



Commonwealth Charter Academy (CCA)
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
April 15, 2020 at 8:30 AM

Held at the following location:

Virtually and Via Telephone

I. Call to Order

Mr. Dyer called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m. when all participants were present and able to hear each other.

II. Roll Call

Board Members Present: Lil Jackson, Lori Renne, Ralph Dyer, Chris Choi, Jeffrey Piccola (Via Video).
Marcie Mulligan, Rob Barr (Via phone).

Guests Via Video: Maurice Flurie, President and CEO; Tom Longenecker, President and CEO-Elect; Roberto Datorre, Christine Hakes, Tim Eller, Natasha Shane, Christy Sink, Jennifer Clarke, Bryon Klingel, Adam Fraser, Jim Skinner, Paulie Zozos, Sharon Pallotta, School Staff; Phil Murren, Katherine Fitz-Patrick, Board Counsel.

III. Executive Session

Executive Session was held to discuss Special Education matters, potential litigation and other contractual matters, Right to Know requests, potential real estate opportunities and proprietary marketing strategies.

Executive Session Ended at 9:10 a.m.

The Board entered into Public Session at 9:10 a.m.

[Lori Renne left the Board meeting at 9:26 a.m. and gave her proxy to Mr. Dyer]

IV. Approval of Agenda – R. Dyer

Mr. Dyer asked the Board if there were any changes to be made to the Agenda. There being no further items to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Barr and seconded by Ms. Jackson as follows:

RESOLVED, that the Agenda for the April 15, 2020 meeting of the Commonwealth Charter Academy Board of Trustees is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

V. Approval of Consent Items – R. Dyer

Mr. Dyer asked the Board if there were any items from the Consent Items they wanted moved to Action Items for discussion, or tabled. There being no further items to discuss, a motion was made by Mr. Piccola and seconded by Mr. Barr as follows:

RESOLVED, the Consent Items:

- a. Approval of Minutes from February 12, 2020 Board Meeting
- b. Approval of Board Payables
- c. Approval of Staffing Report.
- d. Approval of contracts and agreements in the attached schedule

The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Approval of Action Items

- a. Approval of 2020-2021 budget as presented to the Budget and Finance Committee on 3/23/20, including the General Fund Budget (PDE-2028) as prepared by administration

There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Renne and seconded by Mr. Barr as follows:

RESOLVED, the 2020-2021 budget as presented to the Budget and Finance Committee on 3/23/20, including the General Fund Budget (PDE-2028) as prepared by administration is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

- b. Approval of Board Policy 200 (second reading) – Admission and Enrollment

There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Piccola and seconded by Ms. Jackson as follows:

RESOLVED, Board Policy 200 – Admission and Enrollment is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

c. Approval of proposals, contracts and agreements in the attached schedule

Dr. Flurie informed the Board of the newly implemented schedule of proposals, contracts and agreements in the Board packet. Mr. Datorre informed the Board that all of the agreements are combined into one schedule with descriptors. He further informed the Board that copies of the proposals, contracts and agreements are available upon request. Mr. Datorre briefly reviewed the agreements on the attached schedule with the Board. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Piccola and seconded by Mr. Barr as follows:

RESOLVED, the approval of proposals, contracts and agreements in the attached schedule are hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

d. Approval of Board Resolution regarding Continuity of Instruction

Dr. Flurie informed the Board that as a result of school closures due to COVID-19, the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) mandated all schools form a Continuity of Education plan and submit the plan to the PDE by April 17, 2020. CCA's Continuity of Education plan is available on the CCA website in English and Spanish. The Continuity of Education plan was also sent to all CCA families.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Piccola as follows:

RESOLVED, the approval of Board Resolution regarding Continuity of Instruction is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

e. Approval of Board Resolution regarding Continuing Instruction and Enrollment of Students

Dr. Flurie informed the Board of the legislation that was passed as part of COVID-19 which prohibits cyber schools from collecting reimbursement for students that enroll in the cyber schools after March 13, 2020. Dr. Flurie further informed the Board that PDE subsequently instructed all schools to continue enrolling students. Ms. Clarke reported CCA's current enrollment is 11,008 students and 404 students have enrolled with CCA since March 13. Dr. Flurie informed the Board that under this Resolution, CCA will continue to instruct and enroll students.

There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Piccola and seconded by Ms. Jackson as follows:

RESOLVED, the Board Resolution regarding Continuing Instruction and Enrollment of Students is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

- f. Approval of Board Resolution to Authorize Executive Vice President of Operations and Executive Vice President of Finance and Administration to sign PDE reports and Mandated submissions

Mr. Dyer informed the Board that this Board Resolution is to authorize the extension of signature authority on PDE reports. There being no further discussion, a motion was made by Ms. Jackson and seconded by Mr. Barr as follows:

RESOLVED, the Board Resolution to authorize Executive Vice President of Operations and Executive Vice President of Finance and Administration to sign PDE reports and Mandated submissions is hereby approved.

The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Oral Reports

- a. President and CEO Report

Dr. Flurie discussed with the Board the importance of CCA's Continuity of Education plan and that many school districts have proved deficient in providing PDE with their Continuity of Education plans.

- b. President and CEO-Elect Report

Mr. Longenecker informed the Board that CCA may collaborate on a start-up program with Autism Speaks in the spring.

Mr. Longenecker, Dr. Flurie and Mr. Dyer recognized the CCA Leadership team for their continuing efforts during the COVID-19 crisis.

Mr. Longenecker informed the Board that CCA is offering virtual field trips.

Mr. Longenecker reviewed the Facilities Report with the Board and informed the Board that construction activities have halted at Dickson City, Pittsburgh and Allentown during the COVID-19 crisis.

Ms. Clarke reported that CCA has received 4,596 Intent to Return responses.

- c. Financial Reports

Ms. Hakes reviewed the financial reports with the Board.

VIII. Information Items

Mr. Dyer reminded the Board of the June reorganization meeting. Mr. Dyer plans to send an email to Board members to gauge their interest in remaining on the CCA Board of Trustees. Mr. Dyer asked Board members to inform him of their interest in becoming a CCA Board Officer.

Mr. Dyer informed the Board that Mr. Choi attended and reported on the Digital Learning Annual Conference (DLAC).

Mr. Dyer and Mr. Longenecker informed the Board that they will both attend the Digital Learning Annual Conference (DLAC) next year.


Dr. Flurie and Mr. Dyer informed the Board that students in the GROW Program in Agworks at CCA donated 50 plants to medical professionals. Students planned to sell the plants to CCA staff but could not do so due to the COVID-19 situation. Dr. Flurie informed the Board that CCA received a lot of press on this event.

IX. Board Trustee Comments

Ms. Mulligan informed the Board that her son previously attended CCA and is majoring in music in college. She was pleased to report to the Board that when her son's college inquired how he is doing so well in his online music classes due to the COVID-19 crisis, her son told the college it is because he attended CCA.

X. Adjournment and Next Meeting Date May 13, 2020 at 8:30 AM

Mr. Dyer inquired if there was any other business or discussion. There being no further business or discussion, he noted that the next Board meeting is scheduled for May 13, 2020 starting with an Executive Session. The Board being at the end of its agenda, the meeting adjourned at 10:00 AM.


Sharon Pallotta, Assistant Secretary