



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 August 17, 2022, 6:30pm-7:30pm.

Henry Clouden III, Treasurer
Cheryl Pemberton-Graves, Vice-President
Chrysetta Patterson, Member
Dean Sadek, Member
Dr. A.R. Bernard, President
Dr. Kimberlee Pierre
Dr. Laurie B. Midgette, Principal

The meeting was called to order at 6:31pm with a quorum present.

FINANCIAL COMMITTEE REPORT - VOTE

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

Extension of the NYS COVID-19 State of Emergency

Governor Kathy Hochul signed an executive order on Friday, August 13, that extended the COVID state of emergency for New York through September 12, 2022. As a result, implementation of the changes to the Open Meetings Law, which were set to take effect this month, will be delayed another month. School boards may continue to take advantage of the pandemic-era rules regarding remote participation until the state of emergency is suspended or lapses.

COVID Update: CDC Releases Updated Operational Guidance for Schools

On Thursday August 11th, the CDC released updated operational guidance for K-12 schools and early childhood education (ECE) programs to prevent and reduce the spread of COVID-19 and other viruses to support in-person learning. The revised guidance makes the following recommendation changes for the 2022-2023 school year:

- Encourages school leaders to monitor the COVID-19 Community Levels to make decisions about mitigation strategies within their school community.
- Removes the recommendation for students to cohort and changes the recommendation to conduct screening testing to focus more on high-risk activities or in response to an outbreak rather than for day-to-day school operations.
- Removes the recommendation to quarantine based on exposure and test-to-stay, except in high-risk congregate settings.
- Adds details about strategies to respond to local outbreaks including when, where, and how to wear a mask; enhancing ventilation; implementing hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette; and cleaning.

DOE Fall 2022 COVID-19 Guidance

- **Vaccination Requirements:**
 - Vaccination is still required for all visitors entering school buildings
 - Vaccination is still required for all DOE employees
 - Vaccination is still required for other individuals who work in DOE buildings
 - Vaccinations is still required to participate in high-risk extracurricular activities including high-risk PSAL sports
- **Daily Health Screener:**
 - No longer required to enter school buildings
- **Stay home if sick:** Students and staff should stay home if they show any symptoms of COVID-19 or other illnesses and get tested for COVID-19.
- **Isolate if COVID-19 positive:** Students and staff who test positive for COVID-19 must isolate for 5 days and can return to school on day 6 if they have no symptoms or symptoms are improving. They must wear mask until day 10 after symptom onset or date of positive test, whichever is earlier.
 - These cases should be reported to their school so they can be report into the sit room for exposure notifications.
- **Get tested if exposed to COVID-19:** Students and staff who are exposed to COVID-19 should get tested.
 - These individuals should receive home tests from their school and take two tests, at least 24 hours apart on day 4 and day 5 of their exposure. All exposed individuals should monitor for fever and other COVID-19 symptoms for 10 days after their exposure. If symptoms begin, they should not attend school and should isolate and get tested for COVID-19 again right away.
- **Testing:**
 - Starting the first day of school, schools will offer home test kits to those with a potential in-school exposure and those with symptoms
 - In addition, each staff and student will receive 4 tests per month to take home. These tests can be used by school families for testing due to

symptoms, exposures, high-risk activity (such as travel and large gatherings) and can give staff and students immediate results.

- In-school PCR surveillance testing will not be a part of the 2022-23 school year.
- **Situation Room:**
 - Schools will be required to report positive cases of COVID-19 to the situation room.
 - The Situation Room will provide schools with standardized communications for their communities and will notify school communities of cases in their schools through daily email and the Daily COVID map.
- **Masking- Face coverings are strongly recommended to be worn when indoors.** Masks will be made available at the school for all those who need/want them.
 - Students and staff, regardless of vaccination status, are required to wear a mask when:
 - Returning to school on the sixth day after testing positive for COVID-19, through day 10 after symptom onset or date of positive test, whichever is earlier, including when traveling on a school bus.
 - Entering the school medical room, nurse's office, or school-based health center.
 - Exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 at school.
 - Students and staff, regardless of vaccination status, are strongly recommended to wear a mask:
 - When they were exposed to someone with COVID-19, whether the exposure occurred in school or outside of school. The person should wear a mask for 10 days after their last day of exposure and get tested at least 24 hours apart on day 4 and day 5 of their exposure.
 - When they are moderately-to-severely immunocompromised, and masking is recommended by their healthcare provider.
 - In crowded indoor settings
- **Ventilation:**
 - 160K+ air purifiers distributed to schools – at least two in every classroom
 - Monitoring ventilation in buildings on a daily basis and perform any required work in a timely manner
 - HVAC upgrades in alignment with CDC guidance, including 110,000 MERV-13 filters installed
- **School Building Cleaning:**
 - Routine cleaning of surfaces will be maintained

Rapid Testing at Home

Schools are distributing free, take-home COVID-19 rapid test kits to any students or staff who exhibit COVID-like symptoms or have been in a classroom where a positive case has

been identified. Anyone who tests positive on a take-home test should immediately report it to the school and begin isolating. No proof of a negative result is required in order for these students to enter the school building.

UPDATED SCHOOL CALENDAR distributed.

SUMMER BOOST

After **24 days (4 weeks and 4 days)** of intense learning, each scholar was given a post assessment using the Lavinia curriculum for summer rising to determine the growth in areas of “E.L.A” and “Math”. As viewed, **our scholars grew in each subject area. Some grew from below basic to basic and others grew from basic to proficient.** The data proves that Lavinia’s curriculum promotes growth and will take our scholars at CAACS to the next level. Our professors executed this curriculum aggressively to increase scholars' performance in these subject areas. Scholars will move forward with readiness and confidence in Math and E.L.A for 2022-2023.

CAACS is currently engaged in the reporting and closeout processes for Summer Boost that will ensure our final grant payment is processed. If our average daily attendance is at least 70% of the target student enrollment in your grant agreement, you will receive full funding. The Summer Boost NYC narrative and financial report is due by Friday, September 2. They also want us to distribute survey links to the appropriate stakeholder groups (*parents, teacher, students who are capable of completing them independently.*) and ask them to complete the surveys by August 31.



SUMMER BOOST VIDEO PRESENTATION

Adjournment – 7:48pm

Respectfully submitted,
Shirley Glasgow, Board Secretary