

**THE LEARNER-CENTERED SCHOOL, Inc. (TLCS, Inc.)
ANTIOCH CHARTER ACADEMY (ACA)
ANTIOCH CHARTER ACADEMY II (ACA II)
3325 Hacienda Way, Antioch, CA
REGULAR MEETING OF THE CHARTER COUNCIL
February 17, 2022
4:00 PM
Minutes**

Zoom Video Communications Meeting

1. Opening (Roll Call and Establishment of Quorum)

Meeting called to order at 4:03pm. In attendance were council members: Mrs. Debbie Hobin, Mr. Eric Tam, Mr. Greene, and Ms. Julie Haas-Wajdowicz. Staff members in attendance were: Mrs. Elisa McCutcheon, Mr. Todd Heller, Mrs. Edna Heller, Mr. Kevin Fuller, Ms. Dubitsky, Ms. Sarah McLean and Mrs. Andi Stahler. Also in attendance, Mrs. Kelly MacCallister.

2. Approval of Minutes

a. Regular Charter Council meeting of December 9, 2021

Motion made by Mrs. Hobin and seconded by Mr. Greene

Mrs. Hobin Yes

Ms. Haas-Wajdowicz Yes

Mr. Tam Yes

Mr. Greene Yes

3. Oral Communications: Non-agenda items: None

4. Comments from Staff

Mr. Fuller addressed the Council on behalf of ACA and stated that Primary just recently celebrated the 100th day of school with 100 reasons 'Why they love ACA'. Primary and Elementary just went Ice Skating for a Field Experience Trip. Intermediate is presenting their class projects, while getting ready for Outdoor Ed. Middle School is working with a local farm for their experiential learning, and they are going out to the farm every Friday to work, plant, grow, and harvest their crops.

Mr. Fuller also shared that ACA and ACA II staff will be taking a trip during the break to the Museum of Tolerance, to get training on how to have difficult conversations around bias, race, and identity, as well as other injustices.

Mrs. Dubitsky addressed the Council on behalf of ACA II and stated that the staff is getting AED certified, since they have their track and cross country teams on campus now. Middle School is hosting their dance tonight. Staff has successfully started the COVID testing on campus and has been going well the past couple of weeks. This has been helping to eliminate excess absences. The School Choice parade will be held during the week after the break, on March 4th around 8:30 on the midway of the fair grounds. All are welcome!

Mrs. McCutcheon addressed the Council on behalf of ACA II and stated that their Great Kindness Challenge was a lot of fun, with spirit days and daily kindness challenges. There were a lot of kind things happening all over campus.

Mr. Heller addressed the Council and shared that the annual School accountability report cards are available on our website. This is an annual update of various info about each school and is available for public access.

5. Discussion Items (for possible Action)

a. AB361 reform – teleconferencing requirements for Charter Council meetings

Mr. Fuller addressed the Council and shared that the primary effect of this reform is to allow public bodies to dispense with certain normally applicable Brown Act teleconferencing requirements wherever a public body holds a meeting during a proclaimed state of emergency. This must be voted on every 30 days by Council.

b. Nomination Committee - nomination of Kelly MacCallister for the open seat on the Charter Council.

Mr. Fuller addressed the Council and shared that the nomination committee, Mr. Heller, Mr. Tam, and Mr. Fuller, would like to officially nominate Kelly MacCallister as the nomination for the open seat on the Charter Council.

c. Audit Report (ACA / ACA II) – review report for the Year Ended June 30, 2021 (attached)

Mr. Heller addressed the Council and shared that this audit is conducted annually by an independent auditor and submitted to the proper agencies by December 15th every year. Mr. Heller pointed out that the audit findings concluded that we had a clean audit and both schools have a strong financial reserve. These reserves will allow our programs to function without cuts to education quality during future uncertainties.

d. Educational Assistance Plan application for Julie Will Nakayama and Rebecca Zaccardi (ACA teachers)

Mrs. Heller addressed the Council and shared that two employees have applied for the Educational Assistance Plan. Mrs. Nakayama and Mrs. Zaccardi have applied to get assistance on their Montessori Certification. The cost would be about \$2,400 per applicant, which covers tuition and books for the online courses with the North American Montessori Center. Mrs. Heller expressed the many benefits to having the Primary team fully certified in Montessori education. The ACA staff have voted and approved the applications.

e. Change to 403b Employer Contribution for the following Classified employee positions: CBO / Financial Director; Operations / Office Manager

Mrs. McCutcheon addressed the Council and shared that earlier this year a conversation on retirement benefits for classified staff was started. Initially the 3% match was approved for all classified employees. Mrs. McCutcheon pointed out that when looking at the three full time classified employees, an additional 5% match would be more comparable to what certificated staff members are receiving, as well as more competitive in the market around us. To stay competitive, and keep these three employees in their specific, important roles, Mrs. McCutcheon stated that they would like to offer the additional 5% match as well as a one time retroactive contribution for up to 10 years, for these three specific roles. This contribution would be based on current salaries and start dates for the positions. Staff from both sites voted and approved this change at the last combined meeting. The funding for this would come out of the school's reserve funds.

f. ACA rebranding: new motto - Together We Take Action, and a new logo

Mrs. Heller addressed the Council and shared that ACA had surveyed parents, students, and staff on Who ACA is, to identify a new logo, school colors, and school motto. Mrs. Heller updated the board on what the final selections were and that the reveal of the official new ACA Brand would be done on April 6th on campus.

g. ACA/ACAII LCAP Supplemental report (attached)

Mr. Fuller addressed the Council and went over the attached report Mrs. McCutcheon had put together. Mr. Fuller pointed out that ACA and ACA II have been provided with a significant increase in one time funding. Funding sources for ACA were - IPI Grant: In Person Instruction, which helps keeps class sizes small; ELO Grant: Extended Learning Opportunity, which allowed ACA to hold a STEAM summer camp and extend their after school program; EE Grant: Educator Effectiveness Grant, which helped support teachers and aides to examine cultural bias and collaborate as a community on difficult conversations.

Mrs. McCutcheon addressed the Council and went over how the funding assisted ACA . The IPI Grant: In Person Instruction, assisted in paying teacher salaries; ELO Grant: Extended Learning Opportunity, which allowed ACA II to expand the RTI program; EE Grant: Educator Effectiveness Grant, which helped support and fund professional development.

h. ACA/ACAII new policy for the 'Reduced Workload Program'

Mrs. Heller addressed the Council and went over what the Reduced Workload Program is. This program allows the governing boards to establish regulations to certificated employees to reduce their workload from fulltime to part time while maintaining their full time retirement benefits. To be eligible, employees must be at least 55 and they must have been employed full time for 10 years. Mrs. Heller explained that this is the first reading, and will need Council to critique it. This is a great benefit for ACA and ACA II, in that this will allow staff to mentor-in new teachers rather than throw them into a new classroom.

6. Action Items

- a. AB361 reform language. Approval of the required findings regarding the continuing emergency and vote to continue using the law's exemptions.**

Motion made by Mr. Greene and seconded by Mr. Tam

**Mrs. Hobin Yes
Ms. Haas-Wajdowicz Yes
Mr. Tam Yes
Mr. Greene Yes**

- b. Acceptance of Audit Report for the Year Ended June 30, 2021 as recommended by staff**

Motion made by Mrs. Hobin and seconded by Mr. Greene

**Mrs. Hobin Yes
Ms. Haas-Wajdowicz Yes
Mr. Tam Yes
Mr. Greene Yes**

- c. Approval of Education Assistance Plan for Julie Will Nakayama and Rebecca Zaccardi as recommended by staff**

Motion made by Mr. Greene and seconded by Mrs. Hobin

**Mrs. Hobin Yes
Ms. Haas-Wajdowicz Yes
Mr. Tam Yes
Mr. Greene Yes**

- d. Approval of the change to 403b Employer Contribution for the following Classified employee positions: CBO / Financial Director; Operations / Office Manager as recommended by staff

Motion made by Mrs. Hobin and seconded by Ms. Haas-Wajdowicz

Mrs. Hobin Yes
Ms. Haas-Wajdowicz Yes
Mr. Tam Yes
Mr. Greene Yes

- e. Approval of Kelly MacCallister for the open seat on the Charter Council as recommended by staff

Motion made by Ms. Haas-Wajdowicz and seconded by Mr. Greene

Mrs. Hobin Yes
Ms. Haas-Wajdowicz Yes
Mr. Tam Yes
Mr. Greene Yes

- f. Approval of ACA rebranding: new motto and a new logo as recommended by staff.

Motion made by Mrs. Hobin and seconded by Ms. Haas-Wajdowicz

Mrs. Hobin Yes
Ms. Haas-Wajdowicz Yes
Mr. Tam Yes
Mr. Greene Yes

7. Family Network Update – comments from ACA and ACA II Network board members

Mrs. Dubitsky shared with Council that the Walkathon is coming up on April 8th. They are all very excited to bring it back like the old days. The Family Network Board also wants to bring back the flocking that was a huge success from last year.

Mrs. Stahler addressed the Council on behalf of ACA and stated that the Family Network's Flurry of Fun Family night had a huge turnout, lots of families enjoyed hot beverages, s'mores, and crafts. They had their First Friday, at Antioch's Skipolini's, where people and students were able to mingle. The Coin Wars fundraiser is coming back this year and will take place next month for all levels.

8. Comments from the Charter Council:

9. Scheduling of Next Meeting

- a. Next Regular Charter Council meeting – Thursday, March 10, 2022

10. Adjournment

Motion made by Mrs. Hobin and seconded by Mr. HAAS
Mr. Tam– Yes, Mrs. Hobin- Yes, Ms. Haas-Wajdowicz - Yes, Mrs. Greene– Yes. Meeting adjourned at: 5:35 pm.