

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

**January 13, 2020  
6:00 PM**

**I. CALL TO ORDER at 6:09 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_	_____
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.

Jenica Drehmer, 7<sup>th</sup> grade teacher and her student, Emma, gave a presentation to the board on a 7<sup>th</sup> grade class project called Finn Water Givers. This is a fundraising project to help a community in Sudan build a well and grew out of the curriculum of the family and consumer sciences class work. Students have been very engaged in this project: developing a vision and project plan, a logo, a newspaper, and craft items to raise funds and awareness.

**V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

<b>So Moved:</b>	<b>Katie S</b>	<b>Seconded:</b>	<b>Maya</b>	<b>In Favor:</b>	<b>All</b>
				<b>Opposed:</b>	<b>None</b>

**VI. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**VII. PARENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT**

None

**VIII. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. FINANCE**

**New Business:** Girls on the Run

Martina explained what it would mean for Finn to become an after-school Girls on the Run site and how this links to Finn's core values and commitment to wellness. She also asked the board for approval to support stipends for staff willing to serve as coaches. The board is supportive of the project and noted the budget line for stipends. There is no need for a resolution at this time, but there may be a future resolution to approve monies for coach stipends.

**B. GOVERNANCE**

Governance committee did not meet in December. Information has been sent out to families regarding the need for new parent/family representatives of the board. There has already been some response, though nothing as yet submitted.

The board's next retreat with FLI is January 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:30. Maya will circulate relevant documents from FLI for other board members to review prior to the 1/27 meeting.

The SUNY Board of Trustees vote to approve charter renewals has been rescheduled to Feb. 11, 2020 at 1 PM in NYC. A group from Finn will be leaving Elmira at 7 AM to arrive in time for this meeting. Afterward, if there is time, Renee is hoping to visit a charter school, or visit with a charter's board members, or debrief at FLI.

**Resolution:** To approve the minutes from the December meeting of the Board of Trustees as amended to accurately reflect the date of the November Governance Committee meeting.

**So Moved:** Maya

**Seconded:** Lynn

**In Favor:** Katie C, Katie S, Cynthia

**Opposed:** None

**Abstain:** Renee

**C. ACADEMICS**

The Academics Committee met on Jan. 9 and discussed next steps for data meetings with teachers based on data collected from the mock NYS assessments. Teachers will work through the data, pick a standard, work out instruction targeting that standard and progress monitor, before a 2<sup>nd</sup> mock assessment later in January. This 2<sup>nd</sup> mock assessment will help teachers see how their purposeful interventions are moving scholars' performance.

Theresa shared a data dashboard that she has created for monitoring the at risk population's progress. The dashboard updates with each marking period and outlines how many at risk (RTI and SPED) scholars are making progress toward or meeting their goals.

**IX. REPORT OF THE LEADERSHIP TEAM**

A Transition Committee to assist Finn's 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade scholars to transition to their new school for AY20-21 has been formed and has had its first meeting on 1/13/20. Members of the committee include trustees, Finn staff, and parents. The committee discussed progress to date in Finn's outreach to area schools for information and school visits. The committee discussed the need to collect information from families about their needs and drafted a survey to send home to families. The committee also discussed hosting an open house at Finn for families to meet with representatives and scholar-ambassadors from area schools, and surveying scholars about their concerns and needs. The Transition committee will next meet on 1/28/20 at 3 PM.

**X. ADJOURNMENT**

**Resolution to adjourn meeting at: 7:15**

**So Moved:** Lynn

**Seconded:** Katie

**In Favor:** All

**Opposed:** None