



## PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES

Seacoast Classical Academy Chartered Public School

Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Tuesday, 11 March 2025, 6:00PM

Seacoast Classical Academy

53 Carlton E Sockwell Way, Newton, NH 03858

Notice posted by 10 March 2025 on the door at 53 Carlton E Sockwell Way, Newton, NH  
and at <https://seacoastclassical.org>

Trustees Present: Linda Allard, Robert Chase, Cindy Lyons, William Nadeau, Kate Riddell, Terence Waldron

Trustees Participating Remotely: Simcha Weller (while in unexpected traffic)

Trustees Not in Attendance: Michael Gendre

Persons Appearing Before the Board: Tim Galitski - SCA Executive Director, Joe Patuleia - SCA Interim Principal, Caitlin Blundell - Blundell Accounting, Elizabeth Barros - SCA 3rd Grade Teacher, Madison Lewis - SCA 4th Grade Teacher

Non-Public Session may be called at any time in accordance with RSA 91A:3 II.

1. Call to Order - RC called the meeting to order at 6:03PM. Trustee SW participated remotely. No persons were present with SW. All votes will be by roll call.
2. Public Comment - SCA 3rd grade teacher Ms. Elizabeth Barros and SCA 4th grade teacher Ms. Madison Lewis were asked to present during the Principal's Report. Out of respect for their time, RC offered to have them speak during public comments. Ms. Barrow and Ms. Lewis shared the current k-4 "Ididaread" Reading Challenge scholars are participating in. She also shared that a NH resident is currently racing in the Ididaread and the scholars are following his daily progress, producing even more interest in the challenge. For this challenge, scholars in each classroom have been grouped into teams and their reading minutes are tracked on a daily basis. The goal for each team is to log 1000 reading minutes by the end of March. This reading challenge is motivating scholars to be accountable to each other along with the added interest in reading. Also in the classroom scholars are working on analysing sentences, science and history textbook units are being worked on and in math, fluency tasks have been focus, with "think, learn, do."
3. General Correspondence - None.
4. Minutes
  - a. Public Meeting Minutes of 11 February 2025 - WN moved to approve the minutes of 11 February 2025 as modified. CL seconded. Roll call: TW/abstain, CL/Yes, RC/Yes, LA/Yes, KR/Yes, WN/Yes, SW/Yes. 6-0-1.

- b. Nonpublic Session of 11 February 2025 - CL moved to approve the nonpublic minutes of 11 February 2025 as written. TW/abstain, CL/Yes, RC/Yes, LA/Yes, KR/yes, WN/Yes, SW/Yes. 6-0-1.
5. Finance
- a. Financial Report - RC reported the bank balances as of March 11: Primary Savings Bank checking account \$507,429.49, Primary Savings Bank money market account \$84,631.95. Citizens Bank checking account (SCA) \$35,551.08, Citizens Bank checking account (Parent Council) \$4,538.75.
  - b. CSP Update - TG reported the balance of the CSP Grant is approximately \$131,000. He discussed reallocating \$50,000 within the CSP Grant to teacher professional development. The Board discussed the recent Literacy Essentials training taken place during staff meetings, the professional service day and with classroom observation from the developer and author of the program. As well as training that commenced this week with Singapore Math. CL moved to approve the reallocation of \$50,000 within the CSP Grant for Professional Development. 7-0.  
(Note: SW joined the meeting in person at 6:28pm. No further need for a roll call vote.)
  - c. FY26 Budget - TG shared that he is working to change the allocation of some line items. The budget now includes a Director of Curriculum and Supervision positions as well as an additional 2% of salaries in a merit fund. LA discussed increasing FY26 Professional Development dollars significantly in light of prior discussion regarding PD.
  - d. FY24 Tax Forms - TG and RC shared that FY24 returns have been completed and reviewed by Blundell Accounting and administration. WN moved to approve NHCT-50 and Form 8879. KR seconded. 7-0.
6. Executive Director's Report
- a. Enrollment / Marketing - TG stated that the enrollment as of today is 177 scholars. From the first day of school to today, 23 additional scholars have enrolled and 23 scholars have withdrawn. 176 scholars out of 177 have re-committed for the 2025-26 school year. The Academy received 121 valid applications by the February 15th deadline, making those eligible for the enrollment lottery. Of these applications 39 were exempt from the lottery, 82 were non-exempt and there were 53 open spots. The lottery was held on Saturday, March 8th and the administration is now sending out offers of enrollment to new candidates and they will work through the waitlist. The current waitlist by grade is: K/16, 1st/8, 2nd/6, 3rd/8, 4th/6, 5th/0, 6th/5, 7th/0 (with 8 available seats), 8th/0 (with 8 available seats), 9th/0 (with 7 available seats). RC expressed the good progress with enrollment and would like continued Family Engagement Events and recruiting efforts as the history has shown that single digit waitlists can be worked through quickly. TG stated that being the second year of operation there would likely be a lower rate of turn over. Recruiting efforts will continue. The Facebook marketing campaign continued into February and TG has had some initial discussion with the same marketing firm to refresh the website. TG

received an initial estimate of \$2,000. A middle school engagement event has been arranged by the Parent Council. This event will differ from a Family Engagement Event and current middle school scholars will invite their friends not currently enrolled as well as previous applicants who are not currently enrolled. TG expressed thanks to the group of Parent Council members. TG was asked if teachers will attend this event, he will inquire. CL suggested a video from teachers if they are not able to attend.

- b. Facilities - TG shared that the kindergarten bathroom stalls dividers are on order. The sound door between the middle school English language arts room and the multipurpose room has been installed. The security window at the front of the school is to be installed this coming weekend. Over February break all of the floors were washed and waxed, making a significant improvement in their appearance and continued cleaning. CL discussed a rug service for the front and rear entry points that have significant traffic. TG discussed the Lead posting notices on the SCA front door. This was posted by the landlord as a result of two of the fixtures in the neighboring facility tested for lead. TG stated there is nothing wrong with the source of the water and the spigots at SCA were tested by TG in late summer. The landlord's posted notice will be kept posted for 30 days. CL asked about the playground and the consideration of asphalt or other softer surface, wood chips, that would allow access to the playspace during the winter and spring months.
- c. Human Resources - JP stated that the Principal/Head of School, Director of Curriculum and Support and a general invitation to apply to SCA have been written and posted. For 2025/26 a new 5th grade teacher will need to be hired and the Title I position will need to be also posted. Eight sites have been identified for these postings. KR inquired if current teachers will be returning or not. JP has asked teachers to express their interest with him, he is starting observations in the next month and has a good goal of the first or second week in April to have a sense of status. JP would like to establish an interview process for the Head of School position including parents, teachers, parent council and then with TG and Trustees. It is the goal to have a Principal/Head of School hired by June 1st.
- d. Grants / Fundraising - TG shared that some friends of Seacoast Classical Academy who have made donations in the past have established the foundation, Acta Non Verba. They will be using this foundation as a vehicle to make future donations when they get their process up and going. TG also stated that SCEF has a policy as well. CL shared that a friend of theirs is active with charter schools in other states. This individual would be happy to speak with members of SCA to share their insight. CL shared a book she had purchased, *Grant Writing for Charter Schools*.
- e. Teacher Evaluations/State Assessments - KR inquired about state assessment testing dates for scholars in April. TG said they are not finalized and he will know by the end of the month. Families will be informed when they are confirmed. KR

stated that, per the charter, the Board is to approve the teacher evaluation process. JP will work with KR to get a draft to the Board.

- f. Principal's Report - JP thanked the Board for helping to arrange the Singapore Math and Literacy Essentials professional development and training. He shared that the guest speaker, Norm Bossio, at the last professional development day was very well received by those in attendance. He is working to put together a video for those Trustees that were unable to attend. JP reviewed attendance, enrollment and conduct metrics for the month of February. He shared that the grades 5-7 recently held a science fair and the 8th grade science fair will be forthcoming. The week before break was Spirit Week with themed days. The Spirit Activities were fun and were embraced by scholars and faculty alike. JP reiterated that posting of open positions and the intent to set a search committee.
7. Committee Reports
    - a. Parent Council - KR and WN shared that the Parent Council is having a discussion of the 8th grade field trip and they may be looking for scholarship money of \$2,000. Otto Pizza in Exeter will be hosting a fundraiser next Monday. Otto will donate back to SCA ten percent of sales. The Mother/Son Game Night will be this coming Saturday. The event is open to grades k-8 and there will be games, food, drinks. The Drama enrichment will start next week. Chess enrichment is open up to 8th grade now. There will be a mini golf event at LeBelle in April. Arrangements are being made for a restaurant fundraiser at Texas Roadhouse. The Parent Council is working on Teacher Appreciation Week Celebration and they will be hosting the middle school recruitment event next Thursday. RC shared that a friend of SCA has expressed interest in coordinating a corn hole tournament, WN/KR will bring this to the PC.
    - b. Curriculum Committee - SW reported that professional development for teachers with Literacy Essentials and Singapore Math has been the primary focus. CL discussed a homework policy in the student handbook for younger scholars and the specific instruction in Literacy Essentials for focused homework.
  8. Business - None.
  9. Policies
    - a. Policy AFR - review - The Board discussed Policy AFR and the need to provide families timely information on items where families may wish to exercise their rights by requesting further information or opting their scholar out. The Board discussed the interest for weekly administration and teachers communications to include forward looking events, activities and assignments.
  10. Future Agenda - None.
  11. Public Comment - None.
  12. Adjournment - TW moved to adjourn. WN seconded. 7-0. The meeting was adjourned at 8:27PM.