



MINUTES

Centers for Applied Science and Technology
Board of Trustees Meeting | April 18, 2024
CAST Lead High School | 3:30 PM – 5:30 PM

Board Members Present: Lisa Lewis, Rene Dominguez, Katie Chain, and Jeanne Russell

CAST Staff Present: Heriberto “Eddie” Rodriguez, Amanda Sierra, and Al Perez

1. Welcome

- a. Erica Jackson, Principal, welcomed the CAST Schools Board of Trustees and shared key highlights from the first graduating class from CAST Lead High School created in partnership with East Central ISD
 - i. 100% of the class graduated
 - ii. 87% will pursue either a 2-year or 4-year college
 - iii. 100% have been accepted into an Alamo College
 - iv. 3 students will serve in the military
 - v. Collectively, students have earned over \$350K in scholarships

2. Board moved into Executive Session

3. Items for board feedback and input/partnership work

- a. Jeanne Russell presented updated strategic and work plan with board
- b. Board received updated on enrollment as of mid-April across all CAST schools
- c. Jeanne Russell presented an update on apprenticeship & straight-to-workers plan, funded by Catalyze & 8020
 - i. Shared how the network is experimenting with incentives for alumni not in college
 - ii. Jeanne Russell shared that CAST Tech will host an apprenticeship launch to increase awareness of this opportunity among students going directly to work after graduating
- d. Jeanne Russell also shared a future look at partnership work to include speed mentoring, more strategic job shadowing. Board recommended moving job-shadowing to the fall versus January.
- e. Board Discussed ways to provide principals corporate mentorship. Katie Chain recommended creating a lunch & learn series for principals

4. Consent agenda

- a. Lisa Lewis moved to approve the February meeting minutes; Rene Dominguez seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously

5. Jeanne Russell shared updates on previous events & celebrations

- a. CAST Imagine Launch
- b. Blended Learning Showcase at CAST Lead
- c. Hiring fair at Palo Alto College
- d. CAST STEM Launch
- e. Youth Rally at DoSeum
- f. Second Katie’s Closet at CAST Tech & ALA (and CAST Teach)

6. Board members were invited to the following events:

- a. May 1: Senior Showcase at CAST Tech (5:30-7:30 p.m. - will coincide with a national visit to include CAST Teach)
- b. May 9: Apprenticeship Launch at CAST Tech 12-1:30 p.m. (with City of San Antonio and for seniors from all schools)
- c. May 10: Final Black Student Union Meeting at the Carver
- d. Graduations!
 - i. May 24: CAST Lead
 - ii. May 30: CAST STEM
 - iii. May 31: CAST Med
 - iv. June 1: CAST Tech
 - v. June 2: ALA

7. East Central ISD Superintendent Roland Toscano and Ginger Friesenhahn, East Central ISD Trustee - District 1, joined the CAST Schools Board of Trustees for a joint meet and greet with members of CAST Lead's first graduating class