

**Niagara Charter School  
Minutes of Board of Trustees Regular Meeting  
January 21, 2025 at 5:00 PM via Zoom**

*Trustees in Attendance:* James Muffoletto, Amy Meshulam, Mary Scheeler, Christina Lesh, Ricky Scott, Judy DiCamillo, Lynn Kasper

*Staff in Attendance:* Dr. Darci Novak, Jill Keicher, Isaac Newman, Kelsey Barnes, Theresa Boniface

*Others:* Jonathan Schechter, Attorney for NCS

*Excused Absence:*

*Unexcused Absence:*

The meeting was called to order at 5:11 PM with President, James Muffoletto presiding.

Public Notice was confirmed.

The agenda was approved as amended on a motion made by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mrs. Meshulam.

The minutes for the regular meeting of December 17, 2024 were approved on a motion made by Mrs. Meshulam and seconded by Mrs. Scheeler. The motion was passed with all in favor and no abstentions.

**Leaders of the Month**

Leaders of the Month: Students demonstrated Habit 3: Put First Things First during the month of December.

Crew 101-Angel D.; Crew 102-Amir M.; Crew 103-Aubrey B.; Crew 104-D'ava G.; Crew 105-Levi M.; Crew 106-Lela M.; Crew 107-Keith M.; Crew 108-Xana S.; Crew 114-Valerie S.; Crew 115-Eliana A.; Crew 116-Brian E.; Crew 117-Dandre P.; Crew 118-Justice D.; Crew 119-Nairam Y.; Art-Jonah S.; Music-Jaryia S.; Gym-Maurice H.; NCS support staff-Miking D.; Mrs. Felmet-Na'Lani M.

**Employee Leader of the Month**

Theresa Boniface, 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Teacher, was nominated for Employee Leader of the Month for the month of December.

**CAO Report, Dr. Darci Novak**

**Professional Development**

- Aimee Gonzalez attended the district data coordinator meeting through Erie 1 BOCES.
- Erie 1 BOCES coordinators (Nicole Kerner, Elizabeth Kraemer, and Jessica Kauffman) were at NCS for 5 days including behavior management support, Math curriculum and data, and Science curriculum support.
- Michelle Flores from EL Education was NCS for one day supporting new teachers with curriculum.

- Darci Novak, Jill Keicher, Christie Grant, Josh Cain, Megan Corsaro and Sherrie Tracy were CPI trained and certified through Erie 1 BOCES.

General Updates:

- Student-led conferences were held on November 14-15, 2024.
- A review of the dashboard took place.

Academic Committee

- The Academic Committee did not meet in person, but emailed with one another.
- A mental health counselor, Mrs. Alati, was hired; she started last week.
- Dr. Novak will review running record reading assessment data at the February Academic Committee meeting.
- A long-term building-based substitute teacher resigned; a new substitute teacher has been hired and contracted through Amergis Staffing agency.
- Nicole Gugliuzza, Behavior Specialist through Erie 1 BOCES, and Christie Grant, Dean of Students will prepare a board presentation on Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) and Restorative Practices. The date of the presentation will be announced.
- The next Academic Committee meeting will be February 12<sup>th</sup> at 4:15 PM.

Governance:

Mrs. Christina Lesh

- The Governance Committee met on January 14, 2025.
- An NCS parent expressed interest in serving as Parent Trustee, and will be joining us at the February meeting.

Finance Committee

- The financials for the six month period ended December 31, 2024 were reviewed with all trustees.
- Dr. Novak reviewed the Stronger Connections grant, including staff trainings on PBIS and Restorative Practices

Facilities Committee

- A motion to go into Executive Session to discuss contractual matters was made at 5:46 PM by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mrs. Kasper. The motion was passed with all in favor and no abstentions.
- A motion to exit Executive Session was made at 6:03 PM by Mrs. Meshulam and seconded by Mrs. Kasper. The motion was passed with all in favor and no abstentions.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 PM upon motion made by Mrs. Meshulam and seconded by Mr. Scott. The motion was passed with all in favor and no abstentions.

*Mary J. Scheeler*

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Mary J. Scheeler, Secretary