



**Old Sturbridge Academy Charter Public School
Minutes of the Academy Culture & Community Committee**

DRAFT

Meeting Date: Tuesday, November 1, 2022
Time: 3:00 p.m.
Location: Zoom Video Conference
Members present: Linda Denault, Richard McGrath, Jessica Miller, Geraldo Maldonado
Members absent: Zaina Rivett*
In attendance: Lisa DeTora, Jim Donahue, Jamie Greenthal, Alex McConnon, Jasmin Rivas
Also present: None

Order of Business:

Public Access 1 on Docketed Items*

1. Approve the minutes of the September 20, 2022 combined meeting of the Academic Excellence and Academy Culture & Community committees.....Jessica Miller
2. Reviewing the need for Gymnasium and Dining Hall space.....Jim Donahue
3. Look at Physical Education and School Nutrition Programs..... Lisa DeTora
4. New/Other Business.....Jessica Miller

Public Access 2*

Adjournment

Documents and Exhibits:

- Draft minutes of the September 20, 2022 combined meeting of the Academic Excellence and Academy Culture & Community Committees

Ms. Miller called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

A Quorum was established and the minutes were presented.

Public Access 1 on Docketed Items

Ms. Miller asked if there were any comments from members of the public. There were none.

1. *Approve the minutes of the September 20, 2022 combined meeting of the Academic Excellence and Academy Culture & Community Committees*

Ms. Miller asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2022 combined meeting of the Academic Excellence and Academy Culture & Community Committees.

Motion: Dr. Denault moved to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2022 combined meeting of the Academic Excellence and Academy Culture & Community Committees.

Second: Mr. McGrath seconded the motion.

All in favor. (Mr. Maldonado – ABSTAINED)

Motion passed.

2. *Reviewing the need for Gymnasium and Dining Hall space*

Mr. Donahue said he is working on figuring out how many students there should be in the dining hall eating lunch at the same time. Ms. DeTora also expressed a desire for flexible spaces and accessibility. Mr. Donahue emphasized the importance in bringing in the parent community into the school. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Donahue said if the High School is not approved, it could be a Junior High gym. Dr. Denault suggested adult bathrooms in the lobby area and a student-sized in gym. Discussion ensued about storage and bleachers. Ms. Rivas suggested gender neutral bathrooms. Mr. McGrath suggested some form of showers if a High School gym is designed. Ms. Miller suggested a weight room.

Discussion ensued about a supplemental space in the gym and multiple spaces for learning as opposed to one large one. Discussion ensued about making spaces available if the Board decides to make the gym accessible to other community groups.

Discussion ensued about having a stage in the gym for performances or having a “cafetorium.”

Mr. McGrath emphasized the importance in life skills for the children such as balancing a check book, understanding credit, and cooking classes. Mr. Donahue said this will be more of a possibility by building a separate kitchen for the school. Discussion ensued about the school having a swimming pool.

Mr. Donahue will go back to the architects who will work on the fit study and will determine how much square feet it will be. Mr. Donahue said he is hoping to get the design/financing figured out in early 2023 and break ground in spring 2023.

3. *Look at Physical Education and School Nutrition Programs*

Ms. DeTora gave an update on the wellness and nutrition at OSA. OSA will be going to a self-operating nutrition program where the school will cook/prepare their own food. Ms. DeTora showed the Committee the school menu. Discussion ensued.

4. New/Other Business

Ms. Miller asked if there was any new or other business.

Ms. Miller said at the September Board meeting, Ms. Brooks mentioned adding an assessment to the diversity plan. Ms. Rivas said she will meet with Ms. Brooks to add benchmarks for measurements and this could be revisited at the next meeting.

Public Access 2

Ms. Miller asked if there were any comments from members of the public. There were none.

Motion: Mr. McGrath moved to adjourn the meeting.

Second: Ms. Miller seconded the motion.

All in favor.

Motion passed.

Ms. Miller adjourned the meeting at 3:55 p.m.