

**The Elmwood Village Charter School  
Board of Trustees Meeting  
Wednesday, January 20, 2016**

**Trustees Present:** Mimi Barnes-Coppola, Marguerite Battaglia, Jennifer Bernacki-Smith, Kathy Franklin-Adams, Ingrid Knight, Pamela Pollock, Matt Ryan, Liz Santacrose, Natalie Stoyanoff

**Trustees Excused:** Matt Moscati

**Trustees Absent:** None

**Others Present:** John Sheffield, EVCS Director; Liz Evans, EVCS Operations Manager; Lisa Kirisits; Managing Partner, Kirisits & Associates, EVCS Accountants

1. Mimi Barnes-Coppola called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. She presented the agenda for the meeting. There were no changes. Approved.

2. Minutes from the Board of Trustees meeting held on December 16, 2015 were presented.

**Natalie moved and Matt Ryan seconded that the minutes be accepted. Approved unanimously.**

3. PROJECTED OPERATING BUDGETS EVCS1 & 2

Lisa Kirisits, EVCS Accountant, presented a set of projected operating budgets for EVCS-1 and EVCS-2, both separately and together. These documents were prepared based on the assumptions of 50 students enrolled at each grade level at both schools, and an annual 2% increase in state aid each year. Details are available in the printed report. She concluded that creation of EVCS 2 was financially viable. The following resolution was proposed:

**-Proposed resolution: EVCS 1 will be empowered to lend money to EVCS 2 for operational needs and capital expenditures, not to exceed the sum of \$500,000, through the first year of operation (to end June 30, 2018).**

**Marguerite moved and Natalie seconded that the proposed resolution be adopted. Approved unanimously.**

4. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

In the absence of EVCS Treasurer, Matt Moscati, Lisa also presented the financial statements. In summary, for the six months ended December 31, 2015, EVCS showed a decrease in net assets of \$9,691 vs. a budgeted decrease in net assets of approximately \$325,539. The result was a favorable variance of approximately \$315,848. John and Lisa also noted that the previously reported coding error has been resolved, to ensure that future purchases be recorded on the appropriate budget line. **Marguerite moved and Pam seconded that the financial report be accepted. Approved unanimously.**

5. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Academics

-The Board of Regents approved Emergency regulations that make adjustments to Annual Professional Performance Review (APPR).

The new regulations make adjustments to the APPR for teachers and principals as the State continues to transition to the higher learning standards. The emergency regulations remove any consequences for Teachers' and principals' evaluations related to the grades 3-8 English Language Arts and Mathematics State Assessments and the State-provided growth score on Regents exams until the start of the 2019-2020 school year. Teachers will continue to be provided with growth scores based on State Assessments, but teachers and principals will be provided with "transition scores" that exclude the results of State Assessments and Student Learning Objective (SLO) pre and post-testing. The transition scores will be determined based on the remaining sub-components

of the APPR. At EVCS, this will include the student growth percentile (SGP) from STAR testing and Components of Professional Practice. During the transition period, only the transition score and rating will be used for the purposes of evaluation. State Assessment data will continue to be used to evaluate curriculum and instruction.

-Mid-year data meetings and Student Growth Percentiles

Mid-year data meetings are scheduled for the first week of February. At these meetings data from the mid-year STAR Assessments and mid-year Interim Assessments will be examined. Student growth percentiles between the beginning and middle of the year will be presented at next month's Board meeting.

-Subgroup Comparisons

Economically disadvantaged students and students with special education needs at EVCS perform better on State Assessments than the state average. They also outperformed their cohorts in high performing suburbs. John distributed charts which graphically depicted the discrepancies. On ELA, economically disadvantaged students at EVCS outperformed their cohorts in Williamsville by 6%, in Orchard Park by 15%, and Ken-Ton by 16%. Students with special education needs at EVCS outperformed their cohorts in Williamsville by 7%, Orchard Park by 10%, and Ken-Ton by 10%. On Math, economically disadvantaged students at EVCS outperformed their cohorts in Williamsville by 3%, in Orchard Park by 9%, and Ken-Ton by 15%. Students with special education needs at EVCS outperformed their cohorts in Williamsville by 6%, in Orchard Park by 10%, and Ken-Ton by 11%. This success with subgroups is a contributing factor when families move out of the city but decide to keep their children enrolled at EVCS. EVCS has families whose children have IEPs and move to the suburbs but choose to keep their children at EVCS. There are currently 20 students, whose families have moved to the suburbs, but remain enrolled at EVCS.

Charter School Funding

Based on Governor Cuomo's proposed budget, EVCS can expect a \$150 per pupil increase in 2016-2017. In addition, the Governor proposed \$27 million to be divided evenly among all charter school students statewide who are enrolled as of December 1, 2016. This is very similar to the \$25 million in aid included in last year's budget that charter schools will be receiving in the next few months. This should equal about \$200 per student.

6. REPLICATION COMMITTEE STATUS REPORT

The Leadership Team continues to work on preparing the formal application for EVCS 2. They are preparing the document considering the requirements for both CSI and SUNY. The document is nearly complete and there are less than 48 hours to deadline. **Ingrid moved and Kathy seconded that the Operations Manager be authorized to submit the application for replication to Albany. Approved unanimously.** The leadership team is also looking at the King Urban Life Center as a possible temporary location for EVCS 2. The location seems good and the rent is affordable.

7. RE-BRANDING

-The new website is under construction.

-Design for the new logo is still being debated. Logo designer, Julian Montague, stated that a logo should be bright and colorful and reflect seriousness of purpose. Some Board members are looking for a logo that reflects the school's "core values". Others think that this might be too complex a task for a logo, and that these values are represented in the mission statement and other places. Natalie offered to continue to meet with Julian and request some additional options and possible variations for EVCS 1 and EVCS 2.

8. COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION UPDATE

-Liz Santacrose reported that the January CA meeting had been cancelled because of bad weather.

-The January family roller skating party was well attended.

9. NEW BUSINESS /ANNOUNCEMENTS

-Matt Ryan announced that the Days Park Block Club will be holding their regular meeting at EVCS on Wednesday, February 10, 2016. They will also address the CA at the beginning of the regularly scheduled CA meeting on that evening.

-John thanked the Board for the gesture of gifts to the school's mentors.

**Matt Ryan moved and Liz Santacrose seconded that the meeting be adjourned. Approved unanimously.** The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Pamela Pollock

Future meetings - Meetings at 6:00 p.m.: Feb.17, 2016; Mar.16, 2016; April 20, 2016; May11, 2016; June 15, 2015