



## PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Seacoast Classical Academy Chartered Public School

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Tuesday, 8 April 2025, 6:00PM

Seacoast Classical Academy, 53 Carlton E Sockwell Way, Newton, NH 03858

Notice posted by 7 April 2024 on the door at 53 Carlton E Sockwell Way, Newton, NH 03858

and at <https://seacoastclassical.org>

Trustees Present: Linda Allard, Cindy Lyons, Michael Gendre, William Nadeau, Terence Waldron, Simcha Weller

Trustees Participating Remotely: Kate Riddell

Persons Appearing Before the Board: Tim Galitski - SCA Executive Director, Joe Patuleia - SCA Interim Principal

Non-Public Session may be called at any time in accordance with RSA 91A:3 II.

Call to Order- LA called the meeting to order at 6:02. KR attended via phone due to illness, there was no-one in the room with KR. All votes will be by roll call. RC was not in attendance, LA will chair the meeting in his absence.

1. Public Comment- None.
2. General Correspondence- None.
3. Minutes
  - a. Public Meeting of 11 March 2025- TW moved to approve the minutes of 11 March 2025 as modified., CL seconded. TW/yes, CL/yes, WN/yes, LA/yes, SW/yes, KA/yes, MG abstain. 6/0/1
4. Finance
  - a. Finance Report: LA reported the bank balances as of 8 April: Primary checking \$365,818.89, Primary money market \$84,664.41, Citizens Bank checking (SCA) \$32,099.57, Citizens Bank Checking (Parent Council) \$6,363.80. TG reported that 6 teachers had completed the "Science of Reading" course. The Board discussed the cash flow projection during the summer. TG requested that the board authorize the withdrawal of \$200k HEFA loan providing SCA with possible needed cash flow in the summer prior to the first installment of state adequacy funds. TW inquired about the cash flow projections and whether SCA would be able to repay the loan. TG reported that the loan would be repaid using the initial NHED funding tranche received in October. The board discussed the specifics of the HEFA loan and the timeframe required to complete the requests and have the money available by the summer. WN moved to authorize TG to withdraw up to \$200k from the HEFA loan. TW second. TW/yes, CL/yes, WN/yes, LA/yes, SW/yes, KA/yes, MG/ yes. 7/0
  - b. CSP Update - TG reported the balance of the CSP is \$122,084 left of the original \$1.5 million. TG indicated that an additional \$35k from the CSP had been allocated to the budget for professional development based on the authorizations of the last board meeting and that there was a plan for the remaining balance to be allocated before the expiration of funds in September. TG to seek clarification

on the funding for furniture replacements and where they are most needed in the school.

- e. FY26 Budget- TG presented the updated budget to the board. CL inquired about the status of the Title I teacher. Per NHED, the school was given an allocation for a Title I teacher based on a state assumed scholar population demographic. Because the school's demographics are adjusted based on the current population, SCA will not qualify as a school-wide Title 1 school. In order to keep that individual, their role is being worked into a different staff position within the school. LA inquired about the operating revenue and to understand why the budget is for 40 4th grade scholars and not 44, and 20 5th grade scholars and not 22. TG shared these numbers are based on classroom size and what the room can accommodate. .
5. Executive Director's Report
- a. Enrollment / Marketing- TG reported 173 scholars have re-enrolled with 50 new enrollments for a total of 223 enrollments. There are 29 spots open K-9 and there were 48, non exempt applicants for K. The administration is planning an enrollment check-in with families to confirm their interest. CL inquired about a letter of intent from families and the possibility of changing the amount of time a family has to accept or decline the application offer. TG responded that families completing the enrollment process indicate their intent to enroll as part of the process and he will consider the time frame.
  - b. Marketing - New roadside signs for SCA are ready that show K-9. The Education Options Expo will be staffed by MG in North Hampton on 6 May. The middle school FEE was lightly attended but supported and staffed by many PC volunteers and great products that will be reused for the Kindergarten Open House on 17 April at 5 PM and other recruiting efforts. TG gave thanks to Kara Malo, Katelyn Marchessault and Nina Meola for all of the collaboration and efforts in support of the events. TG reported the website redesign is ongoing and will include Home page redesign, collaboration with marketing and additional photos. Current hosting service doesn't allow all desired changes, so TG has authorized a rebuild at a different service to allow full content. SW reported that the board presentation to the Plaistow/Atkinson Republicans was well received and that SCA has been asked to speak to the Kingston/Hampstead Republicans on 14 May. LA shared that the SCA Board welcomes the invitation to present SCA along with the mission and speak to any group regardless of affiliation. LA inquired if any teachers would be able to speak at the 6 May event. TG to ask.
  - c. Facilities - Bathroom walls and doors for K are still on order since January. TG to investigate the status of the order. Security window continues to be delayed, the contractor is having it fabricated. Water/Lead testing updates are being provided to the community. From the Landlord- water treatment system providing water to our building, including SLC, is not working as designed. Water chemistry is "off," as a consequence, the lead from the joints is eroding into the water and coming down stream. The landlord is working with the Department of Environmental Services to update the water treatment system. Bottled water is being provided. Sandborn Regional is conducting a comprehensive energy efficiency audit partnered with Siemens which will include SCA at no cost to SCA. Energy efficiency recommendations will be provided to the administration. TW shared that costs of the survey are typically offset with energy savings. A contract has been put in place for entryway rugs and cleaning to reduce dirt/mud in the school. LA revisited CL inquiry of last month of possible improvements to the lower school playground. TG responded that ADA compliance limits the ability to

put chips in the entire area. TG to send ADA compliance to KR for evaluation of what possibilities there are to increase use of the playground area. CL inquired about the ability to pave a portion and add a basketball court or other beneficial play area for the scholars. The safety standoff for a swingset is prohibitive to the space. TG will inquire to the landlord about these possibilities.

- d. Human Resources - Open positions advertised: Principal, Curriculum Director, Math teacher, 4th and 5th grades. Phone interviews ongoing for openings. Current teachers asked to declare intentions by 15 April. JP addressed the possibility of an online learning solution as part of the toolset as a hiring solution if a critical teacher position remains unfilled.
  - e. Grants / Fundraising - CSP already covered. Schoolwide Title 1 funding will not be renewed.. TG stated that he is working with members of the board on a grant with ACTA and there is also a SCEF grant.
  - f. Principal's Report - JP reported no additional gains or losses of students. Overall on the year a total of 18/18 gain/loss of scholars. JP provided the discipline report. On April 9th there will be a Principal search committee meeting and an interview for the first candidate. Administration is looking into engaging with a search firm that has a high success rate for finding top principals. CL reiterated the need to find a Curriculum Director who is able to engage with Classical Education and enable the faculty to best utilize the resources available through Hillsdale curriculum. JP reported the positive efforts of the hard working staff and faculty. Potential for a partnership with Lionheart Academy for faculty training and Scholar Academic Olympics. 17 June is the last day of school
  - g. Committee Reports
    1. Parent Council - WN reported the successful Daddy/Daughter dance with a near 100% attendance of the girls in the school and more than 140+ people there. LA shared thanks to the PC for both the Mother/Son and Daddy/Daughter nights. PC continues to develop teacher appreciation plans, 8th grade class trip and fundraising efforts. Mini golf at Labelle Winery on 24 April with a rain date of 25 April. Texas Roadhouse fundraiser- gift cards can be bought the first week in May with 15 May being the fundraising day at Texas Roadhouse in Methuen.
    2. Curriculum Committee - KR reported the Classical Learning Test will occur 10 May from 1-3:30 at SCA with appx. 13 in person and additional 5 provided resources to take at home. Data is not shared or sold but can eventually be sent to schools that offer scholarships for CLT applicants.
6. Business
- a. 2025-2026 Academy Calendar- Mirrors Sandborn except March 10th(Voting day at the HS, Prof Dev day for SCA), June 12 is End of school year, TG included 5 days at the end of the year for professional development. LA inquired if the CY was built to required hours or required days and asked if professional development days could be more evenly distributed in the front half of the year. MG motioned to approve 2025-2026 Academic Calendar, SW Seconded. TW/yes, CL/yes, WN/yes, LA/yes, SW/yes, KA/yes, MG/ yes. 7/0
  - b. NHED General Assurances for FY25-26- TG- These are required in order for SCA to participate in CSP grant after 1 July, recommended so that SCA can access the CSP funds through summer as needed. TG - SCA is in compliance with the general assurances. TW Moved to execute the FY 26 General assurances, WN seconded. TW/yes, CL/yes, WN/yes, LA/yes, SW/yes, KA/yes, MG/ yes. 7/0

- c. Discuss concept of HR Committee- KR addressed the benefits of an HR committee, specifically onboarding and exit interviews. TG covered current processes stating that Mrs. Davis handles HR. TG to determine if a checklist for onboarding exists and direct implementation if it does not. TG to share exit interview documents with the board.
- 7. Policies - Reviewed AFR- Family Rights, TG made additions based on March board meeting to language surrounding health and reproduction notification requirements. TW motioned to approve AFR Family Rights policy as amended. TW/yes, CL/yes, WN/yes, LA/yes, SW/yes, KA/yes, MG/ yes. 7/0
- 8. Future Agenda - Identification of curriculum that could require notification to families-specific attention to science and PE/Wellness. TG to include notes on such instances in the employee handbook.
- 9. Parent Council - WN revisited an oversight during the prior conversation.
  - 1. Spanish EA presented. SW moved to approve Spanish EA, TW seconded.. TW/yes, CL/yes, WN/yes, LA/yes, SW/yes, KA/yes, MG/ yes. 7/0
  - 2. Rubix Cube EA presented. TW moved to approve Rubix cube EA, CL Seconded. TW/yes, CL/yes, WN/yes, LA/yes, SW/yes, KA/yes, MG/ yes. 7/0
- 10. Public Comment - No public comments.
- 11. Adjournment - WN motioned to adjourn. LA seconded. TW/yes, CL/yes, WN/yes, LA/yes, SW/yes, KA/yes, MG/ yes. 7/0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:36PM
  - a. Policy AFR - Family Rights, review
- 2. Future Agenda
- 3. Public Comment
- 4. Adjournment