

Educating Hearts and Minds

The mission of Anansi Charter School is to develop the academic potential and emotional intelligence of each learner. We strive to promote the love of learning through student engagement, innovative educational practices and family and community partnerships.

Anansi Charter School Governing Council Regular Meeting
Minutes March 23, 2022, 5:30pm
Location- Anansi Charter School virtual meeting

I. CALL TO ORDER of the Regular Open Governing Council Meeting (**START RECORDING**)

Officers: X President: Jake

Caldwell [2018]; X Vice President: Iris Thornton (6:08pm) [2020]; X Secretary: Leilani M. Dean [2021]; X Treasurer: Elaine Taylor [2018]

Members: X Aaron Livingston [2018]; Amy Trevino [2019]; X Sophia Seim [2021]; X Leslie Mondragon Romero [2021]; Christina Sporrang [2021].

Director: X Michele Hunt

Business Manager: Ashley Woodard-Storey, The Vigil Group

Public Attendance: Betsy Coniglio (ACS Nurse) & Matt Pahl (PCSNM)

Student representatives: none

Leadership Team Member: none

CALL TO ORDER of the Regular Open Governing Council Meeting 5:36 p.m.

II. Approvals (Consent Agenda)

A. Agenda March 23, 2022

B. Minutes February 16, 2022 Regular Meeting

C. [Minutes](#) February 24, 2022 Special Meeting

MOTION: I, Leilani Dean move that the Anansi Charter School Governing Council approve the consent agenda for March 23, 2022, and the minutes from the February 16, 2022 regular meeting as well as the minutes from the February 24 2022 special meeting. Seconded by Aaron Livingston. X All Approved {X indicates All Approved}

III. Public Recognition and Comment(s) present- Betsy Coniglio, Ashley Woodard-Storey & Matt Pahl.

- A. Presentation: PCSNM Governance Council Development: The role of a high functioning Governance Council. Presenter Matt Pahl -*Presentation addressed the roles and responsibilities of the Governance Council members and highlighted the importance of having familiarity with the Charter Performance contract. Presenter*

reviewed the GC members' fiduciary responsibilities and spoke to the importance of the role in monitoring compliance with school and leadership performance. Discussion also included the difference between 'Governing & Managing', as well as the importance of creating good policy to support and protect school.

- B. Consider a date in late March or early April for additional PCSNM training.
(Discussion and Possible action) *no action taken*

IV. REPORTS [Highlights, Questions, Comments]

A. Leadership Team Report *-emailed by Elsbeth Atencio*

B. [Financial Report](#): Ashley Woodard-Storey, The Vigil Group

1. Budget Overview Summary Report - *Ashley reports that ACS has a healthy budget and has received more deposits than withdrawals. Still waiting for reimbursements which continue to be slow.*

2. BARs: Budget Adjustment Requests (action) *-negative functions can be addressed with the approval of the proposed new bars; 21-I & 22-I.*

MOTION: I, Leilani Dean, move that the Anansi Charter School Governance Council approve and accept Budget Adjustment Requests BARs 21-I & 22-I, as presented by Ashley Woodard-Storey, Sophia Seim, seconded. X All Approved {X indicates All Approved}

3. Budget 22-23 Baseline Overview- *draft budget will be presented after budget workshop next month*

*****ORDER OF MEETING CHANGED- ADDRESSED ITEMS 6B & 6C before Council Committee Reports (See below for minutes)**

*****MOTION: I, Jake Caldwell, move that the Anansi Charter School Governance Council approve to amend the order of the agenda. Agenda items 6B & 6C will be moved to fall after item 4B. Leslie Mondragon Romero, seconded. X All Approved {X indicates All Approved}**

C. Council Committee Reports

1. Council Development: (Jake/Iris) - *There is a constant need to be recruiting council members (as reminded by Matt Pahl).*

2. School Advocacy: (Amy/Jake) -*Advocacy emerging with capital outlay opportunities for next legislative session.*

3. Parent Advisory (Leilani): -*TCF fund is strong at \$52,752. Goal is to raise more funds by collecting prizes for raffle. Silent auction planned for May, and working on Teacher Appreciation. Friends will meet in June with finance advisor, Michele, and Jake to address rent discretion.*

4. Facility: (Michele/Jake): HVAC, Shade Structures & outdoor learning spaces, re-configuring the preschool exploration, drinking water stations, important maintenance projects summer 2022

5. Program (Michele/Leilani) : *Tis the season for testing. Third grade and up are being tested in reading and math. Fifth grade and up will iest for science also. School is building capacity with shared leadership. These leadership changes move ACS in better alignment with its mission.*

D. Director's Report

- A. Community School Planning Grant (overview for submittal)* *Wellness is the main priority, Looking to create a 'FAMILY HUB' for resources and community ages birth-3yrs.*
- B. Continuation of ETLP for 22-23

VI. New Business

A. School Calendar Update- *committee worked hard to present three options. First is the TMS calendar, Second resembles the Anansi traditional calendar, and third shortens Thanksgiving break and provides a fall mini-break.*

B. Updates to COVID Policies/Procedures, Toolkit, including mask requirements (Discussion and possible action). input from ACS nurse Betsy Coniglio- *discussion included the importance of keeping kids in school, providing support for ACS staff/teachers and doing what's best for the broader Taos community. ACS is prepared to address potential future covid outbreaks with a generous supply of covid testing.*

MOTION: *I, Jake Caldwell, move that the Anansi Charter School Governance Council remove the static mask mandate that is contained in the existing policy and shift to a response-based approach whereby the school director has the discretion to develop a policy that allows for optional masking based on the needs of staff and teachers needs and pressures, transmission and infection rates both at school and in the broader Taos County area, guidance from the school's nurse, and guidance from the medical community and from agencies, including PED. Sophia Seim, seconded. X All Approved {X indicates All Approved}*

****The Governance Council recognizes that the revised policy will not take shape overnight and will be based on outreach and consideration of many factors, but will not require further Governance Council approval to institute.*

C. Wellness Policy Review and update (Discussion and possible action) -*One GC member needed to support Wellness Policy review. Sophia Seim volunteered to support efforts (Leilani Dean will step in as needed)*

D. Consider creating a committee to assess feasibility of adding Pre-K to Anansi Charter (Discussion and possible action)- *GC members Jake Caldwell and Leslie Mondragon-Romero will work with Michele to assess feasibility.*

E. Enrollment projections for 22/23 school year- *enrollment solid moving forward. Expecting higher enrollment for next year (8th grade class will have 22 students). After the lottery, consideration will be given to expanding to 23 students per class which could bring enrollment up to 198 students, and will not go beyond 198.*

VII. Old Business

A. None

VIII. Executive Session- [Limited to Personnel matters, Student discipline-Director]*
(none):

A. None needed

IX. Items for April 20, 2022 agenda:

A. Roles and Responsibilities

1. Jake Caldwell - *Send out Governance Council commitment document for all GC members to reflect on for next meeting; participate in pre-K charter feasibility committee; stand by for rent resolution assistance*

2. Aaron Livingston - *calendar review*

3. Elaine Taylor –

4. Iris Thornton -*Review board member commitment doc in prep for next session board development work. Consider participating in a committee to assess feasibility of adding pre-k to Anansi Charter.*

5. Amy Trevino

6. Leilani Dean -*complete minutes and check in with Michele. Review board member commitment doc before next meeting*

7. Sophia Seim- *On standby for consult re wellness committee*

8. Leslie Mondragon Romero-*Review commitment docs, Calendar Committee (re-review), Serve on PreK Eval Committee whenever needed to begin work*

9. Christina Sporrong

10. Michele Hunt - *work on budget preparation, work with the calendar committee to complete the 22-23 calendar, send out the Wellness Plan to board members, begin the research on the preschool transition. Draft a policy to parents and staff revoking the mask mandate.*

X. Final Comments and Announcements

XI. Adjournment

MOTION: I, Jake Caldwell, move that the Anansi Charter School Governing Council adjourn the regular meeting. Seconded by Leslie Mondragon Romero. X All Approved {X indicates All Approved}

Adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

President: _____ Date: _____