

Board of Trustees, Ridge and Valley Charter School
Regular Meeting Minutes

The Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Ridge and Valley Charter School was held on September 16, 2021 at 1234 State Route 94, Blairstown, NJ 07825. The meeting was called to order at 6:06pm by Jessi Sohl, Facilitator. The Trustees operate on a consensus basis in all matters. We choose to dispense with Robert's Rules of Order and Conventional Parliamentary Procedure. Our intention is to affirm the mission of the school. Ridge and Valley Charter School offers an integrated, experiential course of study in the context of the universe and its interrelationships. Adequate notice of this meeting had been made in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Laws of 1975 in the New Jersey Herald, the County Superintendent's office and with the County Administrator.

	present	absent
Voting Members (all attendees via Zoom)		
Kerry Barnett	X	
Julie Budzinski-Flores	X	
Jenn Gurdak		X
Dave McNulty	X	
Jessi Sohl	X	
Cindy Terranova		X
Non-voting members:		
Robin Balles, Infrastructure Coordinator	X	
Lisa Masi, Integration Coordinator	X	
Traci Pannullo, Curriculum Coordinator	X	
Theresa Radline, Business Coordinator	X	

Facilitator: Jessi Sohl Guardian: Lisa Masi Recorder: Theresa Radline
Public Participants: None

Trustee Circle Opening: convened 6:06pm

Public Participation: None

Correspondence: None

Leadership Team Updates:

Integration Coordinator Report: Lisa Masi reported:

1. Current enrollment is at 111 students. Calls are being made to families on the waiting list.
2. A lottery was held for the 2021-2022 school year's 1st grade non-resident waiting list, 2nd grade resident waiting list, and 3rd grade non-resident waiting list.
3. She greatly enjoyed getting to visit class groups in the first week of school.
4. We have two overnights planned. One is going to canoe on the Delaware and hike Mt. Tammany. They will be camping here on the land. The other team will make it optional for parents to attend if they don't want their children to sleep alone. Other teams are planning overnights and trips. She appreciates the attention to the mission this year.
5. We have had two assemblies so far this year at Four Directions. We are looking forward to having families attend.

Infrastructure Coordinator Report: Robin Balles reported:

1. She is focusing on making sure the guides and students have everything they need. We have set up four tents this year. Mowing took place below the evergreen tree line to allow for more shade. The courtyard is being utilized much more. The gardens and the orchard are both flourishing. The teams have stepped in and

picked right up as they are taking on the garden work and communicating if there are things that need to be harvested. She looks forward to collaborating on the garden planning process with class groups. A lot of food processing, applesauce making, and dehydrating are happening. The Nova garden is under repair and plans are underway for its use. She is cleaning out and reorganizing the construction shed and Universe Building storage area. The Kindergarten class invited her to go to the garden with her. They read together, explored the garden, and taught the students how to use the tools. She looks forward to visiting and sharing with more class groups.

Curriculum Coordinator Report: Traci Pannullo reported:

1. Guide Refresh was two weeks ago. WFA training went very well. Meet & Greet took place last Thursday night. It felt great to have everyone here. The energy was very positive and uplifting.
 2. We had a required Suicide Prevention Professional Development yesterday. We had a volunteer from the Family Guidance Center come and present to the staff.
 3. The 2021-2022 Reopening plan was discussed.
 4. Discussion took place on outreach and communication.
- **Resolution 09.16.21.g** To approve the 2021-2022 Reopening Plan, which includes the Virtual or Remote Instruction Plan. Approved unanimously.

1st Reading of Policy:

- 5141.10 Face Coverings

2nd Reading and adoption of Policy:

- 5141.11 Vaccination and Testing

Business Coordinator Report: Theresa Radline reported:

- Approval of August 26, 2021 minutes. Approved unanimously.
- **Resolution 09.16.21.a** To approve to pay bills for the dates of August 26, 2021 thru September 16, 2021 in the amount of \$121,494.44 which includes payroll. Approved by 3 ayes and 1 abstention.
- **Resolution 09.16.21.b** To approve the Board Secretary and Treasurers' Report for August 2021 and to certify that no major account or fund has been over expended and to confirm that sufficient funds are available to meet the school's financial obligations for the remainder of the year. Approved unanimously.
- **Resolution 09.16.21.c** To approve Elizabeth Saar as a substitute for the 2021-2022 school year. Approved unanimously.
- **Resolution 09.16.21.d** To approve applying for the School Security Grant in the amount of \$20,000. Approved unanimously.
- **Resolution 09.16.21.e** To approve the 2021-2022 Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement between Education and Law Enforcement Officials (MOA) without changes. Approved unanimously.
- **Resolution 09.16.21.f** To approve five (5) paid COVID-related leave days thru December 31, 2021 to address the potential need for additional absences. Unused COVID-related leave days will not carry over to the 2022-2023 school year. Approved unanimously.

Theresa Radline reported:

1. Charter Schools are now available to apply for the School Security Grant in order to be in compliance with Alyssa's Law.
2. Our school is receiving a sum of money through the second round of the ARP ESSER Grant. Discussions will take place on the most effective use of the funds.
3. We are getting ready to administer the Start Strong Assessments in Grades 4-8.

Committee Reports:

Communication: Covered earlier

Facilities: Robin Balles shared that the committee met on August 27th. The next meeting is tomorrow. The committee is searching for a maintenance person. The HVAC replacement in the Universe Building will hopefully be scheduled the week of October 9th. It will overlap some with school days and could take up to 2 weeks. The latest PFOS test came back at normal range. The public notice will be posted until we have a number of readings in normal range.

Finance: Dave McNulty shared that the committee met this morning and the run rates are on point.

Landcare: Robin Balles shared that the committee will meet soon. The members are communicating via email and in person.

Parent: Jessi Sohl shared that the Gear Swap at Meet & Greet went well. There were a lot of items taken but some left over as well. There is discussion about having another Gear Swap at Community Service Day.

Personnel: covered earlier

Technology: Theresa Radline shared that she has been getting Chromebooks ready for student use. She and Traci Pannullo will be conducting orientations next week.

Other Business:

1. The third Friday of June is now a mandated holiday. This year, it falls on the last day of school. The Leadership Team will bring proposals to the October or November meeting.
2. The Road Flashing Lights may be covered by a grant we are receiving. The Leadership Team and Theresa Radline will discuss.
3. Guide/Trustee development for Wednesday, October 13 was discussed.

Executive Session to discuss personnel: None

Meeting adjourned at 8:35pm

Theresa Radline, Board Secretary