



Board of Trustees Meeting Agenda

January 13th, 2022 at 7PM

530 West 7th Street, Plainfield, NJ

MISSION STATEMENT

Cresthaven Academy Charter School exists to provide a comprehensive education to our scholars that develops the whole child through academic excellence, physical wellness, emotional health, and character enrichment.

CALL TO ORDER

Sandra Harrison called to order the Special meeting of the Cresthaven Academy Charter School Board of Trustees at approximately 7:01 pm on January 13th, 2022 at Cresthaven Academy Charter School. This meeting is being held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act and is open to the public. Notices were duly posted in advance of the meeting. Formal action will be taken.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Upon individual roll call, the following Board Members were noted present:

Board Member	Present	Absent
Marcy Bostwick		X
Rashleigh Bruce	X	
Kimberly Dortch	X	
Toni Gamble	X	
Sandra Harrison	X	
Steven Hockaday	X	
Barbara Sellinger	X	

READING OF MISSION STATEMENT

Cresthaven Academy Charter School exists to provide a comprehensive education to our scholars that develops the whole child through academic excellence, physical wellness, emotional health, and character enrichment.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

LEGAL MATTER

BOARD OF TRUSTEES RESOLUTION # 2022-01-01A

Appointment of Attorney

The Board of Trustees of Cresthaven Academy Charter School resolves to terminate the services of Johnston Law Firm, LLC, effective immediately.

Board Member	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Marcy Bostwick		x			
Rashleigh Bruce		x			
Kimberly Dortch		x			
Toni Gamble				x	
Sandra Harrison		x			
Steven Hockaday	1	x			
Barbara Sellinger	2	x			

BOARD OF TRUSTEES RESOLUTION # 2022-01-01A

Appoint Riker Danzig as School Board Counsel

The Board of Trustees of Cresthaven Academy Charter School resolves to approve Riker Danzig, LLP as the school's attorney, effective immediately.

Board Member	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Marcy Bostwick		x			
Rashleigh Bruce		x			
Kimberly Dortch		x			
Toni Gamble				x	
Sandra Harrison		x			
Steven Hockaday	1	x			
Barbara Sellinger	2	x			

PUBLIC PORTION

Meghan Pipchick

- The Board did not tell me, the Acting Executive Director, anything about the agenda for tonight's meeting. I was only told that we were discussing a "Legal Matter." I emailed Sandra Harrison and Steve Hockaday this morning and got no information about why this meeting was happening or the details of the agenda. I was also removed from executive session, so I still do not know why Johnston Law Firm was terminated and why a new lawyer was hired. As the Acting Executive Director, I deserve to know what is going on with the school's attorney.
- The Board did not follow the Request for Proposal (RFP) process to select the new law firm. When hiring a professional service, it is best practice to follow the RFP process. We should have solicited proposals from various firms and selected the best firm based on our options.
- Johnston Law Firm has been nothing but good for our organization. Tom successfully navigated special education lawsuits and fought back against Plainfield BOE. He is the best charter school lawyer in the state of NJ and the Board will not tell me why he has been terminated.

Diana Churchill

- What protocol was followed to select the new law firm?

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Board Member	Motion	Yes	No	Abstain	Absent
Marcy Bostwick		x			
Rashleigh Bruce		x			
Kimberly Dortch		x			
Toni Gamble		x			
Sandra Harrison		x			
Steven Hockaday	2	x			
Barbara Sellinger	1	x			

**Next BOT Meeting January 26th, 2022
Google Meet**