

## Catalyst Board Meeting

December 6, 2021

Board Attendees: Susan Moore, Connie Neely, Jo Collar, Natalie Doemel, Anna Krueger

Guests: Scott Bleck, District Administrator, Kandi Martin, Pupil Services Director, Jen Bruce, Associate Principal

Absent: Kasey Kaepernick, teacher

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- I. **Meeting called to order and a quorum was established at 4:57p.m. All Board members were present in-person.**
- II. **Public forum---no discussion**
- III. **Motion to approve minutes** from Natalie Doemel, second by Jo Collar, approved and passed 5-0.
- IV. **Anna Krueger presented the Catalyst Daily schedule.** Most seniors are half-days, juniors are full days. Most learning labs include Odysseyware or assignments for other classes. During learning lab, they come in and get free breakfast, announcements. Anna presented a schedule (see attached) of what each teacher---Kasey and Anna teach during the day at Catalyst. Kasey Kaepernick teaches PE, Contemporary Issues, Wellness and PE twice per day and Vocational English. Anna teaches Consumer Math and Personal Finance, integrated math and GED prep. Anna discussed the daily routine.

### **Discussion as a result of the presentation:**

- A. Jo Collar inquired about 10th and 9th graders. Anna explained there was 1 sophomore and there may be a 9th grader at semester.

Anna shared what students wrote about what they like best about Catalyst---comments were: 2 PE classes, it is quiet, teachers go out of their way to help, teacher actually care about student health, and learning at your own pace.

Anna shared that students made a non-traditional meal right before break.

Becky Rodriguez (driving instructor) gave a presentation on safe winter driving.

Jen Bruce will be the guest speaker this week to do an acrylic painting project.

Susan Moore asked about the topic of driving. 10 students drive to school, one takes the bus, the rest get rides from their friends or parents. Half of the group are juniors, they are working on their license now. Anna explained that not all students are interested in getting their license.

- B. Success from the start of the year---mental health is going well. The counselors are coming every week. Students are also meeting with their own individual therapists and also do tele-health visits. Anna also discussed that Erin Marsh the social worker has been visiting weekly with her therapy dog (Malcolm).

Anna gave a tour of the facilities and showed the new “small group” room that the students built with the assistance of the HS tech ed teacher.

We also examined the ADA accessibility of the building.

Anna also discussed what students did during lunch.

Natie Doemel inquired about the art hanging around the room. Anna said all the art was made by students in the building. There is a very large sketch on the wall made by a former student and several smaller paintings and drawings made by current students.

Jo Collar complimented the teaching staff and said that she is very impressed with the nice changes. Susan Moore also expressed how happy the students are under the teaching of Anna and Kasey. Anna said that Kasey has been a very large promoter of the mental health aspects of students’ lives.

## **V. New Business**

- A. Discussion/planning of 2021-22 School Year Catalyst Academy Board meeting dates  
The following dates were selected:

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February 7, 2022

April 4, 2022

June 6, 2022

The team discussed that we will maintain the meeting dates for the remainder of the year. The Board indicated that they like and want to keep the every-other-month schedule and feel that is a good fit.

Jo Collar asked about a former graduate coming back to speak to the students.

Connie Neely asked Jen Bruce if she sees this program expanding in the future.

Jen Bruce indicated that there have been some choices to the placement of students.

Jo Collar asked about what is available for them at the high school. Jen discussed the EBD teacher (Chris Doran).

The board discussed as a group that they would be interested in learning more about the former graduates.

Jo Collar discussed the comparison/contrast between the initial program and the current program, as Jo was a member of the team that started the Catalyst Academy Program.

Natalie Doemel requested that there is a monitoring report at each meeting. She would like to continue to see the updated data at each meeting.

**VI. Adjournment at 5:37 p.m.**

Motion to adjourn by Jo Collar

Second by Anna Krueger

Passed, 5-0

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Connie Neely, Clerk