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

October 4, 2021
6:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER at 6:05 by Renee Sutton

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

	Present	Absent
Kathryn Coletta	_____	___x_____
Jill Koski	____x____	_____
Maya Patel	____x____	_____
Cynthia Raj	___x_____	_____
Ashley Skiff	_____	____x____
Katie Stowell	___x_____	_____
Renée Sutton	____x____	_____
Lynn Winner	_____	___x_____
Martina Baker (ex-officio)	_____x___	_____
Aimee Ciarlo (ex-officio)	____x____	_____
Sabrina Morrison (Parent Rep)	___x_____	_____
Karen Kuty (Teacher Rep)	_____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 is kicking off two committees this week that are aligned with design elements and core values: the Wellness committee and the SEL and school culture committee.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

none

VII. PARENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

Sabrina reported some concerns from parents of our youngest scholars about receiving more progress updates. She has also received a number of complaints from parents about other parents' behaviors in the parking lot on the Lake Rd side of the building during drop off and pick up. Aside from these issues, Sabrina reported that most parents are happy with the school and especially its leadership.

Upcoming Finn Family Crew events include a Finn-ware clothing sale, the October carnival and a dine to donate initiative.

VIII. TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Karen report that the school has just wrapped up the Fall 21 round of NWEA testing to gather base line data for the year. There are 46 new to Finn scholars and large amount of them are below grade level; teachers are finding themselves having to differentiate more than ever before. Karen reported the need for more centers and more manipulatives for younger scholars as the two big things teachers are currently talking about.

Karen also reported that she and the other instructional support teacher, Deb Breen have started coaching, starting with the new-to-Finn staff members and those classes impacted the most by remote instruction.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. GOVERNANCE

The next governance meeting is this Thursday Oct. 7. At this meeting the committee will discuss the SchoolWorks and Metis proposals.

New Business: SchoolWorks and Metis proposals

Resolution: To approve the minutes from the August and September regular meetings of the Board of Trustees.

Resolution: To approve the candidate for Parent Representative to the Board of Trustees, Grades 3-6.

So Moved: Maya Seconded: Cynthia In Favor: all
Opposed: none

B. FINANCE

New Business: Lisa Kirisits will provide the end of year financial statements from June for review. These must be reviewed by the board prior to November 1st.

The finance committee will schedule a meeting with our auditors and record it.

Resolution: To approve payment to DeMuth Electric in the amount of $4,365.10.

Resolution: To approve the contract with Terps Enterprises for transportation for the 2021-2022 school year.

Resolution: To approve the engagement letter with Lumsden & McCormick, LLC to conduct the school's annual audit.

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

C. ACADEMICS

The Academics Committee met Sept. 30. The committee discussed the coaching program, how Deb and Karen will share the work of coaching, and the lead teacher program. There is currently only one literacy interventionist in the school, Alyssa Beers, and there is still no math interventionist.

X. REPORT OF THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Martina gave an update on Covid-related issues for the school. Monitoring and implementing guidance, communicating with families, and tracking cases and quarantines has consumed a great deal of time. Finn is on track to conduct in-house symptomatic testing with a 24 hour turn around.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

So Moved: **Maya** **Seconded:** **Cynthia** **In Favor:** All

Opposed: None

(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: d. discussions regarding proposed, pending or current litigation; 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: **Maya** **Seconded:** **Jill** **In Favor:** All

Opposed: **None**

Resolution: To accept the personnel package as presented in Executive Session

So Moved: **Cynthia** **Seconded:** **Katie** **In Favor:** All

Opposed: **None**

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution: To adjourn meeting at 7:27

So Moved: **Katie S** **Seconded:** **Cynthia** **In Favor:** **all**

Opposed: None