

**FOLK ARTS-CULTURAL TREASURES CHARTER SCHOOL  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING**

Wednesday, August 21, 2024, 6:30 p.m.  
via zoom

**MINUTES**

**Board Members Present:** Xu Lin, Neeta Patel, Allaire Wohlgemuth, Thierry Saintine, Jeff Koung, Alison Lin (left at 8:54pm), Nancy Nguyen, Alan Phan

**Board Members Absent:** Leana Cabral, Pooja Agarwal

**Staff Members Present:** Ellen Somekawa, Pheng Lim, Michelle Barton (left at 7:20pm), David Brown

**Members of the Public Present:**

I. **Call to Order:** Time: 6:33pm Thierry Saintine

II. **Public Comment** n/a

III. **Comprehensive Plan Approval (including the Induction Plan and Professional Development Plan)**

Presentation

Ellen, Michelle, Pheng

Discussion: What is FACTS doing to decrease the racial disparity gaps? Want to compare IEP vs non IEP and also look into if FACTS is overidentifying. Our numbers as of now reflect national trends. Has FACTS thought about bringing in an outside researcher to look into this disparity and provide recommendations. FACTS has done this before and feels it is important to find the right person to do this so that the community will trust enough to be honest and open. Is there any discussion of moving back to paper and pencil? No, because this is the way PDE is moving and all students will need to be taking PSSAs on a computer within the next 2-3 years. FACTS is also going to coordinate with other principals to strategize as to how to support young children in doing computer testing. How are students identified as needing intervention? FACTS uses an MTSS (MTSS for academics and MTSS-B for behavioral concerns) process which uses data to determine who needs support and then those students are tracked over time to determine if the interventions are effective or if they need to be fine tuned.

**1. BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of the Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures Charter School approves the 2024-2030 Induction Plan.

Moved: Alan Phan

Seconded: Jeff Koung

Voted Yes: Xu Lin, Neeta Patel, Allaire Wohlgemuth, Thierry Saintine, Jeff Koung, Alison Lin, Nancy Nguyen, Alan Phan

Abstained: n/a

**2. BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of the Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures Charter School approves the 2024-2027 Professional Development Plan.

Moved: Nancy Nguyen  
Seconded: Neeta Patel  
Voted Yes: Xu Lin, Neeta Patel, Allaire Wohlgemuth, Thierry Saintine, Jeff Koug, Alison Lin, Nancy Nguyen, Alan Phan  
Abstained: n/a

**3. BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of the Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures Charter School approves the 2024-27 Comprehensive Plan.

Moved: Nancy Nguyen  
Seconded: Alison Lin  
Voted Yes: Xu Lin, Neeta Patel, Allaire Wohlgemuth, Thierry Saintine, Jeff Koug, Alison Lin, Nancy Nguyen, Alan Phan  
Abstained: n/a

**IV. Principal's Report**

Pheng Lim

Discussion: n/a

**Executive Director's Report**

Ellen Somekawa

Discussion: n/a

**V. Approval of the Minutes**

**4. BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of the Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures Charter School approves the Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes of July 17, 2024.

Moved: Allaire Wohlgemuth  
Seconded: Neeta Patel  
Voted Yes: Neeta Patel, Allaire Wohlgemuth, Thierry Saintine, Jeff Koug, Alison Lin, Nancy Nguyen, Alan Phan  
Abstained: Xu Lin

**VI. Finance Report**

Presentation

David Brown

Discussion: n/a

**5. BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of the Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures Charter School approves the July 31, 2024 Financial Statements.

Moved: Allaire Wohlgemuth  
Seconded: Nancy Nguyen  
Voted Yes: Xu Lin, Neeta Patel, Allaire Wohlgemuth, Thierry Saintine, Jeff Koug, Alison Lin, Nancy Nguyen, Alan Phan  
Abstained: n/a

**VII. Transfer of Funds to the Building Reserve**

**6. BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of the Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures Charter School approves transferring \$900,000 from the Board

Designated Emergency Reserve Fund to the Board Designated Building Reserve Fund.

Discussion: What is the interest rate for these two accounts? They both get the sweep rate which is high and all accounts are fully FDIC insured. What's the rationale for keeping 3 months worth of expenses in our emergency fund? This is the state mandate and we have 4 months worth.

Moved: Alan Phan

Seconded: Xu Lin

Voted Yes: Xu Lin, Neeta Patel, Allaire Wohlgemuth, Thierry Saintine, Jeff Koug, Alison Lin, Nancy Nguyen, Alan Phan

Abstained: n/a

## **VIII. Certification of the Rent Reimbursement Application**

**7. BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of the Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures Charter School certifies that, to the best of its belief and knowledge, the information in the rent reimbursement application is true and correct.

Discussion:

Moved: Alison Lin

Seconded: Allaire Wohlgemuth

Voted Yes: Xu Lin, Neeta Patel, Allaire Wohlgemuth, Thierry Saintine, Jeff Koug, Alison Lin, Nancy Nguyen, Alan Phan

Abstained: n/a

## **IX. The Rights of Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Youth Policy**

Presentation

Ellen Somekawa

Discussion:

**8. BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of the Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures Charter School approves revising the The Rights of Transgender and Gender Non-Conforming Youth Policy to include the following provision:

### Locker Room/Dressing Room Access

Students shall have access to the locker room or dressing room that corresponds to their gender identity. Any student who has a need or desire for increased privacy, regardless of the underlying reason, should be provided with a reasonable alternative changing area such as the use of a private area. Any alternative arrangement should be provided in a way that protects the student's ability to keep their transgender identity confidential.

Discussion: n/a

Moved: Alison Lin

Seconded: Neeta Patel

Voted Yes: Xu Lin, Neeta Patel, Allaire Wohlgemuth, Thierry Saintine, Jeff Koug, Alison Lin, Nancy Nguyen, Alan Phan

Abstained: n/a

**X. Executive Session**

- Discussing Personnel Matters;
- Considering the purchase or lease of real property

**XI. Return to Public Session**

**XII. Committee Reports**

- Development Committee: Discussion:
- Nominations Committee: Discussion:
- Policy Committee: Discussion:

**XIII. Other Action Items**

**9. BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of the Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures Charter School approves contracting with Beltran Painting and Repairs for the removal of corkboard, and patching and repainting of walls in an amount not to exceed \$30,000.

Moved: Nancy Nguyen

Seconded: Neeta Patel

Voted Yes: Xu Lin, Neeta Patel, Allaire Wohlgemuth, Thierry Saintine, Jeff Koung, Nancy Nguyen, Alan Phan

Abstained:

**10. BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of the Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures Charter School approves the purchase of 5 AEDs (automated external defibrillators) and wall mounting cases from American AED at an amount not to exceed \$12,000.

Moved: Nancy Nguyen

Seconded: Allaire Wohlgemuth

Voted Yes: Xu Lin, Neeta Patel, Allaire Wohlgemuth, Thierry Saintine, Jeff Koung, Nancy Nguyen, Alan Phan

Abstained: n/a

**11. BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of the Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures Charter School approves contracting with Kenneth Martin for the provision of folk arts education services in an amount not to exceed \$6300.

**12. BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of the Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures Charter School approves contracting with Nhan Ngo for the provision of folk arts education services in an amount not to exceed \$6300.

**13. BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of the Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures Charter School approves contracting with Senfuab Stoney for the provision of folk arts education services in an amount not to exceed \$12,060.

**14. BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of the Folk Arts-Cultural Treasures Charter School approves contracting with John Testino for the provision of folk arts education services in an amount not to exceed \$12,060.

Moved: Allaire Wohlgemuth

Seconded: Neeta Patel

Voted Yes: Xu Lin, Neeta Patel, Allaire Wohlgemuth, Thierry Saintine, Jeff Koung, Nancy Nguyen, Alan Phan

Abstained: n/a

**15. BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Trustees of the Folk Arts approves the appointment of the following staff members:

- Alexis Zhao - Interim Assistant Principal, \$85,000 plus \$1500 signing bonus
- Tiffany Wong - part-time school culture assistant \$15 per hour, 20 hours per week
- Deborah Mitchell - instructional building substitute \$33,000

Moved: Neeta Patel

Seconded: Nancy Nguyen

Voted Yes: Xu Lin, Neeta Patel, Allaire Wohlgemuth, Thierry Saintine, Jeff Koung, Nancy Nguyen, Alan Phan

Abstained: n/a

**XIV. Adjournment:** Time: 9:06pm

Moved: Allaire Wohlgemuth

Seconded: Jeff Koung

Voted Yes: Xu Lin, Neeta Patel, Allaire Wohlgemuth, Thierry Saintine, Jeff Koung, Nancy Nguyen, Alan Phan

Abstained: n/a