

Board Members

Jennifer Lague, Chair	Brenda Willis (DCSD)
Nichole Reimer, Vice Chair	Adam Burch
Shannon Hudson, Treasurer	Mary Ann Connors-Krikorian (DCSD)
Kirsten Kortz	Craig Cerino
Erika Cohen (DCSD)	
Isobel Graves	

October 6, 2020

6:30 p.m. Board Meeting

Virtual Meeting - The public is welcome to join at:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/73319645087?pwd=U2I5R1lmbFc0L2NGZmRKbm1QY2xodz09>

Meeting ID: 733 1964 5087

Passcode: w3CTxb

Minutes

1. Call to Order at 6:36 pm - Roll Call
 All present except for Shannon Hudson, Mary Ann Connors-Krikorian, and Brenda Willis
2. Governance - Consent Agenda Items - **Action**
 - a. [Approval of 06.08.2020 minutes](#)
 - b. [Approval of 08.13.2020 minutes](#)
 - c. [Approval of electronic minutes \(DOE 25\)](#)
 - d. [May Financial Statements](#)
 - e. [June Financial Statements](#)
 - f. [July Financial Statements](#)
 - g. [August Financial Statements](#)
 - h. [Budget v. Actual Statement](#)

Motion made by Craig Cerino to approve all Consent Agenda Items. Seconded by Adam Burch. Motion approved unanimously with Board members abstaining where necessary.

3. Director's Report - **Discussion**

- a. Beginning of the School Year - Return to School

-Return to school went very well. The first day was 9.8.20, for that day, and for the rest of the week, Next hosted ¼ of the students each day for half a day. Sept 14 began online learning. In addition to students learning remotely, each day some students come to Next to do their online classes and get help when needed. There is a mandatory Community Day each week, all students either in the morning or afternoon will participate in team building and social engagement activities. There are some families that have opted for full remote, so those students would not be here for Community Days. Attendance for Community days has been great, remote days are more of a challenge.

-Students have participated in SAT testing and the PSAT testing is next week at Next.

-ILP meetings are planned for the end of Module 1, held either remotely or at Next.

-The plan is to continue on this course for now. Attendance is tracked via a spreadsheet by teacher, by class. Adam Burch asked how staff is doing with the return to school plan. Joe noted that, because of the physical size of Next, there is not enough room for all teachers to be at Next, so they are mostly teaching from home, but on Community Days all staff is present.

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b. Student representation on the board

Joe Crawford proposed that instead of having specific student representatives attend each board meeting, students from the Leadership Council rotate attendance at the meetings. It was agreed that Joe would have one or two students attend the November board meeting.

c. Enrollment/Recruitment

Joe Crawford shared a graph depicting past applications/enrollments at Next. Enrollment at Next is currently 75 students, 74 Derry/4 non Derry. Next is anticipating 14 graduates in June.

Joe noted that along with strategic planning, future growth should also be addressed.

Nichole Reimer asked about plans for recruitment for next year. Joe noted that the Website has been re-designed and there is a new place card at Maryann's restaurant. As in the past, Joe will reach out to the middle schools, postcards will be mailed, and he will hold Information Nights.

d. Director Q&A

Nichole Reimer asked if student services needs have evened out. Per Joe Crawford, the number of identified students is disproportionate and Derry has agreed to pay for another paraprofessional, but Next has been unable to fill the position. Joe has met with Derry middle schools administration regarding students who would be successful at Next.

4. Memorandum of Understanding with Derry Cooperative School District - Action

Joe Crawford reported that although the first draft of the MoU was submitted to the DCSD in the spring, it has yet to be voted on by the DCSB. He added that the reason that the MoU is back on this agenda is that the DCSD has asked the Next special ed teacher to serve as the DCSD LEA in the special education process. Kerry LaFlamme would handle all of the paperwork for special education meetings, etc. Next will bill DCSD for additional pay, including taxes. DCSB representative, Erika Cohen, reported that it had not been discussed at the DCDB meetings. The DCSD concentration has been on Covid issues and balancing in person and remote learning.

Motion made by Adam Burch to approve the MoU as presented, based on no substantial changes made by the DCSD. Seconded by Nichole Reimer. Motion approved unanimously.

Governance - Policy - **Discussion/Action**

a. Attendance policy - Section JH (significant updates to existing policy)

The policy has been updated to include student attendance during remote instruction and is divided into 3 categories.

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1. Option of "in person" learning at Next. If a student does not come to Next on the dates planned, they are absent. For "remote learning", arrangements are made with parents.
2. Attendance at Community Days
3. State guidelines consider 5 full or 10 half days absent as truant. During remote learning Next will intervene with parents and students when this occurs.

Blizzard Bag- Joe has made no changes to the Blizzard Bag Policy. Although we are remote now, in the future Next will need to employ it. Adam Burch suggested that the policy could be revisited by staff and the Curriculum Committee next summer.

- b. [Criminal Background Check](#) - Section GBCD (minor revisions to existing policy)

Next historically pays the fee for the background check. The changes confirm the process, the background check will be reviewed only by, and then destroyed by, the Director of Next.

- c. [Staff Hiring](#) - Section GCF (minor revisions to existing policy)

Motion made by Adam Burch to approve all policies as presented. Seconded by Kirsten Kortz. Motion approved unanimously.

Isobel Graves and Craig Cerino left the meeting

5. Governance - [Curriculum Framework](#) - **Discussion/Action**

Joe Crawford, Kirsten Kortz, Adam Burch, and Craig Cerino met during the summer. The biggest issue addressed was that the process for creating GPA's for students was obsolete, it was not what Next had envisioned. The new plan is to score students individually. Social Engagement- a community service requirement was added. Based on this year, it will reflect more flexible language as far as hours attained. Per Adam Burch, when grading, Meets and Meets with Distinction did not really reflect the work done by students.

Motion made by Adam Burch to approve the Curriculum Framework. Seconded by Kirsten Kortz. Motion approved unanimously.

Governance - [Bylaws](#) - **Discussion**

Joe Crawford, deferring to Jen Lague, suggested that a committee be set up to review bylaws. After discussion, the members of the committee are: Adam Burch, Erika Cohen, Nichole Reimer, and Kirsten Kortz

6. Strategic Planning - **Discussion**

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Joe Crawford has created a document regarding finalizing goals and will share with all Board members for the November Board meeting.

7. Committee Assignments - Discussion/Action

Joe Crawford shared a document reflecting all committees based on the June 2019 assignments.

Motion made by Adam Burch at 8:14 pm to enter into a non public session. Seconded by Jen Lague. Motion approved unanimously.

Return from non public 8:44 pm

Because of the Election, the date for the November board meeting was discussed.

Motion made by Kirsten Kortz to hold the November board meeting on Monday, November 2, 2020 at 6:30 pm. Seconded by Nichole Reimer. Motion approved unanimously.

8. Community Input

- a. Next welcomes input from attending community members according to our policy found [here](#), and accessible from our website, www.nextcharterschool.org.

9. Motion to Adjourn

Motion made at 8:50 pm by Nichole Reimer to adjourn meeting. Seconded by Erika Cohen. Motion approved unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Woodes