



Board Meeting Minutes

Date and Location

Wednesday June 24, 2020
11:30 AM
Zoom

Board Members Present

Patricia Edwards
Amber Fields
Jordan Maitland
Karen Snyder
Joey Wright

Others Present (Staff, Public)

Aimee Brown, DCA, School Leader
Dr. Jim Dalton DCA, Superintendent
Cora Collier, DCA
Julie Gurule, DCA
Paul Dennison, Damar, Finance Director
Elaine Showalter, CFO
Katie McCoy, Chief Executive Assistant

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the February 2020 meeting were approved.

June 1st officially marked the end of the 4th quarter and the 2019-2020 school year for Damar Charter Academy. After transitioning to a variety of remote learning strategies during the final week of the 3rd quarter, DCA continued to follow the newly established Continuous Learning Plan (CLP) that was submitted to and approved by the Indiana Department of Education for the remainder of the academic year.

DCA's graduating class of 2020 boasted numerous achievements and heartwarming stories of determination and resilience. These 24 students overcame a plethora of challenges to reach their goal of graduating, including four students who earned diplomas. In celebration of their accomplishments, DCA staff submitted video clips focused on the theme "You Can Count on Me" that were compiled into an overall video presentation for the graduates. Many diplomas and certificates were hand-delivered to the individual recipients, and all graduates were gifted with a special cookie bouquet and \$50 gift card.

Per the IDOE's requirements, DCA submitted a Continuous Learning Plan outlining the various instructional methods and strategies to be utilized during the COVID-19 school closure. It included modalities such as paper/pencil, Chromebooks, Ipads, Google Classroom, and Zoom for virtual lessons and meetings. The plan also stated that DCA teachers would be available to assist students during normal school hours, Monday through Friday, and that they would communicate with all families twice weekly at a minimum. This plan will continue to be in place for the 2020-2021 academic year, in the event another school building closure becomes necessary to protect the health and safety of students and staff.

The Mayor's Office of Education Innovation (OEI) Academic Performance Analyst, Haley Wing Suttle, recently announced her resignation. As of now, her replacement has not yet been publicized; however, DCA will continue working closely with OEI in the interim. We wish Haley all the best in her future endeavors as a Senior Data Manager with Rise Indy.

OEI recognized Molly Wells as a nomination for the first Teacher of the Year. Molly did not win but she did receive a nice recognition gift and DCA and Damar are very proud of her accomplishments.

Grants/Fundraising

As previously noted, DCA has submitted a grant application to the Damar Foundation. If awarded, funds will be used to purchase additional technology for the school, including hardware such as chromebooks and tablets, as well as educational software. In addition, this would assist with issuing devices for the purpose of completing school work

and/or replacing any student-issued technology that becomes lost or damaged during a potential COVID-19 school closure.

A-F Accountability

In accordance with directives from the State to the Department of Education, Damar Charter Academy has submitted an updated and revised Alternative Accountability Model for consideration. This model has been shared with DCA's Lobbyist firm (Barnes and Thornburg) for review and support. As things in the State move back toward fuller operations, we expect to have a number of meetings with legislators and DOE to review and discuss how the updated model can be utilized for student body at DCA and the evaluation of the overall operation of the school.

Financials

DCA continues to maintain financial stability. Educational Budgets remain in good standing.

The Budget was also prepared for the 2020-2021 school year. Members approved the budget as presented.

Committee Structure and Reporting

The members agree that Academics, Finance, Governance and Community/Advocacy committees will be formed with staff and members. The committees will meet beginning in October with reporting guidelines.

DCA Re-Entry Guidelines

Attached to the notes is the Re-Entry Guidelines approved by the DCA Board of Directors.