

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES – Tuesday, January 26, 2021

A Public Session of the Elysian Charter School of Hoboken Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, January 26, 2021 via Zoom video conference at 6:30 p.m.

Sunshine statement: Pursuant to Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting was advertised as directed by resolution adopted April 28, 2020. Notice of the meeting was published in the Public Notice Section of the Jersey Journal, posted on the Elysian Charter School website at www.ecsnj.org and at the Elysian Charter School located at 1460 Garden Street, Hoboken, NJ, 07030.

Call to Order by Board Chair -

I. Roll Call

Voting Members	Role	Present	Absent
Chris DeFilippis	Chair	x	
Brian Blake	Vice-Chair	x	
Daniel Glynn	Treasurer	x	
Andrea O'Connor	Trustee	x	
Maria Badali	Trustee	x	
Diane Sasso	Trustee		x
Erin Curtiss	Trustee	x	
Michael Gazaleh	Trustee	x	
Jaime Marchand	Trustee	x	

Non - Voting Members	Role	Present	Absent
Susan Grierson	Director	x	
Diane M Macon	Business Manager	x	
Abra Kessler	Faculty Representative	x	
Regan Michaels	Faculty Representative	x	

- Diane Sasso joined the meeting following the roll call at 6:40 pm.

Motion for Elysian Charter Board of Trustees to accept the minutes from the Regular Meeting December 15, 2020

Voting Members	Motion	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Chris DeFilippis		x				Diane Sasso		x			
Brian Blake	2	x				Erin Curtiss		x			
Daniel Glynn		x				Michael Gazaleh		x			
Andrea O'Connor		x				Jaime Marchand		x			
Maria Badali	1	x									

2. Director's Report (see attached)

3. Presentation of Committee Reports

Finance Committee – Dan Glynn Chair: Our current fund balance is very strong even with the additional expenses of the hiring of substitute and leave replacement teachers. We are projected to maintain a strong fund balance for the end of the school year. We are closely monitoring all expenses for the remainder of the school year. We are also expecting to receive additional funding for the new CARES allocation to help maintain the operation and continuity of school services.

Facilities Committee – Michael Gazaleh Chair: On Jan. 26, contracts were sent out to all vendors being hired for mezzanine door project. The windowed door will be made of breakaway glass so in an emergency, residents will be able to use as exit. It was confirmed that the total cost of the project will be split 50/50 with Park & Garden. Enterprise will be responsible for submitting the design and drawings to the city for approval.

It is necessary for a few upgrades to be made to the HVAC system in the 2nd floor music room and student bathrooms. We are waiting on a cost proposal.

Nominating Committee – Maria Badali Chair: The committee is currently exploring options for the Annual Meeting as it is not possible to hold it in person due to the pandemic. Our by-laws do not allow for a postponement, extension or change from the mid-March Annual Meeting in which to hold the elections. The committee is investigating options to conduct the vote virtually during the Annual Meeting. At the February Board meeting, the new slate of candidates will be presented along with a decision on how the voting will be conducted. A call for candidates will be issued via email blast by end of January.

Academic Committee – Diane Sasso Chair: The extension of the school day until 2 pm for the kindergarten classes, as well as the alternate in-person Wednesdays, has been going well. The committee will meet to discuss the possibility of extending this to include the first grade classes as well.

4. Faculty Representative's Report

Faculty Representatives - (Regan Michaels & Abra Kessler): The teachers are very pleased with the new internet upgrade. They also expressed how happy they were to once again see students in-person following the long virtual break. The staff is eagerly awaiting information on when they can get their vaccinations. The teachers expressed their hope that the Board is still considering ways in which they will be able to give staff raises in the near future.

5. Public Comment

The meeting is open to the public for comment on items on or off the agenda.
(Limited to 5 minutes per person).

Upon recommendation of the Director of Elysian Charter School the following resolutions are presented for approval:

6. Finance:

Pursuant to N.J.A.C. 6:23-2.11(a)4, the Board of Trustees acknowledges receipt of the secretary's certification, and after review of the monthly financial report (appropriations section) certifies that, to the best of its knowledge, as of December 15, 2020, no major account or fund has been over expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2,11(b), and that sufficient funds are available to meet the school's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.

- 6.1 Resolved that the Board of Trustees approves the Payroll Report of December 15, 2020 in the amount of \$133,734.77.
- 6.2 Resolved that the Board of Trustees approves the Payroll Report of December, 2020 in the amount of \$136,926.90.
- 6.3 Resolved that the Board of Trustees approves the December Check Register from December 15, 2020 January 22, 2021 in the amount of \$545,391.71.
- 6.4 Resolved that the Board of Trustees approves the Board Secretary and Treasurer Reports for November 2020 as per attached

Roll Call Vote Resolutions 6-1 – 6-4

Voting Members	Motion	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Chris DeFilippis		x				Diane Sasso		x			
Brian Blake		x				Erin Curtiss	1	x			
Daniel Glynn		x				Michael Gazaleh		x			
Andrea O'Connor		x				Jaime Marchand	2	x			
Maria Badali		x									

- 6.5 Resolved that the Board of Trustees of Elysian Charter School approves the attached amended FY2020 - 2021 budget with the audited beginning fund balance from the FY20 CAFR, the October 15, 2020 student enrollment and corresponding district revenues. The revised budget will be implemented and submitted to the New Jersey Office of Charter Schools.

Roll Call Vote Resolutions 6-5

Voting Members	Motion	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Chris DeFilippis	1	x				Diane Sasso		x			
Brian Blake		x				Erin Curtiss		x			
Daniel Glynn	2	x				Michael Gazaleh		x			
Andrea O'Connor		x				Jaime Marchand		x			
Maria Badali		x									

7. Personnel:

- 7.1 Resolved that the Board of Trustees of Elysian Charter School accepts the FMLA/NJFLA Leave of Ashley Shirazi effective on or about April 19, 2021 through on or about June 23 2021 followed by FMLA/NJFLA effective on or about June 24, 2021 through on or about June 30, 2021 with an extended unpaid leave of absence beginning September 18, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

Roll Call Vote Resolutions 7-1

Voting Members	Motion	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Chris DeFilippis	1	x				Diane Sasso		x			
Brian Blake	2	x				Erin Curtiss		x			
Daniel Glynn		x				Michael Gazaleh		x			
Andrea O'Connor		x				Jaime Marchand		x			
Maria Badali		x									

8. Governance/Policy:

.8.1 Resolved that the Board of Trustees of Elysian Charter School will hold a regular meeting of the Elysian Charter School members the second week of March, date to be determined, for the purpose of electing trustees and transacting other business as may come before the meeting. The election of trustees will be held virtually. In the event that the regular March meeting is cancelled due to inclement weather or any other reason it shall be rescheduled in no less than seven days or more than 14 days from the date on which it had been scheduled or rescheduled.

Roll Call Vote Resolutions 8-1

Voting Members	Motion	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Chris DeFilippis		x				Diane Sasso		x			
Brian Blake		x				Erin Curtiss	2	x			
Daniel Glynn		x				Michael Gazaleh		x			
Andrea O'Connor		x				Jaime Marchand		x			
Maria Badali	1	x									

9. Curriculum/Special Education:

10. Facilities:

11. Miscellaneous:

12. New Business

Adjournment into Executive Session to discuss Personnel Matters.

The Board of Trustees of the Elysian Charter School hereby adjourns to Closed Session in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq., for the reason(s) identified below. The minutes of the discussion during Executive Session will be available to the public when such minutes have been approved by the Board of Trustees pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1.1 and the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

1. Personnel Matters

Reconvene from Executive Session Tuesday, January 26, 2021 Time: 8:09 pm____

Voting Members	Motion	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	A
Chris DeFilippis	1	x				Diane Sasso		
Brian Blake		x				Erin Curtiss		
Daniel Glynn		x				Michael Gazaleh		
Andrea O'Connor		x				Jaime Marchand		
Maria Badali	2	x						

Roll Call Vote - Adjournment of Meeting of Tuesday, January 26, 2021 – Time: 8:10 pm_____

Voting Members	Motion	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent	Voting Members	Motion	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Absent
Chris DeFilippis	1	x				Diane Sasso	2	x			
Brian Blake		x				Erin Curtiss		x			
Daniel Glynn		x				Michael Gazaleh		x			
Andrea O'Connor		x				Jaime Marchand		x			
Maria Badali		x						x			