

**Niagara Charter School
Minutes of Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
December 20, 2022 at 5:00 PM**

Trustees in Attendance: James C. Muffoletto, Amy Meshulam, Mary Scheeler, Ricky Scott, Christina Lesh, Lauren Howe-Nalls

Staff in Attendance: Dr. Darci Novak, Jill Keicher, Lynn Kasper, Theresa Boniface, Jennifer Morgante, Kelsey Ansec, Joshua Cain, Rebecca Armstrong

Others: Jonathan Schechter, Timothy Hyland

Excused Absence: Judy DiCamillo, Christine Smith-Koziel

Unexcused Absence:

The meeting was called to order at 5:07 PM with President, James Muffoletto presiding.

Public Notice was confirmed.

The agenda was approved on a motion made by Mrs. Meshulam and seconded by Mrs. Howe-Nalls.

The minutes for the special meeting of November 8, 2022 were approved on a motion made by Mrs. Meshulam and seconded by Mr. Scott. The motion was passed with all in favor and no abstentions.

The minutes for the regular meeting of November 15, 2022 were approved on a motion made by Mrs. Scheeler and seconded by Mrs. Howe-Nalls. The motion was passed with all in favor and no abstentions.

AAO Report, Jill Keicher

Leaders of the Month: Students demonstrated Habit 2: Begin With the end in Mind for the month of November.

Crew 101-Jy'ell C.; Crew 102-Angela D.; Crew 103-Tiarra E.; Crew 104-Skylynn M.; Crew 105-Valerie S.; Crew 106-Kamari B.; Crew 107-Jude H.; Crew 108-La'Shay H.; Crew 114-Aaron B.; Crew 116-Kaiden M.; Crew 117-Tahlia P.; Crew 118-Layleona P.; Crew 119-Benjamin S.; Music-Ta'Niyah P.; Gym-My'Lajah H.; NCS support staff-Franklin H.; Mrs. Felmet-Za'Nyiah C.

Kelsey Ansec, 6th Grade Teacher, and Officer Josh Cain, Resource Officer, were nominated for Employee Leaders of the Month for the month of November.

Mrs. Boniface and Mrs. Morgante introduced 2nd grade students Kamari Banks and Valerie Swain, who presented their final products in their module which were fossil toolkits.

CAO Report, Dr. Darci Novak

Professional Development:

- Michelle from EL Education was at NCS for 1 day observing and giving feedback on crew lessons.
- BOCES coordinators Susan Cyrulik, Elizabeth Kraemer, Brian Blaszak, Nicole Kerner, and Mary Jo Casilio were here for a total of 5 days including, behavior management support, Science curriculum support, ELA test data, and computer-based testing support.
- Aimee Gonzalez, Theresa Boniface & Linnea DuFour attended Adaptive School Foundation Seminar at Erie 1 BOCES
- Sherrie Tracy attended Instructional Coaching Consortium at Erie 1 BOCES.
- Kim Abrams attended The Building Blocks of Teaching Yoga to Kids through Yogi Beans.
- 2 staff members (Kim Abrams & Dana Burwell) attended workshops through Orleans Niagara BOCES Teacher Center including ENL Share Group and Deep Diversity: A Compassionate, Scientific Approach to Achieving Racial Justice.

General Updates:

- Dr. Novak updated the trustees on the New York State assessment scores in comparison with New York State, Niagara Falls City School District (NFCSD), Niagara Wheatfield Central School District (NWCSD), and other local charter schools. Dr. Novak highlighted the following:
 - 3rd grade outperformed NFCSD, NWCSD, and the state in both math and ELA
 - 4th grade outperformed Niagara Falls CSD, Niagara Wheatfield, and the state in math
 - 6th grade outperformed the NFCSD in both ELA and math
 - Overall, NCS outperformed NFCSD in both ELA and math
 - Overall, NCS outperformed NYS in math
 - Overall, NCS outperformed 4 local charter schools in math
 - Overall, NCS outperformed 2 local charter schools in ELA
- A review of the dashboard took place.

Academic Committee

Mrs. Mary Scheeler

- There is no formal Academic Committee report.

Governance:

Lynn Kasper

- There is no formal Governance Committee report.
- Mr. Muffoletto reminded trustees to review the Strategic Plan and to provide input to the Committee Chair with respect to updating the plan.

Finance Committee

- Mr. Scott reviewed financial statements as of November 30, 2022.

Unfinished Business

Jonathan Schechter, Attorney for Niagara Charter School, presented on options to hold hybrid meetings. We can have video conferencing for trustees not in attendance as long as we have a physical quorum in a public place in Niagara County. Mr. Schechter will develop a policy and procedure for the next meeting.

Facilities Committee

- There is no formal Facilities Committee report.

Executive Session:

- A motion to go into Executive Session to discuss matters of attorney-client privilege was made at 6:27 PM by Mrs. Howe-Nalls and seconded by Mr. Scott. The motion was passed with all in favor and no abstentions.
- A motion to exit Executive Session was made at 6:51 PM by Mrs. Howe-Nalls and seconded by Mrs. Meshulam. The motion was passed with all in favor and no abstentions.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:51 PM upon motion made by Mrs. Meshulam and seconded by Mrs. Howe-Nalls. The motion was passed with all in favor and no abstentions.

Mary J. Scheeler

Mary J. Scheeler, Secretary