

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF  
CULTURAL ARTS ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL**

**A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Cultural Arts Academy Charter School was held at via Zoom on October 16, 2023.**

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Henry Clouden III, Treasurer  
Cheryl Pemberton-Graves, Vice-President  
Chrysetta Patterson, Member  
Dr. Kimberlee Pierre  
Dr. Laurie B. Midgette, Principal

**VOTE**

The financial statements of Cultural Arts Academy Charter School were prepared by Stuart Sabal and the Finance Committee and presented by Henry Clouden, Treasurer. The Board reviewed related statements of activities and cash flows for one month, with the accompanying supplemental information. These statements were discussed in detail. There is sufficient cash to fund monthly operations.

**OML**

- The NYC specific COVID-19 state of emergency has expired. This means that schools must follow the Open Meetings Law, which means schools have the following options to hold board meetings.
- Options For Charter School Board Meetings: (The CAACS Board voted last year on Option 3).
- All members meet in-person, no video conferencing available
- There are multiple meeting locations open to the public and all locations are connected via videoconferencing (pre-pandemic rules that are explicitly endorsed by the Committee on Open Government). There are no new limits on remote part, and you must notice remote locations.
- Adopt a resolution to utilize the new 103-a videoconferencing flexibilities and make sure the school has complied with all requirements. Schools can choose to use this flexibility at any time. There are limits on the remote part, but you may not need to share the location of remote members.

**DATA DASHBOARD**

Grade Level	# of Students	# of ELL Students per Grade
Grade K	42	10 ELL scholars
Grade 1	25	3 ELL Students
Grade 2	38	3 ELL Students
Grade 3	24	2 ELL Students
Grade 4	32	2 ELL Students
Grade 5	53	6 ELL Students

Total # of enrolled students – 214  
 Total # of English Language Learners - 26  
 Total # of SPED Students – 25 (2 more are pending)  
 FRPL - 80.66%  
**Daily Attendance Rate – 91.82 (YTD)**

**NYSED RESULTS**

2022-2023	CAACS	CSD 18	NYC	2022-23	CAACS	CSD 18	NYC
Grade 3 ELA	46%	44%	48%	Grade 3 Math	63%	55%	55%
Grade 4 ELA	58%	50%	53%	Grade 4 Math	36%	51%	52%
Grade 5 ELA	34%	46%	50%	Grade 5 Math	20%	50%	50%
<b>Total ELA</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>47%</b>	<b>50%</b>	<b>Total Math</b>	<b>37%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>53%</b>

Grade 3 **EXCEEDED** District 18 in ELA

Grade 3 **EXCEEDED** BOTH District 18 and the City in MATH

Grade 4 **EXCEEDED** BOTH District 18 and the City in ELA

**OVERALL - CAACS had met the District in ELA, GROWING 14%; and demonstrated LARGE GROWTH in MATH (23%)**

**EXPLAINING WAR TO CHILDREN**

We shared a link to a resource to help us begin to help our scholars understand the most recent world events. Our top priority is the safety and wellbeing of every scholar and staff member in our school community. As the conflict in the Middle East continues to escalate and we are seeing increased news coverage of social media posts promoting violence, we wanted to reassure our families that the New York City Police Department (NYPD) actively monitors social media sites and threats of violence; and that we remain in constant communication with the NYPD (73rd Precinct), and at this time, there are no specific threats against our schools. Additional resources supporting thoughtful instruction and scholars’ mental health in the face of disturbing current events can be found at [schools.nyc.gov/currentevents](https://schools.nyc.gov/currentevents).

**TOILET TRAINING POLICY**

The Office of Early Learning has released a new memo on Prekindergarten and Kindergarten Guidance for Supporting Toilet Learning. This memo provides toileting guidance and responds to frequently asked questions regarding toilet learning for children who attend State-Administered pre-kindergarten programs. Children who are not toilet trained cannot be excluded from either Pre-K or kindergarten enrollment. The district does not have the authority to apply additional criteria, such as being toilet trained, as a condition for enrollment or attendance.

**DADS** - On September 22, 2023, 112 Dads, Uncles, Big Brothers, Grandpas, Godfathers, and Positive Male Role Models accompanied their scholars to school!

## **DONORS CHOOSE WINNERS**

DonorsChoose is a website where teachers could post requests for classroom resources.

- **"Professor Griffith's First Ask"** classroom project was recently funded through DONORSCHOOSE.
- **Dean Lance's** project, **"Every Student Can Learn, Just Not in the Same Way"**
- **Professor Warner's** classroom project, **"Apparently Even the Supplies got COVID"** was recently funded through DONORSCHOOSE.
- **Professor Johnson's** classroom project, **"The Road to Success is Under Construction: Help Me Build"** was also recently funded through DONORSCHOOSE.
- **Professor Warner's** 2ND classroom project, **"Serving STEM"** was funded through DONORSCHOOSE.
- **Professor Johnson's** 2ND classroom project, **"Books for Blossoming Bookworms"** was funded through DONORSCHOOSE.

**SCHOLAR SPOTLIGHT:** One of our own CAACS scholars participated in the 2023 HISPANIC DAY PARADE, representing the REPUBLIC OF PANAMA where her delegation's performance won FIRST PRIZE.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:01pm.