



Thursday, October 14, 2021

School Board Meeting Minutes

MEETING PLACE: 321 E. Third St., Bethlehem, PA 18015 @ 6:00pm - Commons

The President called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

I. Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence

II. Board Member Roll Call

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mario Acerra <input type="checkbox"/> Paul Braden <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> John Filipos	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cheryl Mueller <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rosemary Murdy-Haber <input type="checkbox"/> Norma Nunez-Ruch	<input type="checkbox"/> Len Perrett <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Frank Shipman <input type="checkbox"/> Margaret Smith <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jasmine Woodson
Administration: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carise Comstock, Superintendent & CEO <input type="checkbox"/> MaryJo Rosania-Harvie, Co-Principal <input type="checkbox"/> Lauren Sheldon, Co-Principal <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cheryl Schurz, Director of Finance & Board Secretary		

III. Executive Session:

Motion: The Board of Directors moves to go into Executive Session at 6.04pm for Personnel, Legal, and Property discussion.

MM: Filipos SM: Mueller Motion Carried: Yes-6, No-0, Abstentions-0

IV. Open Session:

The Board of Directors returns to Open Session at 6:17 pm.

Opening Remarks:

- Mr. Acerra, Board President
President Acerra thanked Dr. Comstock and the Administration for the safe and excellent job opening the school and remarked it is good to see that concerts are happening again at Charter Arts.
- Dr. Carise Comstock, Superintendent & CEO
Charter Arts received notification from PDE of template letters to be used with regards to Covid. Charter Arts updates PDE weekly with Covid counts. The school's covid dashboard on our website is updated regularly.
Graduation will be at Miller Symphony Hall this year.

VI. Public Comments: *(limited to 3 minutes per individual)*

Dr. Joe Sexton, a physician with LVHN and parent of a Visual Arts student, said he is interested in partnering with the school to establish a Medical Art Club and is available for "lectures". He would like to do a project with medicine and our visual art students.

Dr. Sexton said he does not support Critical Race Theory and is concerned with what his

daughter is learning. He is “seeking confidence that the school is not teaching Marxism or Critical Race Theory. My daughter knows her teachers’ political leanings.” He is concerned that students can be swayed toward a political view because of the influence teachers have on students. He believes current events are important to discuss in the classroom but all views should be presented.

VII. **Acceptance of Consent Agenda Items:**

- Acceptance of August 26, 2021 Meeting Minutes
- Co-Principal and Departmental Reports
- Operations Report (Facilities, Safety, Grants, Media, Technology)
- Superintendent & CEO Report

Motion: The Board of Directors approves the Consent Agenda.

MM: Murdy-Haber SM: Filipos Motion Carried: Yes-6, No-0, Abstentions-0

VIII. **Personnel Report**

Approval of October 2021 Personnel Report

Motion: Based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent & CEO, the Board of Directors approves the October 2021 Personnel Report.

MM: Mueller SM: Shipman Motion Carried: Yes-6, No-0, Abstentions-0

IX. **Committee Reports**

Finance Committee report by John Filipos

Acceptance of June 2021 and August 2021 Financial Reports

Motion: Based upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee, the Board of Directors accepts the June 2021 and August 2021 Financial Reports.

MM: Filipos SM: Mueller Motion Carried: Yes-6, No-0, Abstentions-0

Approval of Contracts

Motion: Based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent & CEO, the Board of Directors approve the following Contracts.

- Bayada Nursing
- Edulink Amendment
- Josten’s Yearbook Agreement
- MBI Contract
- Miller Symphony Hall for graduation

MM: Murdy-Haber SM: Filipos Motion Carried: Yes-6, No-0, Abstentions-0

Motion: Based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent & CEO, the Board of Directors approve the Greg Piel Contract.

MM: Mueller SM: Shipman Motion Carried: Yes-6, No-0, Abstentions-0

Resource Development Committee report by Frank Shipman

Mr. Shipman welcomed Ms. Nunez-Ruch and Mrs. Mueller to the Committee. The Committee has been meeting monthly and may begin to meet more than once a month. The Committee is assisting Mrs. Kovats-Bernat with balancing events and fundraising. The Committee is working on more grants, more corporate partnerships and a more targeted efforts. Mrs. Kovats-Bernat is working on the ‘Name a Theatre Seat’ campaign and the upcoming “Giving Tuesday” Campaign. The Gala of Dreams has been rescheduled for March 26, 2022.

Board Development Committee report by Paul Braden No report.

Curriculum Committee report by Rosemary Haber

Approval of the 2021-2022 Student Clubs

Motion: Based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent & CEO, the Board of Directors approve the following clubs:

- Book Club
- Moxie Club

MM: Curriculum Committee

Motion Carried:Yes-6,No-0,Abstentions-0

X. Old business None

XI. New business

Approval of PDE ESignature Resolution

Motion: Based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent & CEO, the Board of Directors ESignature Resolution.

MM: Mueller

SM: Filipos

Motion Carried:Yes-6,No-0,Abstentions-0

Approval of PDE 418 Lease Reimbursement 2020-2021.

Motion: Based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent & CEO, the Board of Directors approves the PDE 418 Lease Reimbursement 2020-2021.

MM: Filipos

SM: Murdy-Haber

Motion Carried:Yes-6,No-0,Abstentions-0

Board Affirmation Statement for Induction Plan, Professional Development, and Gifted Education Plan Assurances.

Motion: Based upon the recommendation of the Superintendent & CEO, the Board of Directors approves the Board Affirmation Statement to submit the Comprehensive Plan and supporting documents.

MM: Mueller

SM: Shipman

Motion Carried:Yes-6,No-0,Abstentions-0

XII. Public Comments: (limited to 3 minutes per individual) None.

XIII. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 6:47 pm.

MM: Woodson

SM: Filipos

Motion Carried:Yes-6,No-0,Abstentions-0

Next Meeting Date and Time: Thursday, December 16, 2021, 6pm - in person.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cheryl Schurz, Board Secretary