

**MEETING MINUTES
OF
CATALYST ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL
January 3, 2023
Held in Person at Catalyst Academy Charter School and virtually Via Zoom**

Trustee Attendees: Rachel Amankulor, Thomas Walenchok, Carey Harris, Majestic Lane, Erin Stiling

Other Attendees: Brian Smith and Alan Shuckrow (SMGG)

Rachel Amankulor called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Public Comment: None

Approval of Minutes. Approval of the December minutes will be deferred to the February meeting.

Financial Update. Brian Smith gave an update on the status of the budget and reported that despite some lower than projected enrollment the School should still finish ahead of budget slightly. Reasons include increased Federal grant receipts and also lower than budgeted staffing costs due to the inability to fill some positions.

Mr. Smith is projecting sufficient cash on hand at the end of the fiscal year. We will continue to monitor.

Payment of Vendors. Brian Smith reviewed the monthly vendor payments. Everything is standard. There are no unexpected out of budget items. *Erin Stiling, made a motion to approve the payments to vendors and all outstanding bills, seconded by Tom Walenchok and carried unanimously.*

Resolution to authorize shortening the school day for 2023-2024. Brian Smith presented a proposed resolution that would authorize the administration to develop a school day schedule that is up to 45 minutes shorter than the current schedule. The main reason for recommending this is that the number one reason given by prospective teaching candidates that they do not want to consider Catalyst is the longer school day. The Board engaged in discussion about potential ramifications including transportation schedule changes and shortening of professional staff prep time. However, on balance the Board agreed that recruitment of professional staff is critical and that this adjustment could help. *Majestic Lane made a motion to approve the proposed resolution authorizing the administration to develop a shorter day calendar for the 2023-2024 school year, seconded by Carey Harris and carried unanimously.*

Human Resources Report. Brian Smith reported to the Board on recent additions and resignations as contained in the Human Resources report. The Board engaged in discussion about strategies to continue to attract and retain talent. *Majestic Lane made a motion to accept the Human Resources report, seconded by Carey Harris and carried unanimously.*

Other Updates. Brian Smith provided the Board updates on recruitment and enrollment which is starting up again for the 2023-2024 year. He also shared upcoming events on the academic calendar and showed joyful moments at Catalyst during December including a trip to the Science Center. The Board agreed that the students seem to be happy.

There by no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:02.