

**University Schools
Board of Governors
December 12, 2007
Minutes**

Board Members Present: Kristen Anderson, Tony Arguello, Julie Fraser, Bryan VanDriel, Christie Malnati, Ryan Mayeda, Chuck Olmsted, Dick Bond, Suzanne Forney
Staff Present: Sherry Gerner, Ronni Barker, Jeanne Lipman, Julie Claeys, Louisa Warfield, Jane Weber

Kristen called the meeting to order at 6:35. A quorum was present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- A motion was made by Chuck (Tony) to approve the agenda. Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- A motion was made by Chuck (Christie) to approve the amended minutes of the November 14, 2007 meeting. Motion passed.

COMMUNITY DIALOGUE

- Julie Claeys spoke in support of the Peace Circles project and asked Board members for volunteers.

STAFF REPORTS

Director's Report:

- Sherry reported that she has spoken with David Sanchez and that Ronna is doing well and they are cautiously optimistic.
- Sherry reported that there are only a few small items left to complete the construction and that we have not yet made the final payment. Everything should be completed by January 1, 2008. Sherry also reported that after the move was completed, we had some surplus furniture that was sold to Rick's Used Furniture and some that was donated to Habitat for Humanity.
- Sherry reported that the Joint Use Committee met and discussed several small items.
- Sherry reported that she and Ronni met with a representative of Colorado League of charter schools about group purchasing.
- Sherry reported that she and Ronni met with Wayne Eads to go over the detailed report of administrative charges from District 6. The report contained only general information and he requested that further questions be put in writing and he will respond to them. She also reported that she requested an increase in DHHP rental and funding for DHHP preschool. Our current administrative fee is 2.4%. While the Board agreed that that seems like a fair amount, they questioned several of the items listed as charges, especially Legal fees and Election Expenses.
- Sherry reported that the Elementary Math Team is looking at a new math program to better meet the needs of our students. Julia Richards is facilitating the group. Funding for new textbooks will come from the Walton Grant.
- Sherry distributed the Accreditation Review. She noted that District 6 made errors on the original Middle School report that led to the school not being accredited, but that the administration appealed those errors and the report was corrected.
- The School Accountability Reports were distributed and discussed.
- The DHHP audit was distributed. Sherry noted that this is a draft version and that the final version is available to District 6 and should have been used, but was not provided to US. Sherry is concerned about the speed that the proposed changes are moving.
 - Paul pointed out that a number of our DHHP students are Spanish speakers, and we are teaching them ASL, which puts them at a double disadvantage.
 - Sherry reported that in a meeting last June with Dist 6 Administration, she was told that there would be no additional funding for the DHH program regardless of the audit findings.
 - Sherry reiterated the need for additional Administrative support for the DHHP. Instead, Dist 6 actually decreased Administrative support this year.
 - Sherry will keep the BOG informed as the process moves forward.

- Sherry informed the board that when our French teacher went on pre-planned leave, we were unable to secure a French speaking long term sub. We are currently paying 2 subs – 1 long term and 1 French speaking. Our regular teacher is expected back after Christmas break.
 - Christie expressed disappointment with the way this situation was handled, and especially noted her concern for the students in the program and the program itself.

High School Principal's Report:

- No report

Middle School Principal's Report:

- Paul reported that the Middle School faculty is taking a hard look at their curriculum. The faculty is dissatisfied with many programs and processes currently in practice. He specifically mentioned the overlap between Guided Explorations and Electives. He will keep the board updated on progress.
- Paul distributed the School health Index from the Coordinated School Health Grant Committee. Although this report does not directly lead to very much funding, it puts us towards the top of the list for many grants and programs.

Education Equity

- Louisa Warfield gave a presentation on the work of the Education Equity Committee.

Business Manager Report:

- Ronni distributed the financial report dated November 30, 2007.
- Ronni noted that the busses continue to be a huge problem.
- Ronni also reported that our domain main server was down for over a week before Thanksgiving, and the cost for data retrieval was \$7,300.
- The budget preparations for the 2008-09 year will begin after the Christmas break.

ITEMS FOR ACTION

Personnel:

- Sherry presented a proposed personnel change.
 - Appointment:
 - Patti Burgess - .5 PM Kindergarten
- A motion was made by Ryan (Chuck) to approve the personnel change. Motion passed.

E-mail Policy

- A motion was made by Ryan (Chuck) to approve the E-mail Policy as amended. Motion passed.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Procedure Finalization:

- The Hiring Procedure document will be re-presented to the Board at the January meeting.
- The Contract Procedures was not yet available and will be discussed at the January meeting.

ECU Lease

- The discussion of the ECU Lease was postponed until the January meeting.

Booster Club Treasurer's report:

- No report

USPTO Treasurer's report:

- A treasurer's report dated November 28, 2007 was distributed.

BOARD REPORTS

Co Chairs Report:

- Kristen discussed the need for 3-4 "pillars" of non-negotiable statements of who we are and what we will do as a school. She stated that the purpose is not to dictate curriculum, but clarify how our environment is to be unified across classrooms and grade levels.
- The Board scheduled a work session for January 23, 2008 at 5:30 to discuss this further.

ECU Report:

- Chuck reported that current enrollment is 62 students.
- Chuck shared the response from the ECU Board to BOG's concerns about their budget/bonus plan.

Foundation Report:

- No report

Next Meeting:

- The next regular meeting of the Board will be January 9, 2008 at 6:30pm in the library.
- The work session will be January 23, 2008 in the conference room.

Adjournment:

- A motion was made by Ryan (Chuck) to adjourn. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 9:59pm.