



PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Seacoast Classical Academy Chartered Public School
Meeting of the Board of Trustees
Tuesday, 13 May 2025, 6:00PM
Seacoast Classical Academy
53 Carlton E Sockwell Way, Newton, NH 03858

Posted by 12 May 2025 on the door at 53 Carlton E Sockwell Way
and at <https://seacoastclassical.org>

Trustees Present: Linda Allard, Robert Chase, Michael Gendre, Cindy Lyons, William Nadeau, Kate Riddell, Terence Waldron

Trustees Not in Attendance: Simcha Weller

Persons Appearing Before the Board: Tim Galitski - SCA Executive Director, Arlene Quaratiello - SCA Middle School English Teacher, Stephen Palmer - SCA Middle School History Teacher

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

1. Call to Order - RC called the meeting to order at 5:59PM.
2. Public Comment - Ms. Quaratiello and Mr. Palmer shared highlights of their academic year. Mrs. Quaratiello worked with 5th graders on Greek and Latin roots and did this in a fun and active game type setting. Sentence diagramming was done actively at the white board. Many of the novels read in class have become scholars' new favorite books. Poetry and memorizing were a big part of the class. One scholar reflected that reciting "Twas the Night Before Christmas," to a lower grade was one of their favorite activities. Another scholar played the guitar and set a poem to music. Spelling Bee's were done every couple of weeks throughout the year, as well as the NH State Spelling Bee. Mr. Palmer shared that 5th graders worked through Renaissance, Reformation, Growth, Travel and Exploration. The 6th graders have done units on Greece and Rome. The 6th graders are working on a project making battle shields which may also be used for field-day. The curriculum is packed with many wonderful things to think about. Scholars are often overheard in the halls sharing the historical battles they just learned about with other scholars. Much of the curriculum comes alive for the scholars, and some are surprised because they thought history was going to be boring. Scholars in 7th grade have been working on a Constitution unit.
3. General Correspondence - None.
4. Minutes
 - a. Public Meeting of 22 April 2025 - MG moved to approve the minutes as written. KR seconded. 6-0-1.

- b. Nonpublic Session of 22 April 2025 - WN moved to approve the minutes as edited. CL seconded. 6-0-1.
- 5. Committee Reports
 - a. Parent Council - Parent Council President, Rachael Garbee, expressed how happy she and all the members of the PC were to support the Academy in this inaugural year. She enumerated the events that remain throughout this academic year. Staff Appreciation is this week. This has been a major undertaking involving PC members and scholars with the support of: decorating, gift bags, breakfast, lunch and sweet treat preparation. Restaurant nights continue this Thursday, May 15th. Family and friends of SCA are invited to dine at Texas Roadhouse in Methuen, MA, from 3pm to 9pm and a percentage of the proceeds will be donated to the PC. STEM, Chess, Drama, Spanish and Strings enrichment continues. A Fun-Run Fundraiser is being planned. The 8th grade was invited to participate in a fun run t-shirt design contest incorporating the virtues of the Academy. Scholars were encouraged to solicit donations for their participation. The PC is working to establish another mini-golf fundraising event at Mini Links at LeBelle Winery, Derry, NH. The second week in June is the 8th grade field trip to Washington, DC. An end of year field-day is being scheduled, as well as summer social.
 Also shared were first year reflections on administrative areas: access to direct communication with families and the greater community. How the Treasurer may more efficiently access the PC bank account and reflections on administrative management of the 8th grade field trip. RC states the Board would like to see the Academy enable more volunteerism in the future.
 - b. Curriculum Committee - CL shared that the curriculum committee will meet next on June 10th. She also referenced coordinating information about the Hillsdale curriculum available via the Hillsdale K-12 podcasts. For example, there are six (6) podcasts that align to the physical education curriculum. She shared that Naples Classical has been very helpful and generous to discuss how they set up curriculum and how they mentor first year teachers. KR shared that the Classical Learning Test was offered as an enrichment activity this year with eight (8) scholars participating in the lower test and five (5) scholars participating in the middle school test. The CLT is a paper test and a strong example of testing what is learned and not learning what is tested. For reference, the CLT-10 is equivalent to the PSAT and CLT-12 is equivalent to the SAT. In the upper tests there are potential scholarships attached to performance.
- 6. Principal's Report - JP was not in attendance, TG reviewed the summary provided (see attached)
- 7. Finance
 - a. Finance Report - RC reported the bank balances as of 13 May: Primary Savings Bank checking \$111,595.26, Primary Savings Bank money market \$84,700.34, Citizens Bank checking (SCA) \$31,890.55, Citizens Bank Checking (Parent Council) \$9,138.24. TG will contact HEFA on May 23rd requesting the \$200,000 loan to be used to ensure cash flow during the summer months. Interest will be

paid monthly, with the principal due to be returned to HEFA by the first week of November. TG stated that as of April, Academy revenues are at 95% of the full year plan, including 100% of the fundraising revenues. Expenses are at 85% of the full year plan. The Academy is on track to meet or exceed its budget plan for FY25. CB congratulated SCA for the FY25 budget vs actual being on track and more accurate than most first year charter schools that she has seen.

- b. CSP Update - TG shared that LD is in the process of adding more detail to supplies and furniture needed. Approximately \$105,000 of CSP funds remain.
- c. FY26 Budget - TG shared that changes in the 2026 budget are based on personnel changes. The budget needs to be submitted to NHDE by July 1st. The 2026 budget assumes 215 scholars.

8. Executive Director's Report

- a. Enrollment / Marketing - TG reported there are 231 scholars who have accepted offers of enrollment for 2025/26 academic year. There are 23 openings in 7th, 8th and 9th grade. Grades K-6 are fully enrolled and there are 53 scholars on waitlists (K/9, 1st/11, 2nd/9, 3rd/7, 4th/7, 5th/1, 6th/9). Administration will ask newly enrolled scholars for records transfers after the last day of school. TG thanked the Parent Council for organizing the Kindergarten Open House on April 17th, which had 30 families in attendance. There was also a Family Engagement Event on that same evening with 30 people in attendance. An additional Family Engagement Event will be held tomorrow evening, May 14th. The Seacoast Classical Education Foundation along with SCA Trustees and faculty attended the Ed Options Expo in North Hampton last week. Website 2.0 was launched last Friday. TG shared that yard signs are available.
- b. Facilities - TG reported that the entry security window has been installed, more insulation has been installed between the MS English classroom and the multipurpose room. Testing of the water for lead continues. TG will keep water bottles in place until the results come back. The kindergarten stall walls are scheduled to be installed at the end of the month. The water collection within the playground was discussed along with remedy of a drywell and ADA compliant pathways. These two enhancements would cost approximately \$15-20,000. CL inquired as to possible asphalt for a basketball playing surface. TG will discuss possible paving in the north east corner of the playground with the landlord.
- c. Grants / Fundraising - SCA applied for a \$10,000 matching grant from ACTA Classical Schools Foundation. This matching grant would be over the next 6 months. SCA applied for a grant from the Seacoast Classical Education Foundation. SCA is looking through grants databases for opportunities that align with the Academy's mission and vision. The board discussed recognizing donors with inaugural year books. TG may purchase ongoing access to one of these databases.
- d. Human Resources - RC stated this topic will be moved to the end of the meeting and the Board will go into Non-Public Session.

9. Business - None.

10. Policies

- a. Out-of-State Scholars - TG shared the enrollment process for out of state scholars is the same as for NH scholars, except that NH residents must be prioritized over out-of-state applicants. How special education situations would be handled between states is not fully known. TG has inquired with the NHED and awaits their guidance.
11. Future Agenda - None.
12. Public Comment - Krystal LeBrun shared a playground surface that would be placed on-top of a flat surface. Krystal will share this product information with TG.
13. Human Resources -
- a. RC moved to enter into Non-Public Session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II(b), the hiring of any person as a public employee. WN seconded. Roll call: WN/Yes, CL/Yes, RC/Yes, LA/Yes, KR/Yes, MG/Yes, TW/Yes. 7-0.
 - b. The Board entered into Non-public session at 7:48PM.
 - c. RC moved to come out of Non-public session. TW seconded. Roll call: CL/Yes, WN/Yes, RC/Yes, LA/Yes, KR/Yes, MW/Yes, TW/Yes. 7-0.
 - d. The Board returned to public session at 8:47PM.
 - e. The board discussed the initial criteria of hiring a search firm. KR moved to authorize the executive director to negotiate salaries with candidates. TW seconded. Roll call: CL/Yes, WN/Yes, RC/Yes, LA/Yes, KR/Yes, MW/Yes, TW/Yes. 7-0.
14. Adjournment - WN moved to adjourn. KR seconded. 7-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:50PM.