AGENDA OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
FINN ACADEMY: AN ELMIRA CHARTER SCHOOL
610 Lake Street Elmira, New York 14901
January 8, 2024
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_____	_____
Patricia Richards	____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)	_____	_____
Jen Fetterman (Parent Rep)	_____	_____

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 Owl Tree Program supported 81 children; many parents were tearful at pickup so thankful for it.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

VII. PARENT REPRESENTATIVES REPORT

Raised about $64 on first hockey game fundraiser; Feb. 10 FFC is hosting the fifth and sixth grade dance. Jan. 13, FFC hosting free skating at Joycrest.

VIII. TEACHER REPRESENTATIVE REPORT

Enrichment program 3rd graders raised $150 for SPCA and 4th graders raised $300 for children's miracle network. We are going to do check presentations to each organization. Five teachers contacted Teacher Rep about health insurance increase. Deductibles increasing. Inflation causing financial problems now. "Feels almost like a pay cut." Or others dropping down to tier that covers less. Some teachers are looking for outside work or will they be able to stay at Finn because of insurance costs.

Discussion: Can Finn increase its portion of funds for health care? About 50% of our staff opts out and are on spouse insurance or other coverages. We don't have budget resources to reduce health insurance or to self-insurance.

Possible to do fund-raising to help. Grants for health insurance are not sustainable. BOCEs offers little or no assistance or services. Could we partner with a private non-profit organization in our area? Should we form a committee to explore options? Difficult because we are halfway through budget year, and we can't make cuts in other areas to cover insurance costs. Staff to explore some options and the finance committee will meet later this month to further discuss the issue.

IX. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. GOVERNANCE

Resolution: To approve the minutes from the December meeting of the Board of Trustees.

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

B. FINANCE

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

Resolution: To approve the agreement with FTI Consulting Technology LLC, as presented.

Resolution: To approve the PSA with Integrated Systems, as presented.

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

C. ACADEMICS

X. REPORT OF THE LEADERSHIP TEAM

December Data: Slight dip in attendance with increased illnesses.

2023-24 NYS Assessment: We outperformed ECSD in all areas. The longer scholars are enrolled here, the better they perform. Our proficiency scores going up with each grade.

We want to create an online application this year for enrollment. Jim Pfiffer volunteered to chair a publicity/promo committee.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

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

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

Opposed: None

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

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

Opposed: None

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Resolution to adjourn meeting at: 7:44 pm

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

Opposed: None