

Ocean Academy Charter School Board of Education

Minutes – Board of Trustees Regular Meeting, January 9th, 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

Jim Muzikowski – Vice President

Marshall White **Absent**

Aase Marie Hare

Sharon Hollander

Roxanne Martin

Wendy Osorio

David Corso

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

Meeting Called to Order by Anita Lepelstat at 6:20 PM – Due to weather conditions, meeting was held virtually.

Action Agenda

Public Session:

Old Business

Approval of Meeting Minutes of November 14, 2023

Motion to approve the minutes of October 10, 2023 by Anita Lepelstat

Seconded by Jim Muzkowski

Vote – unanimously approved by the Board

Principal's Report Presented by Lorna Hassel

Month of November 2023

Total Student Enrollment: 497

Student Absences: 236

Staff Absences: Full Days: 60 & Half Days: 21

Month of December 2023

Total Student Enrollment: 497

Student Absences: 208

Staff Absences: Full Days: 108 & Half Days: 26

New Business

Attendance Incentive Committee Report FOR DISCUSSION Presented Dawn Cobb Fossnes

Dr. CobbFossnes reports on the findings of the Attendance Incentive Committee (Ad Hoc Committee)

The following teachers volunteered to serve on the Committee: Danielle Misiak, Mathew Abbott, and Antonietta DiMatteo.

Here are the Committee's findings/report:

- They suggested having a Google doc by department where teachers and paras schedule their days off when they have appointments, and the school places a limit on how many can take off each day.
- Consider doing a raffle once a month for those who have not missed any days and giving gift cards for the winners. Allow those who earn a raffle to have a choice of participating in the monthly raffle or save their raffle ticket for an end-of-year raffle that will be a larger prize.
- Each quarter gives a special gift when they have missed no days. (choice of prizes: reserved parking spot, money, special luncheon)

Discussion followed and the Board decided to take action on the recommendations.

Motion was made to approve the recommendations of the staff ad hoc committee – approving additional teacher/ staff compensation for perfect attendance was made by Dave Corso

Seconded by Sharon Hollander

Vote: unanimously approved by the Board

Resolution to Approve Acceptance of the State of NJ's Tutoring Grant of \$97,000 Presented by Dr. CobbFossnes

Ocean Academy has been awarded a \$97,000 grant for tutoring of students at-risk. The State Department of Education asks that the Board of Education approves of the award.

Motion to Approve & Accept the Tutoring Grant made by Anita Lepelstat

Seconded by David Corso

Vote: unanimously approved by the Board

Financials – Presented by David Block

Motion to Approve Financials (November, December, January) as presented by S.B.A. David Block.
Seconded by David Corso

Vote: unanimously approved by the Board

Annual Board Ethics Training Presented by David Hesse, Esq.

The annual mandatory Ethics Training (NJ School Ethics Act) was presented by David Hesse.

Board Comments: None

Announcements: None

Motion to Adjourn:

Motion to Adjourn made by Wendy Osorio

Second by Anita Lepelstat

Vote: unanimously approved by the Board