

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

**November 5, 2018
6:00 PM**

I. CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees was called to order at 6:06 PM by Jill Koski.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

	Present	Absent
Kathryn Coletta	_____	_____x_____
Jill Koski	_____x_____	_____
Kevin Murphy	_____	_____x_____
Maya Patel	_____x_____	_____
Cynthia Raj	_____x_____	_____
Katie Stowell	_____x_____	_____
Renée Sutton	_____	_____x_____
Lynn Winner	_____x_____	_____
Nichole Bocage (parent representative)	_____x_____	_____
Jenica Drehmer (parent representative)	_____x_____	_____
Martina Baker (ex-officio)	_____x_____	_____
Aimee Ciarlo (ex-officio)	_____x_____	_____
Jeremy Wheeler (ex-officio)	_____x_____	_____

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.

Finn's first core value recognition ceremony of the year took place at a recent community circle. An academic recognition ceremony is coming up in December. Finn's annual veteran's breakfast will occur on Nov. 7 at 8:30. A press release on that has been sent.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Resolution to approve agenda items.

So Moved: Maya **Seconded:** Lynn **In Favor:** All
Opposed: None

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

Deborah Shumaker representing an organization called the Association for Child Character Education spoke to the board to request permission to send literature home to families regarding their bible study classes. The program requires release time from classes for one hour each week. Child Character would like to send permission slips home for parents to sign. The board requested that Child Character Education provide more clarity and contact information in their letter home to parents.

VII. PARENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

Parent representatives reported that there were lots of positive responses to the Finn Family Crew sponsored fall carnival and to the T-shirt provided to all scholars. Both parent reps

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. FINANCE

Discussion: The Board discussed the findings of the IT Audit of Finn completed by the State Comptroller's office. This audit did not result in a management letter, indicating that the school is in good shape. Finn is preparing a corrective action plan in response for board approval.

Resolution: To approve the quote from Tequipment incorporated in the amount of \$4093.90 for MakerSpace supplies, as funded by the grand from the Community Foundation.

Resolution: To accept the 2017-2018 Audit as presented and submitted to the SUNY Charter Schools Institute and NYSED by the 11/1/18 submission date.

So Moved: Lynn Seconded: Katie S. In Favor: All

Opposed: None

B. GOVERNANCE

Discussion: A proposal was made to revisit the mission statement. The general consensus is that it is too long and needs streamlining, as discussed during the Board Retreat. Next governance committee meeting date was set to November 26 at 6PM. Crew survey results will be discussed at that meeting.

Resolution: To approve the minutes from the October Meeting of the Board of Trustees.

Resolution: To approve the academic Intervention Services Policy as presented.

So moved: Maya

Second: Lynn

In favor: All

Opposed: None

C. ACADEMICS

Discussion: Date for the next Academics Committee meeting was set to Nov. 19 at 3:30 PM.

IX. REPORT OF THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Discussion focused on issues related to renewal, expanding to upper middle school grades next year, 3rd floor renovations and additional staffing necessary to accommodate a 7th grade cohort, preparation for enrollment and staff recruitment for AY19-20. Martina updated the board on her outreach to the district on monetary discrepancies and transportation issues.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution to adjourn meeting at: 8:30

So Moved: Lynn

Seconded: Katie S.

In Favor: All

Opposed: None