Final Board Meeting Minutes

Date: October 28, 2025 Meeting
Called to Order: 5:19 PM
Attendance: All board members present (no absences).

Approval of Previous Meeting Notes

• September meeting notes approved (Motion: Anne Dichele, Second: Adam Norris).

Director's Update – Matthew Nittoly

- Enrollment: 236 (as of Oct 1), on target.
- Professional Development: Interdisciplinary unit revision; PMT-UM training (emotional/behavioral management).
- Data Teams: Reviewing benchmarks; building intervention & progress-monitoring plans.
- Teacher Goals: Conferences begin next week (for 2025–26).
- Compliance: Annual report and School Safety & Security Plan completed ahead of deadlines.
- Student Achievement Preview: Proposal to present Smarter Balanced & MAP data at early-December meeting.
- Facilities/Traffic: Construction across the street causing periodic bus access issues (~2x/week).
- Community/Culture: Halloween parade noted; upcoming holidays.

Financial Report – Adam Norris

- Status: Early FY stable, on budget; +$9,000 favorable variance.
- Investments: New CD generating ~$1,000/month interest.
- Accounting Clarifications: Insurance claim reserves; prepaid expenses for field trips.
- Banking/Fraud: Bank advocating Positive Pay check-fraud system; requires weekly check files, fees apply.
- Larry shared a personal check-fraud incident underscoring complexity and liability.
- Board discussed feasibility given workload.

Membership Updates

- Parent Seat: One nomination received (Amira Vidaz).
- Community Seats: Candidate Jessica Vonashek expressed interest.
- Board to review resume; invite to next meeting for interview/possible vote.

Fundraising Update – Deborah Whalen

- Event Attendance: ~30–33 registrants; board urged to RSVP.
- Donations: 18 items secured; two high-value silent-auction items; seeking additional items/certificates.
- Promotion: Use Instagram (managed by Amanda) to boost visibility.
- Packaging: Consider bundling small items into themed baskets with clear tags.
- Outreach: All board/staff to recruit friends; Larry to send sponsorship check.

SIDE BY SIDE
CHARTER SCHOOL

Future Fundraising Concepts

- Boosterthon: Concerns about unclear cause, timing conflicts (testing), low support, and high vendor fees.
- Consider pausing/replacing with community-centric events (e.g., 5K or kids' fun run).
- Carnival Concept (Kevin): Public carnival with rides/games/concessions run by faculty/parents.
    - Limitations: Lease restrictions, labor intensity, weather risk; requires deeper exploration.

School Mascot — Nell Conroy

- Shortlist: Stingrays vs Sand Sharks (both Long Island Sound animals).
- Process: Present info to students/teachers, then vote.
- Note: Mascot is a spirit symbol; existing branding/logos remain unchanged.

Meeting adjourned at 6:14 PM (Motion: Anne Dichele, Second: Adam Norris)

Next Meeting: December 2, 2025 (In-Person)

Agenda for 5:30pm 12/2/25 (VIRTUAL):

Roll Call

Public Session

Call to Order

Review/Approval of October Meeting Minutes

New Business

Director's Update

Finance Committee

Fundraising Update