, 2022 Presented by Valarie Smith

Motion to approve the August 30, 2022 Minutes made by Jim Muzikowski

Seconded by Roxanne Martin

Vote: Unanimously Approved by the Board

Update Community Relations – Presented by Valarie Smith, Lorna Hassel, & Dawn Cobb-Fossnes

In follow up to the Board's interest in Community Relations

1. Back to School Nights – Organized by Lorna Hassel & Dawn Cobb-Fossnes

Oct 13 Kindergarten and 1st grade

Oct 20 5th through 7th grade

Oct 27 2nd through 4th grade

The time is 6:00pm-7:00pm.

Ocean Academy Charter School Board of Trustees

2. Class Mothers – Organized by Valarie Smith

Most positions have been filled – two class mothers per class are being requested

3. Hispanic Heritage Month Focus – Lorna Hassel & Dawn Cobb-Fossnes

1. Friday, October 14th – Hispanic Dress Up Day
2. DNN (Dolphin News Network) Every day there is focus on someone in the Hispanic Community who has achieved notoriety in various areas of achievement.

Middle School Update – Presented by Dawn Cobb- Fossnes

General report of Middle School updates, achievements, and activities.

Principal's Report Presented by Lorna Hassel

New Hires

2 new paras were hired for the following positions:

Gina Gerena 2nd grade \$28,000

Danielle Misiak 4th grade \$28,000

Motion made by Aase Hare to approve the two new Paraprofessionals Hired

Second by Jim Muzikowski

Unanimously Approved by the Board

Attendance

Staff Attendance Report: Total Full Days Off - 98 Half Days Off - 23

Student Attendance Report - 203 Total Enrollment - 452

Action Agenda – New Business

New Board Member Application & Position – Presented by Valarie Smith

Stephen Nichol

Motion made by Anita Lepelstat to approve Stephen Nichol as a Board of Trustee Member to fill the open unexpired term (term ending September 2024)

Motion made to approve Stephen Nichols to fulfill the unexpired term ending in September 2024 made by Anita Lepelstat

Second by Jim Muzikowski

Unanimously Approved by the Board

Ocean Academy Charter School Board of Trustees

FINANCIAL presented by David Block

Report to Board on CSP Grant

To date, the school has received over \$313,000 in salaries and benefits for essential expansion level personnel. These staff members include our Middle School Principal, Music Teacher, Art Teacher, and School Counselor. Additionally, this grant has provided the opportunity for us to work closely with Porzio Law for Strategic Planning, as well as Ms. Nancy Guzman to further enhance our organizational performance. In regard to procurement, all district policies and state guidelines have been adhered to as a vast majority of expenditures have been personnel and consultants.

Secretary's Report and Bill List

Motion by Tom D'Ambola to Accept The Monthly Financial Reports as Presented by David Block
Seconded by Anita Lepelstat
Unanimously Approved by the Board

Board Comments - Invitation to a reception sponsored by Porzio, Bromberg, & Newman during the NJ School Board's Convention.

Announcements – Next Board of Trustees Meeting will be Tuesday, November 8th

Motion to Adjourn: 7:55 PM

Made by Anita Lepelstat
Second by Jim Muzikowski
Unanimously Approved by the Board

Minutes Approved at the November 8th, 2022 Board of Trustees Meeting.