



**MINUTES**  
**OAKLAND AVENUE CHARTER SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**JANUARY 12, 2021 @ 4:00 P.M.**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Satterfield called the January 12, 2021 Oakland Avenue Charter School Advisory Committee (SAC) meeting to order at 4:02 p.m. at the Town of Oakland Meeting Hall.

**Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation**

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and Vice Chair Roper gave the invocation.

**ROLL CALL**

PRESENT:                      Laura Campise  
                                      Carol-Ann Dooley  
                                      Jennifer Hunt  
                                      Kathy Memolo  
                                      Charles Roper, Vice Chair  
                                      Michael Satterfield, Chair

ABSENT:                        Scott Fontenot

STAFF PRESENT:            Pamela Dwyer, Principal  
                                      Steve Koontz, Town Manager  
                                      Elise Hui, Town Clerk

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Minutes – November 10, 2020

**MOTION** was made by Vice Chair Roper, seconded by Committee Member Hunt, to approve the minutes as presented.

AYE: Campise, Dooley, Hunt, Memolo, Roper, Satterfield

NAY: None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Introduction of New Members**

Chair Satterfield asked all present to go around the table and introduce themselves.

- Kathy Memolo (new member) – Has a VPK student at Oakland Avenue Charter School (OACS) and was previously a teacher at OACS.
- Carol-Ann Dooley (new member) – Town resident with a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader at OACS.

- Charlie Roper (current member) – Been on SAC since the beginning, had children that went through OACS.
- Laura Campise (new member) – Works in front office at OACS, youngest child is in 1<sup>st</sup> grade at OACS.
- Principal Pam Dwyer – This is her 8<sup>th</sup> school year at OACS.
- Jennifer Hunt (current member) – Oakland Nature Preserve Managing Director
- Elise Hui (staff) – Town Clerk, will send out agendas and calendar invites for meetings.
- Steve Koontz (staff) – Has been Town Manager for 3 years.
- Mike Satterfield (current member) – Chair of SAC and Vice Mayor for the Town Commission. He takes what is discussed at SAC back to the Town Commission to share information and to get input on any action items. Has been involved with OACS since the beginning and believes that OACS is the most important thing he has been involved with.

### **PRINCIPAL UPDATE:**

- COVID Updates – 2 students within the building have had COVID. There is a total of 6 student cases being reported but 4 of these were not in the school at the time they tested positive. We have fortunately done well with teacher cases. The school is still working within cohorts and managing movement within those cohorts as much as possible. They have moved away from screening each student in the morning and are having self-health checks done by parents prior to school each morning. Parents are responsible for reporting results. OACS ended the OACS@Home process as there were 8 staff dedicated to 65-70 kids and it was too heavy of a staff load to continue. OACS lost about 20 students due to this who withdrew however have already backfilled 15 of those spots so are down about 5 students at this time.

### **PTO REPORT:**

#### Fundraising Updates

- PTO Update – On plan with budget and goal of giving \$35,000 to \$40,000 back to the school this year.
- Big Blast Fundraiser went well and raised about \$22,000 for the school.
- Spirit Night at Uno's is tomorrow night on January 13<sup>th</sup>.
- They are hosting Drive through breakfast event.
- Boosterthon fun run kickoff is February 2- with event date on February 19<sup>th</sup>. This year we are reaching out to Corporate sponsors to help alleviate and/or lower the cost per t-shirts for the kids. We will not be having the traditional "lap markings" because of distancing during the event, so this opened up the opportunity for sponsorships. Since posting it to Bloomz on Monday we have gotten several inquiries in support of this from families. Our goal is to have these sponsors cover the estimated \$2,200 so these finances remain in the PTO account.
- \* In the works\* - Logistics and brainstorming have begun for the 2021 Gala. A date for an in-person attended event is still being discussed as well as a location. Our focus will be on gathering donations for a Virtual silent auction. We will be placing this on a platform that ALL families as well as any invited participant can be involved in and will not have to be in person to bid on the items. Our goal will be to acquire a maximum profit with as little spending as possible. (An in-person event will be dependent on a school decision and the state of COVID-19 at that time)

- Since there are no Father/Daughter or Mother/Son dances this year, they are looking for some family friendly options if feasible given COVID.
- Scholastic Book Fair- This has been rescheduled from the Fall and will begin Monday, April 5th. This will be a mini book fair at school and virtual participation will be encouraged.

Vice Chair Roper asked if we knew how our funding allotment would look yet. Principal Dwyer said that we are not sure yet as we still have not heard the final word. Vice Chair Roper explained normally how funding would be allocated to the school (per student). Chair Satterfield explained that the hard count was normally October and February. He asked how we were able to backfill 15 of the 20 withdrawals. Principal Dwyer said that we got a few off the waiting list and lots by word of mouth. Member Dooley asked where we would like to be with enrollment. Principal Dwyer said 525 is ideal. The maximum number if we really push it would be 537 or 538. Vice Chair Roper explained that the school was designed for 700 students however class size maximums did not come in until the school was being built. Principal Dwyer explained that a few factors come into play with charter schools. One of those factors is physical classroom size like Vice Chair Roper is referring to and charter schools have the flexibility to also use an average of students from K-3 where traditional schools do not.

As far as testing, Principal Dwyer said she is not sure if testing will occur this year or not however OACS is still proceeding as if testing will take place. Member Memolo said that she heard from parents that the level of online school this fall was so much better than that in the Spring. Principal Dwyer said absolutely, in the Spring because it happened so suddenly, they were just trying to establish consistency and community for families. Principal Dwyer said that there were families and students really committed to learning in a virtual environment but there were also others that were not attending school or learning as they should have been. Chair Satterfield said that he always tells parents that at some point the kids will be evaluated and if you and your kids are not doing everything they should with virtual learning, that will show. Member Memolo said that if it was any other school beside Oakland, she wouldn't have sent her daughter to VPK, but she trusted that OACS would take care of her daughter.

Chair Satterfield asked if one of the new members would like to be a PTO representative and do the PTO report at each meeting. Both Member Dooley and Member Memolo are willing to assist with this.

#### **AUDIENCE QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:**

None

#### **SAC MEMBER QUESTIONS/COMMENTS:**

Chair Satterfield asked if the SAC bylaws had been sent yet to the new members. Town Clerk Hui said that has not yet been done but will make sure she does so before the next meeting. Chair Satterfield said that terms have been implemented for the new members, the rest of the members will serve in perpetuity until they are ready to step down.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The next SAC meeting will be on February 11<sup>th</sup>. There being no further business, Chair Satterfield adjourned the meeting at 4:43 p.m.

**SCHOOL ADVISORY COMMITTEE:**

  
Michael Satterfield, Chairman

**ATTEST:**

  
Elise Hui, Town Clerk