

Catalyst Board Meeting

February 1, 2021

Board Attendees: Pat O'Brien, Natalie Doemel (virtual), Susan Moore, Candy Poehls, Anna Krueger.
Guests: Scott Bleck, District Administrator; Kasey Kaepernick, teacher; Brian Yerkey, principal; Jen Bruce, Associate HS principal; and Kandi Martin, Pupil Services Director

I. Meeting called to order and quorum established at 4:58 a.m. All members were present.

II. Public Forum--no discussion

III. Student guest speaker: Bryce (Student at Catalyst Academy)

Bryce is a student at Catalyst. He talked about the pros of his experience. He credited Ms. Bruce for assisting his placement at Catalyst. He talked about how his behavior has changed. He no longer procrastinates. He is excited that now he may graduate early, as a result of his placement at Catalyst. Bryce didn't want any changes for Catalyst. His only criticism was that he wants a better heater. Bryce's plan for the future is Fox Valley Tech. He got into the Avionics program. He is obtaining his private pilot's license and aspires to be a crop duster. He is building an airplane in his garage. Bryce also talked about his courses, especially his math courses. It is a combination of direct instruction and hands-on learning. He also takes classes on Odyssey and Edgenuity and was pleased with both of those platforms.

The board followed up with a couple clarifying questions: Pat O'Brien requested more information on what Edgenuity is as a product. Susan Moore asked for more clarification on Bryce's pathway to obtain his pilot's license. Susan Moore asked more questions about future employment options with his pilot's license.

Approval of minutes of for December 14, 2020 meeting

Motion to approve December 14, 2020 minutes by Anna Krueger

Second by Susan Moore

Passed, 5-0

IV. New Business

A. Review of activity report.

Anna Krueger and Kasey Kaepernick both highlighted items in the activity report including the numbers of students enrolled online and virtual. They highlighted that 5 students have already graduated, 5 student athletes and 10 students completing the GEDO program. Anna Krueger also highlighted the average number of credits that students are taking, both virtual and in-person. She also highlighted that all of the GEDO students have passed all of the tests they have attempted to take.

Mr. O'Brien inquired what we are doing about students who are struggling with the on-line program. Ms. Krueger answered that she offers to have one-on-one meetings with the students. Mr. Kaepernick also said that the staff also reaches out to parents. Both Mr. Yerkey and Ms. Bruce discussed how students are invited back when they are not succeeding in the virtual format. Mr. Bleck also addressed that topic.

- B. Monitoring Report
Combined with the activity report
- C. Guest speaker--Bryce (from Catalyst Academy) was allowed to go first on the agenda. See comments and summary above.
- D. Continued discussion on Student Placement decisions
Mr. O' Brien was discussing a placement decision of a particular student. Ms. Bruce explained that there was a miscommunication between the student and a parent. The student situation was discussed and examined. Mr. O' Brien would like the situation examined and followed up on. Mr. Yerkey encouraged the board to reach out directly in the future. Mr. O' Brien highlighted that he encouraged the parents to come to the public forum. Mr. O' Brien encouraged the team to continue to assist the Catalyst students to help make those connections outside of school. Ms. Krueger and Mr. Kaepernick highlighted that 20 of the current students are currently employed. The teaching staff also discussed Youth Apprenticeship and employer outreach to the jobs the students are seeking in their post-secondary pursuits.
- E. 2020-21 Meeting Dates:
April 5, 2021 (will be rescheduled for April 19)
June 7, 2021

There was a request by Pat O' Brien to change the meeting date. Candy Poehls made a motion, the second was by Susan Moore.
All in favor---motion carried 5-0.

- V. **Adjournment 5:43 p.m.**
Motion to adjourn by Candy Poehls
Second by Anna Krueger
Passed, 5-0

Natalie Doemel, Clerk