

ORACLE CHARTER SCHOOL

888 Delaware Avenue

Buffalo, New York 14209

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Tuesday June 27, 2017

Board Co-Chairs Jacqueline Hollins and Ramone Alexander called the meeting to order at 6:07 PM.

The following individuals were present:

Trustees - James McLeod, Joseph Costantini, Jacqueline Hollins, John Whitty, Evin Conyer, Ramone Alexander, Maureen Ludwig, Ron Stewart, Susan Hakala.

Administration - Janet Barnes.

Kirisits and Associates-Karen Burhans.

Legal-Steven Polowitz.

The following *Trustees* were not present – Bryan Donohue, Divitta Alexander, Thomas Bailey, Susanna Schenk, Vivian Logan.

Pursuant to Notice in accordance with the Bylaws, this Special meeting was called for the purpose of reviewing and approving the proposed 2017-18 budget.

Ms. Karen Burhans provided a macro-level overview of budget formulation, noting that the most recent Finance Committee meeting on June 19, 2017 was the final discussion in an iterative process. Staffing issues and needs were the biggest component of the budget discussions and considerations. Pursuant to extensive previous discussion and agreement, the Board approved a significant planned use of reserves to cover budget deficits over the last two (2) fiscal years, and to continue thru the 2017/2018 fiscal year. This approach was adopted to allow the School to use some its large reserves to address program deficits around student learning and behavior and teacher retention/compensation issues and professional development; and also to help the School through the renewal process. Ms. Burhans noted that in 2020 the mortgage will be paid-off on the

building housing OCS, and that approximately \$337,000 in annual costs related to rent will be freed up. Ms. Burhans reminded the Board that the budget being presented for approval by the Board is for 2017-18 and that it must be submitted to CSI by the June 30th deadline.

There ensued some discussion about specific positions. Explanations were provided about the support aides, IT Director, Tech Data Manager, tech teacher, new position for an attendance officer, music teacher, and fulltime position for a mediation specialist.

There was a discussion about enrollment targets and optimal enrollment numbers.

Joseph Costantini presented a motion to approve the Oracle Charter School 2017-18 budget, as presented. Maureen Ludwig seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by the Board.

Ron Stewart moved to adjourn the special meeting. Evin Conyer seconded the motion, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:07 PM.

Sincerely,

Susan R. Hakala
Secretary to the Board of Trustees