

Teaneck Community Charter School Board of Trustees

Minutes from Meeting: January 10 2021

Virtual Meeting

[Meeting called to order](#): 7:10pm by Julie Elliott

Open Public Meetings Act notice read by Julie Elliot

Attendance

[Board Members Present](#)

Julie Elliott
Yvette Gonzalez
Xiomara Hadnot
Lorelle Holway
Anthony McGilchrist
Keisha Carter
Kirk Mitchell - absent
Doug Anderson

Adam Fleischer
Yvette Skaff (ex-officio)

[Administrators Present](#)

Ralph Gallo
Sonia Torres
Kristina Anders

*present for a portion of the meeting

First order of Business:

Approval of Minutes for Nov 8, 2021: Approved

Table Minutes of Dec 6, 2021

Ralph:

HNY, Welcome back, busy time. We have a couple of updates in regards to recent changes we just received. Will follow this up with communication with the community. Thank you for all of your cooperation, grace and flexibility.

Enrollment Update: 349 students. 2 spots have been offered for out of district transfers and an offer has been accepted. No other turn over to discuss. Doug - When we accept a student is it prorated? GALLO: Yes, I submit a revised chart with adjustments and it all gets sorted out at the end during reconciliations at the end of the year. JMitchell: We have had a lot of turn over this year? Do we know why? GALLO: Yes, lots of folks moving, the house market is insane. That is the primary reason. We are also blessed with a hearty wait list and that works in our favor. It's all folks leaving the district.

Admissions + Lottery Update: This afternoon we have our lottery. Incoming parents, CONGRATULATIONS! Very uneventful, after many years with this new system, it's just pushing a button and it's very reliable. I am very happy with the software. We offered 45 spots to our incoming Kindergarten. 7 sibling sets, large # of new families which is great. Plenty of interest on other grade levels. Strong waitlist. We explained at the end of the year once we discuss letters of intent for the following year, that is when they are notified.

COVID 19 Case Data: We spoke about this briefly. We just received the results from Thursday. We received 2 more additional staff members and 4 students. Compared to the other #s it's gradual. The testing program has worked really well. Here is the dashboard but this doesn't include results today. On Wednesday afternoons we report back to the NJ Testing Programs. I believe that arises from the testing data we received about 15 min ago about two staff members as well. JMitchell: Do we have a particular threshold or has the state declared a percentage for a remote learning? GALLO: At this moment no, unless we are highly affected with staff being sick/out because we have a lot of students vaccinated that do not require quarantine. I want to be very clear in my communication that it's possible we can go remote in a very short period of time without much notice but we are trying to avoid that at all cost. Today's first full day back was a long day but we are in a position that we are trying to maintain in person instructions.

The next item that is here are some of the changes to our own in-house protocols in regards to quarantine and isolation:

1. **Protocols:** Surveillance testing will be done regardless of vaccinations status. Whenever the #'s are that high, we will be testing all staff members 2x a week especially those who haven't had covid. A lot of our cases have been asymptomatic folks.
2. **Staff w. Breakthrough Cases:** It's a bit different now as of today, ppl who are 18 and over in order to be exempt from quarantine when in close contact with covid you have to meet all the requirements. For example, if you require the booster and you haven't received it you are not fully vaccinated. We are fine tuning to really indicate an actual break through case.
3. **Aside from an Executive Order, Temporary Remote only goes with insufficient staffing.** I don't want to cap it at a certain # but we do have some flexibility to consider what is safe or unsafe. KCarter: Teachers who are in quarantine can teach the kids in class? GALLO: Teachers have that option and it helps minimize the disruption to instruction but it's really a case by case and we do offer that option. JElliot: Has it been easier to get a sub? GALLO: No! We just today received 2 more applications. We are towards our higher end on what we pay subs \$125 - \$150. JElliot: IS there a sub in the classroom when the teacher is remote? GALLO: Yes, they are not alone. We want to continue with in-person instruction.

4. This guidance came in today, we are sending this out today. This says they are going to implement the CDC guidance from Jan 4, 2022. The times have been shortened. Those who test positive can come back after 5 days because the risk of transition is significantly lower. This allows us to proceed with less obstruction. This is for vaccinated folks/kids. The day of the test if day 0 - the 6 day you are allowed to go back. The isolation for close contact is the same thing, 5 days of exposure - no symptoms from day 5 is clear. Asymptomatic after 5 days and no test you can still come back. This is a big difference, 1 month ago we were looking at 14 days. Other places this may not apply is child care. We are going to set this retroactive to those who are out this week to reflect the update guidance. We want to apply this to what we are doing. It's a lot of information but any question? Xiomara: Specific testing? Rapid or PCR? GALLO: Doesn't specify just a negative test. I have to assume that the numbers of at home tests are also acceptable. JElliot: I know that even if your child is home, they can come in and get tested at the school's program. It's a great tool we have. The only folks who can test are those that tested positive over the last 90 days. It's easy and free. JMitchell: Do we know what % of the community has signed up for testing at the school? After my last email we had increase of 40 to 50 applications. We are submitting close to 225 tests a week. That's including 100 staff so I would say at least $\frac{1}{3}$ of the students are being tested. We have the ability to test twice a week while we are on the peak but it's limited. We have been getting by with the once a week. Last Tuesday the Nurses didn't show up but myself and some staff pitched in. Now they are sending 3 Nurses. Takes a bit longer with lower grades but we are getting it done quickly.
5. Enough covid for now, passing it on to Sonia.

Sonia: Reporting Start Strong Reports were mailed out: Grades 3 - 8th grade. Ralph will discuss the results at the next meeting in February. They went out on Thursday.

Next we have HIB Self Assessment By Krsinta Anders:

Krinstina: We do this every year. I sent the data earlier. Something confusing was We met all criteria but the scores were a 70 out of 78 - the area that we met and didn't exceed but that was due to covid because we couldn't organize community outreach. PBIS system. Cyber Safety. We have put things into place regarding those areas. The workshops in the Spring: PArt of or care plus packages: 2 Parent workshops: Student relationships / Student Mental Health.

Julie Elliott: Committee updates.

Finance Committee: LHalloway: We met with Tom and reviewed the register. We are applying for a few grants to cover security updates. JElliot: We have to talk about our revised budget and our revenue has decreased and we need to discuss in more detail next time. JMitchell: It's been delayed because of the turn over and Tom is waiting for some information. JElliot: We have an audit in Feb.

Ralph: Here are the following resolutions:

JElliot: Does any one have public comments or resolutions or in general? NO COMMENTS

Approval of Resolutions:

2201-01 - Budget Summary : **Moved by Holway/ Second J Mitchell: Resolution Carries**

2201-02 - SBA Financial Report (September, October, November): **Moved by: Holway/**

Seconds: J Mitchell:Resolution Carries

2201-03 - Updated COVID-19 Protocols for School Year 2021-2022: **Moved by: Gonzalez / Seconds:**

Carter: Resolution Carries

2201-04 - Submission of Grant Application (PCSC) : **Moved by: Holway/ Seconds: JMitchell:**

Resolution Carries

2201-05 - Personnel Appointments (Substitutes) : **Moved by: Hadnot / Second: Anderson: Resolution Carries**

2201-06 - Revised Personnel Appointment (Substitute Nurse) **Moved by: Hadnot / Second: Holway:**

Hadnott Question: Is this the same Nurse? Same rate? Gallo: No, different person, more \$ because it's negotiated. JMitchell: Can we expect to play musical chairs because of the shortage? Gallo:

Yes, it's really difficult to find a nurse right now. Resolution Carries.

2201-07 - HIB Self Assessment: **Moved by Holway / Second: Hadnot / Resolution Carries**

2201-08 - Education Services Agreement: **Moved by Hadnot / Second: Hadnot: Did we ask our staff if anyone is interested? Kristina: Yes, we did. Anderson: Resolution Carries**

2201-09 - Personnel Appointment (Extracurricular): **Moved by JMitchell / Second: Gonzalez:**

JMitchell: Do we post this in house? Gallo: Yes / Resolution Carries

2201-10 - Leave of Absence **Moved by: JMitchell / Second: Anderson / JMitchell: When you say**

unpaid, what does that mean? Anderson: Means unpaid from payroll right Tom? Tom: Correct.

Hadnot - Question RE: Stipend position - what if they can't finish the position and they were

paid? Gallo: Stipends are paid in increments. Case by case basis. Resolution Carries.

Meeting Ended at 810pm