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

November 8, 2021
6:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER at 6:04 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_____	_____
Karen Kuty (Teacher Rep)	__x_____	_____
Sabrina Morrison (Parent Rep)	___x_____	_____
Jen Halladay Fetterman (Parent 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 will celebrate its 7th annual Veteran's Day breakfast on Weds Nov. 10. Finn's kitchen staff and volunteers will prepare meals for over 100 vets. Breakfast will be delivered via drive-up service and a flag ceremony is scheduled for 9 AM.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Resolution to approve/amend/add/table/delete agenda items to include an additional item under finance to approve financial statements

So Moved: Maya **Seconded: Katie C** **In Favor: Aye**
Opposed: None

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

VII. PARENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

Sabrina highlighted some Finn Family Crew events: fall carnival saw good attendance despite the rainy weather, the October fundraiser raised over $800, on Friday FFC is hosting a free event at Joycrest skating rink for scholars and families, and FFC provided a teacher/staff appreciation breakfast last month that also included gift cards for drivers, substitutes and monitors.

Sabrina reported that some parents would like to end mask-wearing. Renee addressed this issue by explaining that the board does not want to make vaccines mandatory. The only other alternative that would keep everyone safe is to ask that people wear masks. The school is going to keep listening for the guidance from the NY state depts of health and education to follow their guidance as best we can. Martina added that it is still a requirement by the state that we wear masks – this is a prerequisite of being back in school in person.

Jen is new to the position of parent rep and introduced herself to the board.

VIII. TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Karen reported that the staff seems to be feeling a little bit settled and were grateful for new materials purchased in response to needs assessments. The first expedition celebrations of the school year are happening this week and next. Teaches are hosting these celebrations in house with staff coming through to help crews celebrate. Some are providing virtual options with films and books made by scholars.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ryan Dunlap provided a detailed overview of the Practicum policy at the last Governance Committee meeting and provided a brief description for the board this evening.

A. GOVERNANCE

Resolution: To re-elect Jill Koski to a 2-year term on the Board of Trustees.

Resolution: To approve the Practicum Policy, as presented, to be added to the Finn Employee Handbook.

Resolution: To fix the number of Trustees for the Finn Academy Board at nine (9).

Resolution: To nominate Holly Strickland to the Board of Trustees of Finn Academy.

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

B. FINANCE

Finance committee met prior to the Nov. 1st deadline and approved the financial statements on behalf of the board. The board still needs to ratify.

Resolution: To approve the subscription with Teachers Pay Teachers, as presented.

Resolution: To approve the quote from Camfil, as presented.

Resolution: To approve the PSA for 25 service hours from Integrated Systems, as presented.

Resolution: To approve the purchase from CDW-G, as presented.

Resolution: To approve the renewal of Guided Readers, as presented.

Resolution: To ratify the approval of the June 2021 audited financial statements, as approved by the Finance Committee.

So Moved: Ashley **Seconded: Katie C** **In Favor: All**
Opposed: None

C. ACADEMICS

Lynn summarized the most recent Academics Committee meeting and felt encouraged by how the model of the instructional team is working and how the RTI process is working.

X. REPORT OF THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Aimee provided an overview of the dashboard and reviewed suspensions, attendance and enrollment. Martina reviewed the financial dashboard and progress toward providing all proofs of residence to the ECSD. She also shared the parent/guardian survey results from October: Our positivity rate was 90 or above Karen reviewed the NWEA data.

Martina also updated the board on Covid testing in the school.

Aimee updated the board on summer session planning. This is a good time to survey families for feedback on what summer session can look like this summer (masks, social distancing, community excursions, building temperatures).

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

So Moved: **Jill** **Seconded:** **Katie C** **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: **Katie** **Seconded:** **Jill** **In Favor:** all

Opposed: none

Resolution: To accept personnel package as presented in executive sessions

So Moved: **Maya** **Seconded:** **Ashley** **In Favor:** all

Opposed: none

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution: To adjourn the meeting.

So Moved: Katie S **Seconded: Lynn** **In Favor: all**
Opposed: None