

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

**November 4, 2019  
6:00 PM**

**I. CALL TO ORDER at 6:07 by Renee Sutton**

**II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**III. ROLL CALL**

	Present	Absent
Kathryn Coletta	___X___	_____
Jill Koski	___X___	_____
Maya Patel	___X___	_____
Cynthia Raj	___X___	_____
Katie Stowell	___X___	_____
Renée Sutton	___X___	_____
Lynn Winner	___X___	_____
Nichole Bocage (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 we promote an inclusive, rigorous and nurturing environment to best prepare our children for their future and to cultivate a community of scholars, leaders and friends.

Finn’s 5<sup>th</sup> annual Veteran’s Day breakfast will happen this week. This is a great opportunity for kids to honor local community of Vets. In the past 80-100 guests have attended. It is also a great opportunities for conversations about core values.

**V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**So Moved:** Jill      **Seconded:** Lynn      **In Favor:** all  
**Opposed:** none

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENT**

Catie Hatch from FFC reported that FFC is gifting a Finn Academy flash-light keychain for each veteran who attends.

**VII. PARENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT**

After serving the board since Finn opened its doors, Nicole Bocage is stepping down from her role as parent representative. Members of the board expressed their deep gratitude for all of her work in communicating with families and bringing their concerns and feedback to the board, and for her very thoughtful contributions to board discussions.

**VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. FINANCE**

Martina provided an update on Finn’s fiscal policies for CSI. A member of the Kirisits team is working toward completing the update in December.

Martina is working with Lisa Kirisits to recast the budget to better reflect actual (vs. predicted) enrollment. Her goal is to have the budget ready for the December board meeting.

Finn was recently awarded a \$9,500.00 grant from the Leprino Foods foundation.

**Resolution:** To approve payment to Copy Express in the amount of \$2,049.20 for curriculum materials.

**Resolution:** To approve the proposal from Bill’s Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning in the amount of \$3,635.

**So Moved:** Maya      **Seconded:** Katie      **In Favor:** all  
**Opposed:** None

**B. GOVERNANCE**

Governance will meet On Nov. 21 at 4 PM to discuss several items, including revising bereavement leave, enrollment plan, policy for replacing our parent representatives, and next steps in convening a transition committee for students completing their final years at Finn.

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

**Resolution:** To reelect Trustee Jill Koski to a two-year term on the Board of Trustees.

**Resolution:** To amend the school calendar to make December 2<sup>nd</sup> and January 27<sup>th</sup> full Conference Days for staff.

**So Moved:** Katie                      **Seconded:** Jill                      **In Favor:** all  
**Opposed:** None

**C. ACADEMICS**

Academics committee will meet Nov. 7<sup>th</sup>.

**IX. REPORT OF THE LEADERSHIP TEAM**

Martina discussed trying to get completed CEP forms back from all Finn families to more accurately report the number of eligible students at Finn. This number is extremely important because it is how we calculate our proportion of economically disadvantaged students. Finn’s academic performance is judged annually against that of schools with similar numbers of economically disadvantaged students by SUNY.

Our last billing of the ECSD was Oct 1<sup>st</sup> and we were underpaid by approximately \$100,000.

Aimee and Martina recently attended the New York Charter Schools Conference in Syracuse

The SUNY board of trustees will vote on the CSI recommendations for charters that submitted renewal applications this year on Feb. 25, 2020.

**X. EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Resolution:** To move into Executive Session for purpose 1.f (below):

**So Moved:** Maya                      **Seconded:** Jill                      **In Favor:** All  
**Opposed:** None.

(1.f. Upon a majority vote of its total membership, taken in an open meeting pursuant to a motion identifying the general area or areas of the subject or subjects to be considered, a public body may conduct an executive session for the below enumerated purposes only, provided, however, that no action by formal vote shall be taken to appropriate public moneys: f. the medical, financial, credit or employment history of a particular person or corporation, or matters leading to the appointment, employment, promotion, demotion, discipline, suspension, dismissal or removal of a particular person or corporation;)

**Resolution:** To return from Executive Session

**So Moved:** Katie S.

**Seconded:** Lynn

**In Favor:** All  
**Opposed:** None.

**Resolution:** To accept the personnel package as presented

**So Moved:** Jill

**Seconded:** Katie C.

**In Favor:** All  
**Opposed:** None.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

**Resolution to adjourn meeting at: 8:00 PM**

**So Moved:** Cynthia

**Seconded:** Lynn

**In Favor:** All

**Opposed:** None