

Career Academy of South Bend, Inc.
Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors
May 25, 2021 via Zoom

Directors Present: Dan Adams, Kay Antonelli, David Balkin, Chad Hartzell, Marian Hodges, Larry Garatoni, Mark Melnick, Michael Garatoni
Staff Attending: Alex Hammel, Dean Fecher, Jeremy Lugbill, Nick Garstka, Kim Richardson, Sam Ells, Emily Mares, Rob Kohler
Also Attending: Emily Gaskill, Charles Loeser

A. Call to Order. Larry Garatoni called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

B. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the April 27, 2021 meeting were approved.

C. Resignation of Dan Adams. Larry reported that Dan Adams has decided to resign from the Board effective after this meeting. Larry thanked Dan for his hard work and many hours devoted to the Career Academy since joining the Board in November of 2016. Especial thanks are due, Larry said, for Dan's rigorously logical and disciplined approach to every topic, which often provided valuable guidance. Dan said he was glad he could contribute and he will continue to be a passionate fan of the Career Academies and Success Academy.

D. School Operations. Alex said the staff assembled last week to commemorate Career Academy completing its tenth year of operation, and in doing so they celebrated some achievements that the Board should be aware of:

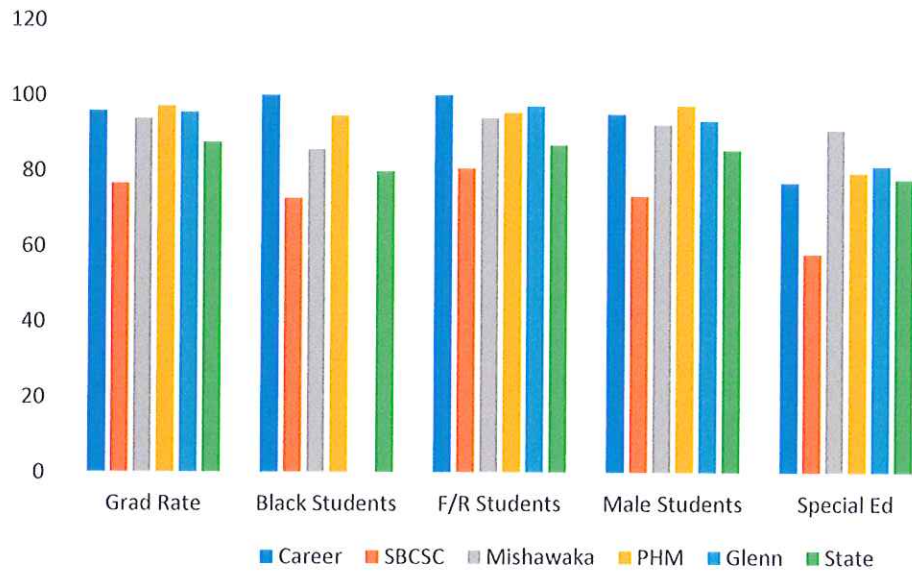
- Success Academy providing in-person classes for almost the entire school year
- Virtual students taking virtual field trips
- Delivering over 4000 meals to community families
- The extensive trail system created by the middle school kids in the wooded lots adjoining the school
- The high school students launching a data-gathering balloon that went up to almost 100,000 feet
- The many science projects conducted by high school and middle school students in the lots adjoining the school
- The high school's 2020 excellent graduation rates, substantially higher than the Indiana state average and South Bend Community School Corporation, total and by group, see Attachment A)
- The high school's 2020 college/career readiness score, highest in St Joseph County, based on 95.7% of graduates having earned college credit (highest in county) and 14.9% of graduates having earned an industry proficiency credential (highest in county, see Attachment B)

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Attachment A to Minutes
Graduation Rates 2020 St Joseph County

Student Group	CAHS	SBCSC	Mishawaka	PHM	John Glenn	State
Black	100	72.7	85.7	94.6	0	79.8
White	95.1	82.3	92.0	97.0	95.3	89.5
Paid Meals	92.3	85.2	95.3	98.0	96.3	95.3
F/R Meals	100	80.6	94.0	95.4	97.1	86.8
Gen Ed	100	81.9	94.1	99.4	98.4	91.7
Special Ed	76.9	58.0	90.9	79.5	81.3	77.8
Female	96.9	80.1	95.4	96.9	98.5	90.0
Male	95.0	73.3	92.3	97.3	93.3	85.5
Total	95.8	76.6	93.8	97.1	95.5	87.5

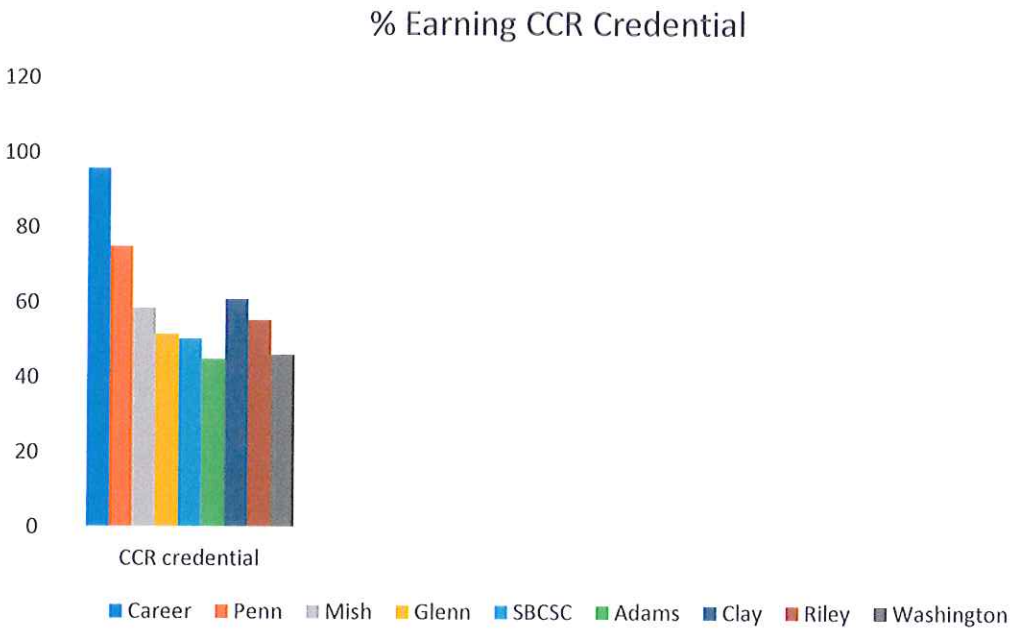
Graduation Rates 2020 St Joseph County



Attachment B to Minutes

2020 College And Career Readiness Scores For St Joseph County Public High Schools

The Indiana Department of Education INview website (<https://inview.doe.in.gov/>) reports a “College and Career Readiness” (CCR) score for each public high school based on “% of graduates earning a college or career credential.” Career Academy at 95.7% had the highest CCR score in St. Joseph County.



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- Career Academy High School business students participating in the McCloskey and Trine Innovation pitch challenges, taking a third-place finish and Best Female team lead award at McCloskey.
- Two Career High students awarded full scholarships to Notre Dame.
- Increase in college credits earned by Career High students from roughly 500 last year to roughly 1200 this year. Since these credits are free and are transferable to any Indiana public college, the value in tuition saved is worth hundreds of thousands of dollars.
- 16 students are on track for the Indiana college core, a block of 30 credits allowing a student to enter college as a sophomore.
- Career High reached agreement with Holy Cross on a program for scholarships for students planning to become teachers.
- Throughout the year there was not a single case of COVID transferring between peers within the schools.

But while there are reasons to celebrate, Alex said, there are also reasons for concern. Our experience this past year, consistent with reports published about the rest of the country, is that remote learning is for most students less successful than on-site learning. A significant factor is that attendance is lower. It may seem surprising that fewer students sign in online than come in person when school is on-site, but remote learning eliminates the incentive of coming to school to see friends. For whatever reason, attendance this year has been lower than in the past, and with lower attendance comes lower achievement. Students and parents often don't realize how damaging absences can be. For example: our 9th graders who had five or more absences were almost twice as likely to fail multiple courses than students with fewer than five absences.

So the team has been planning what to do to make up for these losses. One adjustment is to modify scheduling to allow for more intervention time. Another is to add interventionists at every grade level and a social worker for the elementary school plus math and English interventionists for the middle school and a math interventionist for the high school. There is no need for an English interventionist for the high school, as proficiency rates went up roughly 5% for all demographic groups, which is impressive considering proficiency rates were down state-wide. Summer school will be more extensive this year than any prior year. Our enhanced online program should also be very helpful for credit recovery students. With Covid isolation over, Alex said, it's realistic to expect substantial improvement next year, now we need to execute.

E. Interim Budget. Mike Garatoni and Dan Adams reported the Finance Committee has reviewed and recommends approval of the interim budget prepared by Kim Richardson ("interim" because it will be finalized with actual enrollment after the coming school year begins). On motion duly seconded, the interim budget was approved.

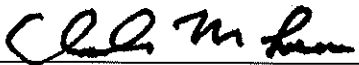
F. Enrollment. Rob Kohler reported that enrollments is going well. So far we have 220 new applications and 852 students having returned forms indicating they intend to return. This compares well with prior years.

G. Financial expenditures and statements. Kim presented the monthly expenditures report, which was approved.

Kim noted the financial statement shows YTD through April revenue of \$11,597,969 compared to budgeted \$11,441,615, so revenue is above budget. Expenses are under budget so the variance is positive. After further discussion the financial statement was approved.

H. Trine Report. Emily said Trine is gathering information for its end of year reports to be presented at the next meeting.

There being no further business, Larry declared the meeting adjourned.



Charles M. Loeser, Secretary