

**Days Creek Charter School K-12
Regular Monthly Board of Directors Meeting
September 9, 2020**

Charter Board Members Present: Diane Swingley, Jim Docherty, Matt Giles, Rex Fuller, Valerie Anderson, Anna Rickards, Matt Anderson. On line Google Meets: Cathy Knapp.
Administration: Steve Woods. On line Google Meets: Cathy Knapp
District Staff: On line Google Meets: Brian Agee
Public/Students: Terry Woods. Student: Kate Clifton

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order by Diane Swingley at 6:08 p.m.
2. **Pledge of Allegiance:** All recited the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve agenda, Valerie; seconded by Matt. No discussion, passed unanimously.**
4. **Approval of Minutes: a. August 5, 2020 Regular Meeting – Motion to approve minutes by Valerie; seconded by Matt. No discussion, passed unanimously.**
5. **Public Input:** None
6. **Appoint and Swear In Student Directors:** Kate Clifton applied for the Position #11. She was not able to fill out the application, so Steve read the questions to her and she answered them clearly and articulately. Kate is the first freshman appointed to the Charter Board since its establishment in May 2005. Matthew Anderson was re-appointed, moving to Position #12. **Matt Giles motioned to appoint Kate and re-appoint Matt as student directors for the 2020-21 school year. Valerie seconded the motion. No discussion, passed unanimously.** The student directors were sworn in by Diane. Diane suggested we use this time for student input. Matt reported that the teachers were more “smooth” and students were more attentive. He also shared he was taking dual credit classes through SOU. Kate reported the teachers overall were doing a very good job. She also shared she prefers doing her assignments on paper and not on line. Steve explained the need to do more digital work due to COVID situation but that she can still do her work on paper. Matthew shared some thoughts about this topic.
7. **Report of Executive Director, Steve Woods: a. Q & A regarding items from the District Board Agenda –** Steve reported the enrollment (197) was up over the budgeted number (190). There were no questions concerning the District Board Agenda. Steve then spoke to the video conference Count Superintendents had today with Dr. Dannenhoffer, Douglas County Director of Public Health. Dr. Dannenhoffer shared the new county guidelines for schools. For rural schools the cohort parameter is now 100. Students now do not need to wear masks while in classes if they remain 6 feet apart, but must still wear masks outside of classes. Steve led most of this discussion.
b. Curriculum enhancements and tools/devices – This item was put off until Cathy’s report. **c. A brief overview of school opening –** Steve enthusiastically reported the start of school has been good. He reported students are really engaged. The school day is two hours less per day so teachers can prepare and work with on line students. Anna commented that due to frequent technical difficulties class instructional time is more difficult and she wished she had more instructional time. Steve reported there are about 24 students distance learning, mostly in the elementary grades. Steve reported the state requires at least 90 hours per year of social/emotional instructional time. This instruction involves a combination of different things, like how you feel and examining case studies with students. Matt Giles shared what he is doing with this time in the Success Class. He uses

questionnaires on how students adjust to this time, conflict resolution, goal setting, planning, plus the teachers are adding their own areas of interest.

8. Report(s) from Cathy Knapp and James Ellis: Cathy reported the Dibbles testing has been completed and secondary testing is scheduled in a week or two. Cathy then reported on a new reading program, "Reading Plus". It assesses reading vocabulary and teaches skim reading. The reading test results show a wide range of vocabulary reading skills. These results help with developing differentiated learning and she will be sharing all of this with the teachers. Steve added the math test results also show a wide range of abilities. He briefly talked about the elementary math software called Dream Box that has lessons and practice opportunities that seem to engage the students. There is a lot of dialogue among teachers so the assignments can be differentiated to the student's reading level. The effects of the teaching/learning gap created by closing school on March 13, 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic are better defined by using the additional assessment programs. Steve reported *the smaller classes created by splitting the lower grade levels have been a great benefit* because teachers are able to give individual students more attention.

9. Announcements: An additional announcement was shared. PSAT/SAT tests will be given on campus in October.

10. Work Session: Steve described the *What We Do* expectation for the teachers. He went over this again and discussed the important need for the Charter Board Directors to go to Atlas and pick a teacher and look at their lesson plans and curriculum map to see how the lessons line up with *What We Do*. He explained that the following Friday during in-service he will be going over this with the staff to work on getting more engagement in *What We Do*. Steve shared his Action Steps for the Charter Board Members. He wants directors to observe the classes, either on line or in person that they have researched on Atlas. He shared that he plans to tell the teachers this Friday they will be observed, not evaluated, to create dialogue. Steve then took the board in detail through the process of logging into Atlas, searching for a teacher and a class to look at lessons and curriculum maps. He then took us through the Observation Tool for observing a class and giving feedback to the teacher.

Matt Giles then requested a short discussion and permission for what he would like to do for the Capstone Project this school year. He feels that the Covid-19 situation requires the following changes for seniors this year. First, he would like a group senior project that the class does this school year. Seniors suggested several fun activities, like drive in movie night, paint ball game, campus improvement work, or give back to school-type project. Matt would also like to have two times for the students to present to the charter board. Suggestions involved a job interview after completing a job application along with a resume. Another suggestion involved an interview for a college scholarship. There was an active discussion over Matt's request along with some overall discussion about the Capstone Project itself. Steve asked the board to consider what the major blocks that should be in a student's portfolio that might get extra recognition at graduation if completed. **Anna made a motion to approve Matt's idea for board interviews and group give back to school project instead of volunteer time for the Capstone project this year. Jim seconded the motion. No other discussion. The motion passed unanimously.**

14. Adjourn: Val made motion to adjourn, Matt seconded the motion. No discussion, unanimously passed at 9:14PM

Submitted by Jim Docherty
Charter Board Secretary