AGENDA OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FINN ACADEMY: AN ELMIRA CHARTER SCHOOL
610 Lake Street Elmira, New York 14901
November 13, 2023
6:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ROLL CALL

	Present	Absent
Kevin Brimmer	___X_____	_____
Kathryn Coletta	__X_____	_____
Jean Papandrea	___X_____	_____
James Pfiffer	__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.

Our paper charter came in the mail and we framed it to be hung in a central location. Veterans Breakfast had 70 guests, speaks to our core values, and community event, and vets loved it. Finn staff and scholars love it.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

VII. PARENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT: None

VIII. TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE REPORT: Our holiday party cookie exchange Dec. 21 at 3 p.m. Sunshine provides snacks. See Martina for a cookie exchange. 25 people signed up so far. Gordy Fulkrod wants Finn to get an Electronic vehicle charger for staff as electric vehicles become more popular. Anonymous concern for the board: Need a change in contractual hours something needs to be voted on. Modify work hours from 7:30 to 3:30 to 7:30 to 3:15. Advocate for a 40-hour work week, considering work done after hours. Staff would like to leave early on Friday. During the week most staff work past 3:30. Admin is flexible with staff who have travel plans or family plans.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. GOVERNANCE

New Business: Report from Webinar on Executive Session

Resolution: To nominate Patricia Richards to a two-year term on the Board of Trustees.

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

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

B. FINANCE

Resolution: To approve the September Financial Statements as prepared by Kirisits and Associates.

Resolution: To approve the quote from Cummins Sales and Service, as presented.

Resolution: To approve the quote from Newsela Inc., as presented.

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

C. ACADEMICS

- Academics: talked about formal observations and process and coaching program and how it goes, overview of NYS assessment and what's changing in 23 and 24 results from NWEA Testing program. All processes here are thorough and supportive. Looked at teacher evaluation timelines. The process is extremely rigorous and thorough. Pre-observation process with teacher input. Observation is complex. Coaching program done walkthroughs, peer observations, grade level meetings, and feedback. ELA and math results, why differences in grades. It became clear how deep the impact of the COVID-19 years was. K-4 suffering because of the impact of COVID and family's support of learning at home. We do have students on the high-performance end. There is enrichment instruction happening for those kids. There will be changes in the process with NYS from paper to electronic. Still awaiting data to be released to see how our students compare to host districts. Are there things we can do to support families in literacy and math, i.e. academic nights, etc.

X. REPORT OF THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

- Dec. 13, 3:30-4 p.m. Enrichment scholars will do their presentation. Board members are invited.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

So Moved: Katie **Seconded:** Kevin **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 **at 7:14 p.m.**

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

Opposed: None

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

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

Opposed: None

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution to adjourn meeting at: 7:16 p.m.

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

Opposed: None