MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FINN ACADEMY: AN ELMIRA CHARTER SCHOOL
610 Lake Street Elmira, New York 14901
November 14, 2022
6:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER 6:02 PM by Renee Sutton

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

	Present	Absent
Kathryn Coletta	___x____	_____
Jill Koski	____x___	_____
Maya Patel	_____x___	_____
James Pfiffer	___x____	_____
Katie Stowell	___x____	_____
Holly Strickland	_____	____x___
Renée Sutton	___x____	_____
Martina Baker (ex-officio)	___x____	_____
Aimee Ciarlo (ex-officio)	___x____	_____
Ryan Dunlap (Teacher Rep)	____x___	_____
Sabrina Morrison (Parent Rep)	___x____	_____
Jen 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 Celebrated its 8th Annual Veteran's breakfast, hosting about 50 veterans for an in-person breakfast. The school also recently hosted visitors from SUNY for its renewal visit. One of these visitors, Mike L, is a director of communications for SUNY CSI and will be writing a spotlight about FINN focused on experiential learning.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Resolution to approve/amend/add resolution under governance to nominate a trustee/table approval of minutes under gov/delete agenda items:

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

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

A parent addressed the board with questions about AM and PM bus transportation, and whether this is being provided by the Elmira City School District.

VII. PARENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

Parent representatives inquired about the dress code for teaching staff and were referred to the policies outlined in the employee handbook. Parent representatives also inquired about flashing traffic signs warning drivers of the school speed limit zone.

Parent representatives also updated the board on its progress toward fulfilling requests for Thanksgiving boxes and Owl Tree donations.

VIII. TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Teacher representative Ryan Dunlap reported a general sense of accomplishment among staff after the recent SUNY renewal visit. He read a letter from Jamie Clune, lead kindergarten teacher commending school leadership, the academic director and instructional support team, and lead teachers in preparing staff and scholars for the visit.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. GOVERNANCE

Katie Coletta reported that the Governance Committee met to review the outcomes of October's strategic planning meeting. A smaller group of the board will meet with Nicole on the 22nd virtually to continue working on the top 3 priorities, at 3:30.

Kevin Brimmer introduced himself to the board and summarized his interests in joining the board. His

application materials were circulated by Martina earlier in the month and reviewed by the board prior to the meeting.

Resolution: To approve the nomination of Kevin Brimmer as new trustee of the board for Finn Academy.

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

B. FINANCE

Resolution: To approve payment to McDonald Contracting in the amount of $3,690.00.

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

C. ACADEMICS

The Academics Committee met last week. The instructional leadership team shared data from the NY State assessment administered in Spring 2023 and comparative data with ECSD and several surrounding districts.

So Moved: **Seconded:** **In Favor:**
Opposed:

X. REPORT OF THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

Aimee reviewed the data dashboard. She reported that both attendance and discipline data are good. Enrollment is currently at 350. She also reported results of the recent audit of free and reduced lunch data (52% eligible). All Finn families receive free lunch and breakfast.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Resolution: To move into Executive Session for purpose 1.d and 1.f (below): at 7:26 and invite Kevin to stay for executive session.

So Moved: Jim **Seconded: Jill** **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: Katie S** **In Favor: All**

Opposed: None

Resolution: To approve the Personnel Packet as presented during Executive Session.

So Moved: Katie C **Seconded: Katie S** **In Favor: All**

Opposed: None

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution to adjourn meeting at 8:00 Pm

So Moved: Jill **Seconded: Jim** **In Favor: All**

Opposed: None