

Career Academy of South Bend, Inc.
Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors
October 27, 2020

Directors On-Site : Kay Antonelli, Larry Garatoni, Mark Melnick

Via Zoom: Dan Adams, Marian Hodges, Michael Garatoni, Chad Hartzell, Nick Swisher

Staff Attending: Alex Hammel, Sam Ells, Dean Fecher, Jeremy Lugbill, Nick Garstka, Kim Richardson

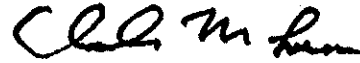
Also Attending: Emily Gaskill, Charles Loeser

- A. Call to Order. Larry Garatoni called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.
- B. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the August 25 meeting and September 11 meeting were approved.
- C. Date of November-December Meeting. Larry suggested and it was agreed to schedule the next meeting for December 15.
- D. Board Change. Larry noted that Lori Smith's term has expired and she declined a new term. Larry read the plaque for Lori thanking her for her service. To replace her, Larry suggested David Balkin, Chancellor of Ivy Tech South Bend, and the board approved.
- E. School Operations.
 1. Enrollment. Alex reported that confirmed enrollment as of Count Day was 1,337, seven below last year: Success went from 629 to 610, Career Middle from 370 to 366, and Career High from 345 to 361. A revised budget will be presented at the next meeting.
 2. Student Demographics. Alex distributed grade by grade data charts. Excluding kindergarten, 88% of students are returning from last year, student turnover is lower than ever, a major plus. Gender balance remains roughly 55% male, the percentage of students qualifying for free or reduced price lunch is down, and the percentage of African-American students has trended up.
 3. Food Service Update. Representatives of Chartwell explained that the contract is ending this year and a request for proposals is required by law. They suggested that free/reduced qualification is down because school qualification for universal free meals makes it unnecessary for anyone to file individually. Alex noted that with the change to Chartwell in 2017, food quality increased greatly and the program has paid for itself.
 4. Student Data/Student Academic Growth & Strategies Report. Janet Scott gave a detailed report on Success Academy curriculum and teaching methods, followed by Nick Garstka on the middle school and Jeremy Lugbill for the high school.
 5. IDOE Grade. Alex said that with no state testing last year, the IDOE is carrying over the prior year grades: "A" for Career High and Middle, "B" for Success.
 6. COVID Update. Alex reported that despite St. Joseph County's worsening COVID rate, on-site school has worked well so far but if the trend continues it may be necessary to cut back.

F. Financial Statements/Audit Reports. Kim Richardson reviewed variances from budget to-date through September 30 and reported that the 2018-19 audit has been completed. On motion, the financial statements and audit report were approved.

G. Trine Report. Emily Gaskill described Trine's ongoing monitoring of the schools' performance.

H. Public Comment. There being no public comments, the meeting was adjourned at 5:50 pm.



Charles M. Loeser, Assistant Secretary