

Minutes – September 12, 2023
South Buffalo Charter School
Board of Directors Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 6:02 p.m.

Members Present:

In Person: Chris Schafer, Elissa Tipton, Kathy Linhardt, Matt Szalkowski, Jen Mack

Virtual: Anne Marie Tryjankowski, Jim Weimer

Members Absent: None

Public Comment: None

Presentation: None

Board Reports:

- Executive Committee – None
- Academic Committee – Meeting scheduled for 09/20/23
- Facility Committee – Scheduling a meeting for week of September 18th
- Finance Committee – Met 09/12/23 prior to Board Meeting – finances look good, some delays, Schedule of Bills and Check Registers for SBCS approved for Board vote
- Human Resources/Appeals Committee – Meeting scheduled for 09/21/23

New Business:

- Motion to approve the minutes from the Board Meeting on August 8, 2023 was made by Kathy Linhardt; seconded by Jim Weimer. Vote: All in favor.
- Enrollment Summary – See attached.
- Superintendent’s Report – See attached. In addition to what is attached, Mr. Ehrle discussed professional development week and employee recognition. Employees who have been employed between 10-14 years (there were 9) received gift boxes; employees who have been employed between 15-19 years (there were 18) received gift boxes; employees who have been employed between 20-24 years (there were 8) received a crystal clock. All gifts were personalized.
- Consensus Agenda
 - Motion to approve the Schedule of Bills and Check Registers ONLY for SBCS was made by Elissa Tipton; seconded by Matt Szalkowski. Vote: All in favor.
- Motion to move into executive session to discuss a legal matter was made by Jen Mack; seconded by Matt Szalkowski. Vote: All in favor.

Executive session was called to order at 6:24 p.m.

- Motion to leave executive session was made by Anne Marie Tryjankowski; seconded by Jen Mack. Vote: All in favor.

Executive session was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Meeting was reconvened at 6:50 p.m.

- Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Kathy Linhardt; seconded by Elissa Tipton.
Vote: All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.

Enrollment Summary

September 2023

As of Sept 8, 2023, we have the following:

K 98 (0) 3 Pending

1 101 (9)

2 101 (36)

3 103 (26)

4 103 (26)

5 105 (34)

6 102 (11)

7 104 (15)

8 100 (7)

Total = 919 + 3 pending (922)

The number in parentheses is the number of wait list students. Many grades have a considerable amount.

The pending students in grade K are mostly enrolled. Parents have filled out applications and brought most of their paperwork in. One or two items are left for each applicant (items like vaccination records and home address verification are often the hold ups).

Superintendents Report

September 2023 The school year has began!

Human Resources:

A total of 16 new staff to start the school year. I reported previously how we have filled most spots with subs and Buffalo State student teachers. Here is the break down:

K – 2 Teachers, 2 IA

1- 1 Teacher

2- 4 Teachers

4- 2 Teachers

5- 1 teacher

7- 1 Teacher

PE- 1 Teacher

FACS- 1 Teacher

Art – Resignation occurred, looking for replacement during 30 day window

Accounts Specialist starts on 9/25/23

BOCES DEI Consortium: Erie 1 BOCES has a year long consortium and SBCS will send 7 staff members to the six PD sessions. Superintendent, Behavior Specialist, Social Worker, Grade 5 Teacher, Grade 7 Teacher, AS Curriculum, and Family Engagement Coordinator.

NYS Reports:

ESSA Title Grants – due on 8/31/2023. Submitted on time. Breakdown:

Title 1a – SBCS received \$450,328. An increase from last school year. \$5060 we are required to put aside for homeless students. \$12,650 we are required to put aside for neglected students. This allows SBCS to utilize \$432,618 for items that qualify under Title 1a guidelines. As far back as I can see SBCS has utilized Title 1 monies to offset intervention teachers' salaries. This year the submission allows for 70% of nine teacher salaries. 70% is used as Title monies are to be utilized for programs due to free reduced status. Our figure for that demographic is over 70%, keeping us safe from utilizing monies for students who do not "qualify."

Title 2a – SBCS received \$56, 151. About an \$18,000 increase from the previous year. Title 2 is very restricted in its usage. All of the monies will be utilized on professional development. Spread out through 3 places. BOCES, ACASE and ELA.

Title 4a – SBCS received \$29,298. This is a decrease of just over \$2000. This actually benefits us in one way. It's a small decrease, but if under \$30,000 many of the restrictions are lifted. SBCS will utilize this funding to offset Spanish teacher salary, STEAM night, Bullying/Harassment (safe schools initiative), FACS and Tech teacher salaries (well-rounded students initiative).

Title 3 – SBCS was awarded about \$1500 and is joining the charter schools consortium as our ELL student number is about 15. Any number less than 50 requires school to band together and then as a consortium determine how monies are spent. It is usually on PD and supplies.

PD – 8 – due on 9/8/2023 was successfully submitted on time.

Maintenance/Cleaning: This crew did a wonderful job of getting the school ready for opening day. They were open to trying new methods and products as well learning new tricks of the trade. We were ahead of schedule this school year. The concrete work on the exterior is very well done. Currently we are

working together at purging storage areas. This will take some time, but we believe it is time to go through and remove items that have no further use, condense, etc.

Curriculum: we are in the process of creating a first floor and second floor curriculum/materials/manipulatives room. Through time (not recently) SBCS has collected many sources of materials that have found their way to storage. 2 spaces have been designated for use and are accessible to all staff. In the coming months we will rescue these resources and make them available to all staff with a first-floor room and a second-floor room. All of admin will work toward Making this happen.

Principals Report

September 12th, 2023

The leadership team is working towards supporting every teacher as they attempt to help the school reach our three school wide goals That we added to our charter initiatives (92% attendance, 99.75% behavioral referral free, 125% growth on I-Ready). Each teacher was asked to give two professional and one personal goal for their school year. Each direct supervisor is setting up 10–15-minute meetings with every teacher throughout the month of September to meet individually with every teacher to help them support the pursuit of their goals.

The training week was met with very positive feedback from the teaching staff. Teachers were trained on the “Nuts and Bolts” of the school year, which included new laws and regulations, a review of the welcome back binder and handbook, grade level team meetings, MTSS training, Tier 1 classroom strategies training, etc. The teachers also played a whole staff game in which they needed to guess embarrassing moments of fellow staff members. It was a hoot!

We had our Back-to-School Picnic / School supply drop off on Wednesday, August 30th. The event was very well attended as parents and students were able to meet classroom teachers, enjoy the vendors and food trucks on site and even grab a treat from the Cooking Club Bake Sale!

-K-8 held grade level meetings during the first week of school to remind students of rules and expectations of the building.

-The Handbook, One-Calls, and a flyer at the end of June was sent home informing and reminding families of the uniform shift to khaki and navy blue bottoms.

-Admin is now joining the cafeteria staff to assist in monitoring lunches. Between admin in every lunch, a new cafeteria configuration, and mixed grade levels, the cafeterias have started off the year as a calm and enjoyable place to be.

-Unity Games will be held during Fall Fest this year to kick off homeroom competitions again. Unity Games and behavior competitions are part of the positive behavioral enforcement system that is continuing this year. New this year is school-based community service as an alternative to lunch detention.

-Starting this week every morning bus will be boarded by Ms. Celeste to help reteach what safe and respectful behavior looks like while riding the bus. Afternoon buses will follow.

-7th and 8th grade has spent some time establishing goals for themselves and publishing their goals for the first 5 weeks. It is a pretty nifty board of student-centered work to check out on the second floor.

>>> EIKZL 2 MEEKZ OL ZCHOOF <<<

WHAT ARE YOUR GOALS?