

**Niagara Charter School
Minutes of Board of Trustees Regular Meeting
November 19, 2024 at 5:00 PM**

Trustees in Attendance: Ricky Scott, Mary Scheeler, Judy DiCamillo, Lynn Kasper, Christina Lesh

Staff in Attendance: Dr. Darci Novak, Jill Keicher, Aimee Gonzalez, Jamie Guerra, Alex Filips, Alanna Cecala, Andrea Hopkins, Jenn Ebling, Jennifer Morgante, Rebecca Armstrong, Katie Strobel, Jenna Keleher

Others: Jonathan Schechter, attorney for NCS

Excused Absence: James C. Muffoletto, Amy Meshulam

Unexcused Absence:

The meeting was called to order at 5:08 PM with Treasurer, Ricky Scott presiding.

Public Notice was confirmed.

The agenda was approved as amended on a motion made by Mrs. Kasper and seconded by Mrs. Scheeler.

The minutes for the regular meeting of October 15, 2024 were approved on a motion made by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mrs. Scheeler. The motion was passed with all in favor and no abstentions.

The agenda for the October 15, 2024 regular meeting was approved on a motion made by Mrs. Kasper and seconded by Mr. Scott.

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

AAO Report, Jill Keicher

Leaders of the Month: Students demonstrated Habit 1: Be Proactive during the month of October.

Crew 101-Jake S.; Crew 102-Nova R.; Crew 103-Evie B.; Crew 104-J'Quell C.; Crew 105-Rashaun D.; Crew 106-Alynnah C.; Crew 107-Rylee H.; Crew 108-Paisley M.; Crew 114-Jaida H.; Crew 115-Karter P.; Crew 116-Aden H.; Crew 117-Aaron S.; Crew 118-Karmello F.; Crew 119-Nikevah K.; Art-Nafiah H.; Music-Jackson L.; Gym-Sophia G.; NCS support staff-QueenMeesha C.; Mrs. Felmet-Ethan S.

Jenn Ebling, Isaac Newman, Alex Filips, and Jamie Guerra were nominated for Employee Leader of the Month for the month of October.

Finance Committee

- David Urban from the EFRP Group presented a summary of the school's audit report for the year ended June 30, 2024.
- Mr. Scott reviewed the financial statements for period ended September 30, 2024 with the Board of Trustees.

CAO Report, Dr. Darci Novak

Professional Development

- Aimee Gonzalez attended WNYRIC District Data Coordinator Meeting through Erie 1 BOCES
- Erie 1 BOCES coordinators (Elizabeth Kraemer, Nicole Kerner, Brian Blaszak & Jessica Kauffman) were at NCS for 5 days working with staff on behavior management, math instruction and curriculum support, technology integration, and NYS Science investigation support.
- Michelle Flores from EL Education was at NCS for 2 days supporting teachers in curriculum and student-led conferences.

General Updates:

- We are seeking donations for our annual Holiday Book Program.
- The Air Force Base conducted a fire safety presentation for all students.
- Our first Challenge Island Family Night was held on October 23, 2024.
- The fundraising committee completed two fundraisers this year. The monies raised were able to fund pizza for Challenge Island family night, as well as teacher mini grants.
- A site monitoring visit for the 21st Century grant took place on October 22-23, 2024. The feedback from the team was highly positive, with no actions for improvement identified.
- A review of the dashboard took place.

Academic Committee

Mrs. Lynn Kasper

- The Academic Committee met on November 14, 2024.
- Mrs. Gonzalez reviewed the district and charter school state assessment comparisons.
- Mrs. Gonzalez reviewed the NWEA Assessment 1 data. NCS will be participating in an NWEA linking to study to see if there is a correlation between NYS assessment scores and NWEA scores.
- The counselor position is still vacant. Two requests were sent to Niagara Falls City School District to provide counseling services.
- Dr. Novak updated the committee on staffing, including vacancies, long-term sub assignments, and individual staff development plans.
- The next meeting is January 15, 2025. The committee will meet every other month.

Governance:

Mrs. Christina Lesh

- A motion to update the board operations calendar to include Form 990 was made by Mrs. Lesh and seconded by Mr. Scott. The motion passed with all in favor and no abstentions.
- We have met our goal of 100% trustee attendance at school events.
- Mrs. Keicher will create a parent trustee recruitment flyer to pass out at events.

Facilities Committee

- A motion to go into Executive Session to discuss contractual matters was made at 6:24 PM by Mr. Scott and seconded by Mrs. Lesh. The motion was passed with all in favor and no abstentions.
- A motion to exit Executive Session was made at 6:48 PM by Mrs. Kasper and seconded by Mrs. Lesh. The motion was passed with all in favor and no abstentions.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:49 PM upon motion made by Mrs. Lesh and seconded by Mrs. Kasper. The motion was passed with all in favor and no abstentions.

Mary J. Scheeler

Mary J. Scheeler, Secretary