

MINUTES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
of the  
SUSSEX COUNTY CHARTER SCHOOL FOR TECHNOLOGY  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING  
September 8, 2014

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Sussex County Charter School for Technology was held on September 8, 2014 in the Gymnasium of the Sussex County Charter School for Technology, 385 North Church Road, Sparta, New Jersey. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Ed Selby, Board President, at 7:05 p.m. Dr. Selby advised that the meeting had been called in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act and requested that it be set forth in the minutes.

**II. DECLARATION OF OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT**

“Adequate notice of this public meeting has been made in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Laws of 1975, in the New Jersey Herald, the County Superintendent’s Office, and the County Administrator.”

**III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

All persons present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**IV. ROLL CALL**

The following roll call was taken:

<u>Present</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Mrs. Wendie Blanchard	Dr. Mary Rapuano
Mr. Michael Nelms	
Mr. Charles Teufert	
Dr. Ed Selby	

Also in attendance were; Jill Eckel, Principal, Estrella Molinet, Business Administrator/Board Secretary ; Barbara Zappile, Supervisor of Curriculum; Jim Baldini, Vice Principal; and 5 members of the public.

**V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mrs. Blanchard made a motion to approve the following minutes.

- Regular Meeting Minutes of August 11, 2014
- Executive Session Meeting Minutes of August 11, 2014

Dr. Selby seconded the motion and the minutes were approved. Mr. Nelms and Mr. Teufert abstained.

## **VI. CORRESPONDENCE**

- Letter from E. Hennion regarding tuition reimbursement for Fall Semester.

## **VII. COMMENTS**

### A. President's Comments-

Dr. Selby commented that he received the Board Goals paperwork.

Mrs. Eckel commented that she and Mrs. Van Tassel will be attending NJ Smart training.

### B. Committee Reports

- Building and Grounds –

Mrs. Molinet read Mr. Kane's report : The summer laborers were a big help. Sub floors were replaced where needed, tiles put down and painting was done.

The bathroom fixtures were replaced. He felt that this was the easiest beginning of year transition he's seen since he's been here. He feels Mr. Rocco is a great help and has moved well from summer laborer to custodial role. He would like to use the proceeds from the Safety grant to repair some spots of walkways that have cracked and lifted and would also like to take the step leading into the multi purpose room and convert that into a ramp. The new waste disposal company is working well, and the pest control company was called in to remove a bee hive.

- Personnel & Negotiations –

Will meet Wednesday at 4.

- Curriculum & Policy –

None

- Finance –

None

- Public Relations –

Contacted the PTO to speak in the fall.

- Technology -

None. Mr. Baldini commented that the start of the year went well.

### C. Board Member Comments

Mrs. Blanchard – Gave some grant apps to the Board. Spoke about the handbook from the National Charter Schools Association's article on Strategic Planning; need a parent and 2 faculty members to participate to create a brand and marketing for the school. Marketing budget is \$20 per student.

Dr. Selby commented that he will switch with Mrs. Blanchard so she can be on the Public Relations Committee and he will take the Curriculum and Policy Committee.

Dr. Selby also noted that the Faculty Comments below should be renamed to Faculty and Staff Comments.

### D. Faculty/Staff Comments

Mrs. Czarkowski wanted to thank the Board for all the support she got last year from her illness. She has talked to the Science classes and explained the process that she was going through.

Ms. Tooker gave a presentation on the P/E Departments goings on; Archery Education, Project Altitude –youth empowerment program along with Pass it Along , United Way and the Center for Prevention. She also wanted to thank and let the Board know that Janine Cerra has donated the uniform tops for the cross country team.

## **VIII. PRINCIPAL'S INFORMATION**

Special thanks to the 2013-14 school year for their generous donation of \$4,000 to help us keep down the cost to our parents for after-school busing. Parents who wish their students to use a late bus will pay \$100 per student for a late bus that will be available on Tuesdays. There will still be after-school hours on Thursdays, but parents must provide pick-up transportation.

A special thank you as well to Janine Cerra, mother of Eddie and Emma. She purchased uniforms for our Cross Country Team!!

We had a great start to the year with teachers meetings on 9/2 and 9/3 which focused on Google Classroom Training and presentations by our Speech-Language Pathologist and Occupational Therapist to explain their roles in the school and how they can assist teachers in the classroom. The next two days, 9/4 and 9/5, were full days with students working with them in a variety of team-building and other activities to help build community at the Charter School.

Students are starting the year with their own Chromebooks, which they will be using throughout the day during school. The school's technology infrastructure now supports 1:1 student: computer ratio.

Our focus this year is to create a systematic accountability system that will send a clear message to the Charter School office and the public that we value a MULTIMETRIC vision of educational reform that is reflected in our mission.

To this end, we will 1) look at more than just Math and ELA test scores, 2) We need to have a variety of measures including formative assessments, evidence of student learning and progress toward personal growth objectives, and 3). We will also incorporate nonacademic factors as well, for example school climate, safety and parental involvement.

This multimetric approach will 1) support well-rounded education and our mission statement, 2) provide a more nuanced picture of student achievement, 3) reflect a comprehensive approach for preparing our students for life beyond high school, and 4) address local priorities and values (for example, many of our students want to go to Sussex Tech for the next step of their education).

We are participating in the NJCSA BETA site this year. This new graphics driven dashboard will allow us to make performance comparisons, rankings, demographics and profiles based specifically on the Charter Performance Frameworks. As our request, NJCSA will also enable the dashboard to allow us to compare our scores and demographics to all our sending districts, rather than just the one school and the cohort of schools chosen for comparison by the DOE.

Back To School Nights are 9/17 and 9/18, 6:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

**IX. BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR'S INFORMATION**

The audit will begin on September 29, 2014. This is a comprehensive audit not just a financial audit and they may ask questions about IEP's and related services contracts, they may also ask questions regarding test scores.

In the monthly newsletter we were informed that health premiums were approved at a 10.3% increase effective January 2015. In January 2014 the increase was 5.4% and in January 2013 it was a 14.7% increase.

For example Horizon Direct (NJ10) family coverage will run \$28,109 and single coverage will be \$10,221. When I did the budget I put in an increase of 10% so we will be tight but much better than we would be as many had only put in increases of 7 or 8%.

**X. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**XI. BOARD ACTION ON AGENDA ITEMS**

**BUSINESS RECOMMENDATIONS**

Mr. Teufert made a motion for resolutions 1 through 6 to be approved.

1. RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approve the Board Secretary's Report for the month ending July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014, as attached.
2. RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approve the Treasurer of School Monies Report for the month ending July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014, as attached.
3. RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approve the motion that the Board Secretary certifies that, as of July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014, no line item account has been over-expended in violation of NJSA 18A:19-2.
4. RESOLVED, that pursuant NJSA 18A:19-2, the Board of Trustees certify that as of July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014, after a review of the Board Secretary's monthly financial report and Treasurer of School Monies Report for the period ending July 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014, upon consultation with the appropriate Charter School officials, to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of NJSA 18A: 19-4 and that sufficient funds are

available to meet the Charter School's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

5. RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approve the motion, in compliance with NJSA 18A:22-8.1, for the budgetary transfers for the month of August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014 in the amount of \$ 3,700.00 to ensure that no line items are over expended, as attached.
6. RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approve the bill list for the month ending August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014 in the amount of \$ 188,372.37 inclusive of August's payroll in the amount of \$54,229.67 as attached.

Mrs. Blanchard seconded the motion and resolutions 1 through 6 were approved by a unanimous roll call vote. Mrs. Blanchard, yes; Mr. Nelms, yes; Dr. Selby, yes; and Mr. Teufert, yes.

Mr. Teufert made a motion for resolution 7 to be approved. The Board of Trustees graciously thanks the PTO for their generous donation.

7. RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees acknowledge, and thank, the PTO for their contribution of \$4,000 to help reduce the busing fee charged to parents for the after-school program.

Dr. Selby seconded the motion and resolution 7 was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Teufert made a motion for resolutions 8 through 10 to be approved.

8. RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approve the Sussex County Educational Services Commission Itinerant Child Study Team contract for the 2014-2015 school year, as per attached.
9. RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approve reimbursement of \$1,200 for a 3- credit course toward Elisabeth Hennion's Master's Degree in Educational Technology, pending successful completion of the course.
10. RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approve the REAP Grant Award notification for the 2014-2015 school year in the amount of \$25,578.00  
Grant award # S358A143261

Mrs. Blanchard seconded the motion and resolutions 8 through 10 were approved by a unanimous roll call vote. Mrs. Blanchard, yes; Mr. Nelms, yes; Dr. Selby, yes; and Mr. Teufert, yes.

## **EDUCATION**

## **PERSONNEL**

Mr. Teufert made a motion for resolutions 1 and 2 to be approved.

1. RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approve Joseph John “J.J.” Rocco IV, as a Part-Time Custodian/Maintenance employee, for the 2014-2015 school year, at the rate of \$12.00/hour (12 months), as per attachment.
2. RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approve the hiring of John Domaracki for the position of Substitute Teacher at the substitute teacher rate, as needed.

Mrs. Blanchard seconded the motion and resolutions 1 and 2 were approved by a unanimous roll call vote. Mrs. Blanchard, yes; Mr. Nelms, yes; Dr. Selby, yes; and Mr. Teufert, yes.

### **POLICY**

Mrs. Blanchard made a motion for resolution 1 to be approved.

1. RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees approve the following policy as a first reading:

Admissions Policy and Procedure

Mr. Teufert seconded the motion and resolution 1 was approved by a unanimous voice vote.

### **XII. CLOSED SESSION**

### **XIII. RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

### **XIV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

### **XV. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS**

### **XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business to come before the Board, it was moved by Mr. Nelms and seconded by Mr. Teufert to adjourn at 8:06 p.m.

The motion was unanimously approved by a voice vote.

Respectfully Submitted,

Estrella M. Molinet  
Board Secretary