

## Catalyst Board Meeting

October 5, 2020

Board Attendees: Pat O'Brien, Natalie Doemel (virtual), Susan Moore, Candy Poehls, Anna Krueger (virtual).

Guests: Kasey Kaepernick, teacher (virtual) Scott Bleck, Superintendent, Brian Yerkey, Principal and Kandi Martin, Pupil Services Director

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**I. Meeting called to order and quorum established at 5:00p.m.**

**II. Public Forum--no discussion**

**III. Approval of minutes of August 3, 2020 board meeting**

**Discussion to potentially change Dec. 7 meeting date, was brought up at this time due to conflict**

Motion to approve August 3, 2020 minutes by Susan Moore

Second by Candy Poehls

Passed, 4-0

**IV. New Business**

- A. Review of activity report by Anna Krueger. She was very pleased with the Edgenuity on-line learning platform. The teaching team is working with building habits to prepare students for the potential of on-line learning. They are doing live learning during regularly scheduled class time. She also highlighted the COVID response of the building. There is a split student schedule (between a.m. and p.m.) She reported on the additional cleaning, the use of masks, daily temperature checks, and one-way hallways. Mr. O'Brien asked how often students attend virtual meetings and if that is part of Edgenuity or part of the regular instructional programs. Both Kasey Kaepernick and Anna Krueger clarified the school day and how often students are required to sign in and for what purposes.
- B. Update on start of year/progress/schedule for students by Anna Krueger  
Anna discussed that 37 students are currently attending, 11 virtual and 26 in-person.
- C. Monitoring Report by Kasey Kaepernick and Anna Krueger  
Kasey Kaepernick and Anna Krueger discussed how the Edgenuity platform works and how the virtual on-line classes are working and highlighted their daily schedules and the student expectations within that schedule.
- D. Review of Catalyst Charter by Pat O'Brien  
Candy Poehls said we should make a change, so the Catalyst Board members can be more active with the Catalyst Academy. Pat O'Brien wanted to give compliments to Anna and Kasey. He was pleased with the monitoring reports and activity reports, but he is disappointed that the board is not doing more. He said these meetings are to be about what the Catalyst Board is doing, not about what the teachers are doing. Pat O'Brien referenced Page 4, number 8 and the Charter contract. Candy Poehls said the Board needs to be allowed to do their job.

Mr. O'Brien referenced a parent that called to complain that her younger student was not able to enroll.

Mr. O' Brien asked Susan Moore and Candy Poehls if they had anything else to add. Mr. Scott Bleck wanted to ask the Board what else they wanted to be involved in. Candy Poehls wanted to inquire if we are doing enough with the Catalyst Curriculum about "Life Skills"--application, resume', pay stubs, etc., Candy Poehls wanted to ensure that students are getting enough one-on-one time.

Kasey Kaepernick answered the questions by highlighting all the future employers that the Catalyst visits with the students. Yes, both Kasey and Anna fill out resumes, etc., with the students. They also serve as references for the student. Anna Krueger explained the State of WI financial literacy requirement that the students have. The curriculum is about pay stubs, vehicle purchasing, filling out taxes, etc.; these are requirements of the Consumer Math class.

The board was very impressed with many of the items in the Consumer Math curriculum.

Pat O' Brien asked to know the "plans and strategies" for the start of the year. Pat was trying to say that the Board would like to see what is happening "before" rather than seeing the monitoring report "after" the activities happened. He expressed frustration as a school board member trying to be part of the organization, trying to make it better and specifically wanted to be part of the planning, so that he could contribute more.

Mr. Scott Bleck then asked the Board if they had a theme or an idea that they want to incorporate throughout.

Ms. Anna Krueger then asked the board if they wanted to put together a list of common themes that the Board wanted the students to learn--curriculum vs. "soft skills."

Candy Poehls asked about ELA instruction and teaching the "proper English language" vs. conversational English. Kasey Kaepernick explained how they take care of that in the classroom. Mr. Kaepernick also expanded on how to model proper behavior. Mr. Kaepernick highlighted an example of how Mr. Yerkey did that for the students this week.

Mr. Yerkey asked some clarifying questions about what exactly the board was looking for.

Natalie Doemel said the teachers have been very receptive to providing information that the board inquired about. Natalie was complimenting the teachers on their responsiveness and their ability to continually adjust the monitoring report as requested.

Susan Moore agreed with Natalie. Susan said the monitoring reports are excellent.

Pat O' Brien made a suggestion that the Catalyst team put together a document that they can look at and review.

Mr. Bleck suggested that the Board discuss at the next meeting, the top 3 items that the Board would like to see accomplished at the Catalyst Academy.

Pat O' Brien was concerned that there is a negative impression of the Catalyst Academy in the community, based on the parent he talked to.

Mr. Yerkey requested that on the next agenda meeting they have:

- 1) Curriculum for 2nd semester as a topic on the agenda

2) Enrollment process into Catalyst Academy explained as a topic on the agenda

Susan Moore also asked for a quick explanation of the Wellness Class curriculum.

E. 2020-21 Meeting Dates:

December 7, 2020 (may be rescheduled, a new date will be sent to the team).

February 1, 2021

April 5, 2021

June 7, 2021

V. **Adjournment 5:59p.m.**

Motion to adjourn by Anna Krueger

Second by Candy Poels

Passed, 4-0

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Natalie Doemel, Clerk