

**MEETING AGENDA OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FINN ACADEMY: AN ELMIRA CHARTER SCHOOL
610 Lake Street Elmira, New York 14901**

**7:00 PM
April 11, 2016**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 7:15 PM by Martina Baker.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

	Present	Absent
Martina Baker	__X__	_____
Jill Koski	__X__	_____
Kevin Murphy	__X__	_____
Maya Patel (nominated, ex officio pending approval)	__X__	_____
Katie Stowell	_____	__X__
Renée Sutton	__X__	_____
Lynn Winner	__X__	_____
Maggie Thurber (ex-officio)	__X__	_____

Also Attending

Parent Representatives from Finn Family Crew

Nichole Bocage

Jenica Drehmer

IV. WELCOME & MISSION MOMENT

At Finn Academy - An Elmira Charter School, we will engage students deeply in the arts, music, and in daily fitness. We will emphasize the importance of college attendance. We will nurture the character traits of leadership, scholarship, reflection, kindness, perseverance, and aspiration. We will strategically partner with community resources to be a model of best practice in education and to

make a measurable difference in student learning. We seek to increase the number of college and career ready students our community launches into a life and a future- by better preparing them for demands and rigor of high school.

Recognition of Scholar Maxwell Anderson – Presentation of Certificate Honoring Scholar for Donating his allowance to support Finn Academy.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Resolution to approve/**amend**/add/table/delete agenda items

(delete redundant resolution; add consent resolution below)

So moved:

Seconded:

All in Favor:

Opposed:

VI. Head of School Report

Academics

Dashboard

Operations

Dashboard

Fiscal

Dashboard

VII. CONSENT ITEMS

Resolution: To approve \$2,218.80 for Terra Nova Scoring and approximately \$4000 for Terra Nova June Testing

Resolution: To approve purchases of Finn Family Crew Expedition items, per their request & approvals.

Resolution: To approve the payment to Birnie Bus company (still tbd) for bus monitor (approximately \$13,000).

~~Resolution: To approve the creation of business, tax exempt on-line accounts with Amazon Business Prime, Walmart, Sam's Club, and Lowe's.~~

Resolution: To accept donation of Hydroponics equipment, valued at approximately \$2100 from Upstate Hydroponics.

Resolution: To accept donation of various items for the STREaM lab, as outlined by STREaM Director, Lia Navone.

Resolution: To file an intercept for any monies owed by districts, in conjunction with advisement, prior to the May 1, 2016 anticipated receipt of billing.

So Moved: MB Seconded: JK In Favor: All
Opposed: None

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Academics

- a. Accountability - Lynn Winner reported that the Strategic Planning Session was helpful in considering the importance of academic accountability.
- b. Lottery – Martina reported that the lottery was conducted with standing room only and great excitement as well as great disappointment for those selected on the waiting list. The lottery results will be certified by the auditor Mengel, Metzger & Barr, and families notified by May 1, 2016. Districts of residence will be notified by May 1, 2016.
- c. STREaM
Lia Navone, Director of STREaM/Edible SchoolYard, shared artifacts and photos of scholars engaged in the STREaM lab in the course of working on their expeditions. She requested the Board’s advisement about community involvement and potential fundraising.
- d. NYS Testing
Finn Academy is waiting to hear about scoring of tests, not provided as part of the DATA Warehouse Services

B. Finance

- a. Implications of Strategic Planning, which took place on Saturday, April 9, 2016, to focus on past, present, and future realities, requirements, and opportunities.
- b. Public Relations with Respect to Communicating About Finance
 - i. Referendum May 17, 2016
 - ii. ECSD has reported that the charter school will result in the loss of staffing positions
 - iii. Transition Aid (80%) provided to offset district costs – not yet publicized

C. Governance

- a. Complaint Received
- b. The Board of Trustees will enter into executive session to discuss issues pertaining to personnel matters, in accordance with the following provision of the New York State Open Meetings Law (<https://www.dos.ny.gov/coog/openmeetlaw.html>):

Resolution: To charge the Academic Committee to consult advisement in order to review and draft a policy regarding testing.

**So Moved: RS Seconded: MB All In Favor: All
Opposed: None**

D. FACILITIES

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Parent Representative, Jenica Drehmer, has just finished working with the NECSN for an interview on the Extra Credit Blog.

Parent Representative, Nicole Bocage, reported that a lot of parents on the Finn Families page, saying that they would like to have the classes in 3rd grade return to the smaller sizes, and are wondering if it will return to the smaller sizes after testing.

- A. Resolution: To form an ad hoc committee to involve the Board, community, parents, and staff to provide guidance and assistance in the development of the Finn Academy Edible SchoolYard.**

**So Moved: LW Seconded: JK In Favor: All
Opposed: None**

- B. Resolution: To establish policy around the imperative for *fundraising*, including, but not limited to, procedures, vision, connection of projects to vision, identifying potential donors, establishing an ad hoc Fundraising Committee, staffing, wishlists, communication, and grants.**

**So Moved: MB Seconded: RS In Favor: All
Opposed: None**

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution to adjourn meeting at:

**So Moved: LW Seconded: RS In Favor: All
Opposed: None**