



# MINUTES

Centers for Applied Science and Technology  
Board of Trustees Meeting | August 24, 2023  
CAST Med High School | 3 PM – 5 PM

## Meeting Attendees:

- **Board Members Present:** Shari Albright, Katie Chain, Rene Dominguez, Lisa Lewis, Dr. Lyssa Ochoa, and Jeanne Russell
- **Board Members Absent:** Erik Nieves
- **CAST Staff:** Nayeli Gomez, Jen Maestas, Al Perez, Heriberto “Eddie” Rodriguez, Jeanne Russell, and Amanda Sierra
- **Guest:** Representative from Raise Your Hand Texas

## 1. Board Action Items

- a. Board reviewed the 2023 - 2024 CAST Calendar: CAST will send electronic invites for all upcoming events and Board Members will select which events to attend
- b. Board Members discussed the opportunity to recommend members to serve on school-based advisory boards
- c. Members were asked to identify a stakeholder to invite to the VIP performance of Three Years of Fear on Sept. 8 at Charline McCombs Empire Theatre

## 2. Items Related to CAST Schools

- a. Introduction to new leadership team at CAST Med High School
  - i. Board was introduced and welcomed Dr. Anthony Khosravi, new CAST Med Principal and Assistant Principal, Victoria Torres
- b. Student Voice - Overview of CAST Imagines Healthcare and Education
  - i. CAST Med students Luciano Rodrigez, Diego Martinez (10th Grade), Chris Rubio (9th Grade) and Jesiah Barrera (9th Grade) introduced the board to CAST Imagines, a new event at CAST Med that will offer students a deeper understanding of the intersection of healthcare and education on San Antonio’s southside. The student team addressed how they intend to tackle mental health among the homeless.
- c. New CAST Schools organizational chart with new employees and roles
  - i. Board was made aware of three new CAST team members: Joshua Collins (Communications), Anastasia Perez (Educator Engagement), Jakob Villarreal (Development)
  - ii. CAST will also continue to employ both high school and college interns to provide additional Communications and Data management support

## 3. Updates/Discussion

- a. CAST Schools Data and Metrics
  - i. Nayeli Gomez, CAST Schools Data Coordinator, shared metrics regarding the class of 2023 including:
    1. CCMR rates as defined by TEA for the class of 2023
    2. CAST Schools compared to partner districts
    3. Work-based learning rates,
    4. College Credit earned and post-secondary enrollment decisions
    5. How passing the TSI opens the door for students to earn dual credit
    6. Certifications earned at CAST at the request of industry but not recognized by TEA

- ii. 2023-2024 Enrollment:
  - 1. CAST Schools currently serve over 2,000 students across 5 high schools and on prek-12 academy
  - 2. Enrollment goal varies by school as the facilities are unique
  - 3. CAST Schools are designed to be small - around 500 students for high schools
  - 4. Need to increase enrollment at CAST Med, CAST STEM and CAST Lead
- b. Review and provide feedback into Board of Trustees Plan for the 2023-2024 school year to include joint meetings with alumni
  - i. Have two (2) joint meetings with the newly created CAST Alumni Advisory Board throughout the year
  - ii. Plan for a Board, CAST Staff and School Leadership reception in 2024
  - iii. Discussed the idea of adding new board members
- c. Three Years of Fear Dinner Theatre Fundraising Update
  - i. Current list of sponsors & underwriters: H-E-B, CPS Energy, Frost Bank, SAVE Clinic, City Education Partners, Charles Butt Foundation, Plus One Robotics, H-E-Butt Foundation, Texas Research and Technology Foundation, Hector and Gloria Lopez Foundation, Methodist Healthcare Ministries, San Antonio Area Foundation, Lisa Lewis, Carol Mendenhall, Sarah & Paul McLornan, Jeanne Russell & Mike Villarreal, Henry Gonzalez, and Susan Gershenhorn
- d. Three big areas of focus for 23-24
  - i. Supporting our educators as we lift up the teaching profession.
  - ii. Embedding pre-apprenticeships into our schools in partnership with Ready to Work SA.
  - iii. Strengthening our Alumni Network with a focus on career connections.

#### **4. Consent agenda**

- a. Review and approve Minutes from June 22 meeting
  - i. Shari Albright moved to approve the meeting minutes from June 22, 2023
  - ii. Katie Chain seconded the motion.
  - iii. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **5. Executive Session**

- a. Board moved to Executive Session

#### **6. Celebrations**

- a. CAST Schools Summer Studio
- b. My Summer Gig
- c. New Teacher Welcome at Teacher Fest
- d. CAST Schools Summer Service Camp

**7. Upcoming Events**

- a. September 8: Three Years of Fear Dinner Theater at Empire Theater
- b. September 13: CAST Schools Speak Up Speak Out Civics Fair Launch, CAST Lead
- c. September 14: CAST Imagines at CAST Med
- d. September 20: CAST Teach High School Ribbon Cutting
- e. November 9: Employer Breakfast
- f. November 28 – December 2: Student Advisory Trip to Mexico City

**8. Adjourn: Next meeting, October 26, 2023, 3 PM - 5 PM**

- 9. Revised Financial Policies:** Board approved financials retroactively by unanimous consent by email effective July 1, 2022