

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF CULTURAL ARTS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Cultural Arts Academy Charter School was held at 1400 Linden Boulevard, Brooklyn, New York 11212 on September 16, 2020.

VOTE

The financial statements of Cultural Arts Academy Charter School were prepared by Stuart Sabal and presented by Henry Clouden, Treasurer. The Board reviewed related statements of activities and cash flows for one month, with the accompanying supplemental information. These statements were discussed in detail. There is sufficient cash to fund monthly operations.

DATA DASBOARD - September 2020

ENROLLMENT - 240

ICT Classes: 4

Virtual Learning Attendance Rates:

Week 1 - 82.08%

Week 2 – 89.088

Technology Updates (as of 9/16/2020)

MiFi Devices Issued: 1 – Family is currently residing in a shelter (CAACS provided WiFi access)

iPads Distributed: 18

Devices Issued to Staff: 9

Chromebooks Issued to Scholars: 48 (we have a distribution list of 80 devices)

Title I FUNDING

CAACS's ESSER grants are up for review at SED, and we expect approval by about September 30 - The amount of funding we expect CAA to receive in 2020-21 will be the full amount - \$78,234 - this is largely going to be a reimbursement for HVAC work, as well as reimbursement for smart boards and chrome books.

Title 1 - 2018-19 - We were successfully awarded a special waiver for title 1 2018-19 - This waiver allows the school to carry over 100% of Title 1 INTO the following year.

Title 1 - 2019-20 - CAA recently was 100% approved for its [19-20 Title 1 allocation](#) .

Title 1 - 2020-21 - The amount we are [working with for 2020-21](#) for CAA Title 1 is \$93,297.

- **CAACS RE-IMAGINED! ONLINE** continues to bring about wonderful experiences for the scholars, parents and staff. Most scholars have joined their Google Classroom.
- The Leader in Me university mission statements are being developed.
- IB Essential Agreements are being developed.
- Professors completed creating their first ELA & Math PBAT unit plans.
- Bodies in Motion (BIM) initial lesson plans have been created, which consist of both live and pre-recorded lessons.
- Instructional Leadership met with our OSU MLI (math initiative) is planning for professional learning sessions.

Challenges

- **Technology**: Greatest challenge was scholars and staff experiencing issues with their mics, cameras and Internet connections during live sessions. Those who experienced challenges with their mic and video during live sessions, having scholars and staff leave the session and rejoin has been helpful. Scholars and staff in need of devices were directed to Tech Support for assistance.
- **Attendance**: The Professors are tracking daily attendance with Google Forms. Once the form is completed the data is uploaded into both ManageBac and the ATS systems. Scholars who have not joined Google Classroom have been reported to Student Support who is investigating the matter. The professors made first contact; however, if they are unable to reach the parents Student Support is notified.
- **Technology Support**: In addition to our Director of Technology, we have an Ed-Tech Assistant who has been assigned to assist in tech support issues. We have transitioned to using Google Hangouts for calling families, so staff do not have to use their personal devices.

THE NEW SCHOOL COVID REPORT CARD

On Thursday, September 10, the New York State Department of Health (DOH) released a letter on the mandate to require schools to submit information for the School COVID Report Card. **Charter schools are required to comply with this new mandate.** The School COVID Report Card reporting protocols build upon the requirements of the [Interim Guidance for in-Person Instruction at Pre-K to Grade](#)

[12 Schools During the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency](#), which is the guidance DOH issued on school reopening plans. School districts and charter schools must provide DOH with daily data on the number of people - students and staff - who have tested positive for COVID-19. Specifically, we must report: number of persons known by the school to be COVID-positive, number of tests taken, type of test, laboratory processing, test turnaround, and testing location nexus.

The first reporting was due today Monday, September 14th by 5 pm. After that, schools must report every “instructional day” by 3 pm.

Preparing for Ed Law 2-D Compliance

1. A requirement that **as of June 2020 all schools must adopt a policy and privacy plan that aligns with the National Institute for Standards and Technology Framework** for Improving Critical Infrastructure Security Version 1.1 (NIST).

CREDO

July 29, 2020 - Stanford University's Center for Research on Education Outcomes (CREDO), released key results from a survey of charter schools in New York State examining schools' responses to the Executive Order that closed school buildings across the state in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. 93 percent of the charter schools in the state participated in the survey. While nearly all New York charter schools transitioned to some form of distance learning during this period, their strategies and methods varied. The survey findings showed charter schools' ability to embrace responsibility for flexibility and quickly adapt practices to meet students' needs.

Key Findings

- Approximately half of the schools revised their initial remote learning plans to both improve effectiveness and update plans that were designed as short-term stopgaps
- Schools responded quickly to the crisis and focused on building the conditions for remote learning, not just remote instruction.
- Cooperation and teamwork were high within schools, even when adaptations and in-the-moment adjustments were necessary.
- Technology posed less of a challenge than first thought.
- Schools were able to support SPED and ELL/MLL students throughout the period of remote instruction.

NWEA

There is a new initiative for charter schools in New York toward having access to rigorous, nationally-normed baseline and end of year assessments. NWEA offers state-aligned, computerized adaptive tests, called Measure of Academic Progress (MAP). These tests will reflect the instructional level of each student and measure growth over time.

GOOGLE

The New York Charter Schools Association has partnered with Google for Education to provide schools access to the 2020 Google for Education services offer. Through this offer, our school will have access to more training than we would if we registered for services alone.

OTHER MATTERS

MTA face mask \$50 fine for non-compliance begins Monday, Sept. 14th

We have made our families and staff should aware that Executive Order 202.62 issued by Governor Cuomo for the requirement that people wear face masks is now in effect. The MTA announced that beginning Monday 9/14, people who refuse to wear facemasks will be subject to a \$50 fine. Vending machines selling face masks and other PPE will be available in the stations. Free mask dispensers will be placed on hundreds of buses along 15 routes.