



A Public School of Choice, Inc.

Board Meeting Minutes

- Regular Session on May 5, 2014
- Closed Session on
- Special Session on

DRAFT

APPROVED

In Attendance:

- Richard Peterson/Chair
- Kim Hill/Secretary
- Brenda Hunt/Teacher Rep
- Donna Kuhl/Parent Rep
- Ben Balderas/Parent Rep
- Kristi Anspach/Vice Chair
- Denise Duffy/Treasurer
- Scott Jewitt/Teacher Rep
- Vicky Wilson/Community-at-Large Member
- Jon Corcoran/Administrator

The meeting was called to order by Richard Peterson at 6:40 p.m.

The mission statement was read and a moment of silence was observed.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Principal's Report

- Enrollment Update

Grade	Enrollment	2014 – 2015 Projected Enrollment
K	20	20
1	20	21
2	22	24
3	21	21
4	20	23
5	20	23
6	41	43
7	32	44
8	30	28
Total	226	247

- Highlights
 - Staff continues to make the extraordinary seem ordinary!
 - Wizard of Oz!
 - Earth Day blends artwork, environmental awareness, and an inaugural Band Concert
 - STEAM projects (Eight essential elements; some do not meet all eight)
 - Spring Fling had an enormous turnout and raised over \$6500. Proceeds will be put towards one SMART Board apiece for ES & MS.
 - Annual Fund Drive has raised \$3000+, with 26% family participation.
 - We have a sandbox, courtesy of the Brandt Family!
 - Staff is headed to the Home Run Patio at DBAP on Thursday, 5/15 in honor of Teacher Appreciation Week.
 - Target Arts & College Board Arts Integration Grant(s) submitted, Honda Grant in process.
 - University partnership: UNC Education minors have been spending time here (recruitment strategy).
 - Student spotlight: Katie D. and Christina M. both received recognition at the Annual Tarheel Junior Historical Association Awards Banquet (Katie-1st Place African American Essay Contest, Christina-???)
- Personnel:
 - Current openings for 14-15:
 - MS ELA
 - ~ Initial round of phone interviews during week of 4/28, 1 finalist is scheduled for a model lesson/face-to-face interview on 5/6 PM
 - AIG Part-Time
 - ~ Interview team will meet during week of 5/5 to review resumes
- STEAM Update:
 - Dr. Sam Houston, NC STEM Leader & President/CEO of the NC SMT Education Center, visited on Friday, 4/11. We are “on the map” with the NC STEM Learning Network, which will provide guidance & resources to support our 3-year journey to becoming a Model STEM School. Dr. Houston offered clarification on the process, reassurance on the steps we are currently taking, and advice.
 - We have signed a partnership agreement with [Project Lead The Way https://www.pltw.org/](https://www.pltw.org/) as a unified, K-8 supplemental engineering curriculum. PLTW aligns with our goal of ensuring that kids develop the skills necessary to succeed in a global economy. Kim Apelgren (ES) & Andrew Gatt (MS) will attend Summer Training.
 - Morgana, J2, & Jon will lead PBL Training on 5/14 Early Release
 - A STEAM Chart/Curriculum Map for public display/sharing is in the works (finalize on 5/14 Early Release)
- After-School Program:
 - Ongoing discussion between Principal and consultant Vicky Wilson
 - Staff input session on 4/29
 - Parent input sessions on 4/9 & 5/1
 - Tentative plan, pending BOD approval, is to release registration materials during week of 5/5
- Follow-Up Items/Miscellaneous:
 - OCS Parent Pulse survey has been released, nearly 70 respondents so far
 - Spring Campus Clean-Up Day scheduled for Saturday, 5/10
 - Julie Williams was voted in to replace Brenda Hunt as ES BOD Rep. for 2014-2015
 - Quote received for North Building HVAC repair
 - Still collecting logo feedback-timeline for adoption is Fall 2014, seeking additional design options

Committee Reports

- Treasurer's Report
 - Getting in touch with prospective parents
 - Budget looks like it might break even
 - Mr. Corcoran will look into the 2nd and 5th grade projected enrollment numbers. The BOD did not vote for the enrollment to be at these numbers, as was done for the 4th grade enrollment.
- Grievance Committee: There was no cause to meet.
- Personnel Committee
 - Met with Treasurer and Administrator to go over the budget.
 - Looked at merit-based increase and the numbers looked good.
 - Discussed new AIG position and other positions needed.
- Policy & Strategic Planning Committee: No update; question raised about whether PATH was contacted about draft policy and suggested revisions.
- Community Relations and Fundraising:
 - Will meet May 7, 2014.
 - See Principal's update about current grants.
 - If no response from prospective families, suggest Mr. Corcoran contact them to secure their spot.
- Educational Program Committee
 - See Principal's update for STEAM update.
 - Idea to build on World's fair and make sure it continues.
 - Idea to have STEAM/Science/Technology Fair.
 - Discussion of Science Olympiad.
 - Want to increase number of students interested.
 - Discussed bringing the science from Science Olympiad projects into the classroom.
 - Discussion of OCS pamphlet
 - Changes needed to include students from OCS.
 - In the past, pictures had to be removed because students/staff no longer at OCS and requested their photos be removed.
 - Proposal to order fewer pamphlets in order to change pictures out more often, to decrease the chance of this happening.
- Parents and Teachers Helping (PATH) Committee: Meeting tonight. Teacher Appreciation Week is May 12 – 16th.
- Technology Committee
 - No meeting since last BOD meeting.
 - Want to schedule a meeting before the end of the year to look at needs for the next year.
 - Some kids leaving OCS have parents on the committee; need to recruit more parents for the next year.
- Transportation Committee (ad hoc):
 - No meeting since last BOD meeting.
 - Transportation Policy needs to be revised.
 - Who defines the bus stop schedule in 2014 – 2015 (5 – 6 stops)?

Ongoing Board Training: “It shouldn't have to be like pulling teeth”: Discussion of comprehensive strategies to grow participation in school governance at OCS (Board/committee participation)

- Have Committee chairs give updates at BOD meetings to get more comfortable with BOD meetings.
- Post on Facebook (Ms. Geise) and create a flyer also, to inform school community when BOD meetings will occur and what the agenda will be.
- BOD: provide information to OCS community about how governance works and committee roles.

- Name tags at BOD meetings for community members to know who BOD members are when attending. Include pictures on website

New Business (NOTE: Kristi Anspach had to leave the meeting at this time for personal reasons)

- Discussion about Middle School Weekly Team Meeting
 - Teachers are concerned about the timing with Principal feedback survey and when contracts are signed; felt like information provided could be held against them in future years.
 - Feedback to the Principal by the BOD should be kept confidential; should not quote what is written in the feedback survey
 - Possibly provide more multiple choice questions with “Comments” areas, as needed.

Old Business

- Status update on and BOD approval of the OCS After-School Program (Vicky Wilson/Jon Corcoran)
 - Met with Teacher Representatives and Parent Representatives to get feedback about the program. Some concerns were:
 - Space and sharing space
 - Homework assistance: Help and checking, but not all the school’s responsibilities
 - Flexible scheduling: Will meet with Mr. Corcoran about this
 - PE Important: Kids will be moving
 - Healthy Snacks
 - Rising 7th and 8th grade Counselor-in-Training if students are interested
 - Early Release Days: Care will be given for five of the 10 days; the other five days will be used for project planning so no care will be given.
 - No Holiday camps
 - Registration fee will be affordable and non-refundable
 - Will help those families who are financially-challenged
 - Current staff can work, including long-term subs; no concern about staffing.
 - Cap the 1st year to see how it goes.
 - 30 students needed for the program to break even; consider canceling the program if the number of applications isn’t met.
 - After-school policy needs to be written.
 - Implement a Child Sponsorship Program to offset required volunteer hours?
 - **Motion:** To vote to establish an OCS After-School Program starting in the 2014 – 2015 school year.
Motion: Donna Kuhl
Second: Denise Duffy
Vote: Unanimous Approval
 Passed Failed
- Vote to approve Technology Committee description for the OCS Comprehensive Policy Manual
 - Wording changed based on other committee descriptions
 - **Motion:** To approve the Technology Committee description, with revisions.
Motion: Kim Hill
Second: Vicky Wilson
Vote: Unanimous Approval
 Passed Failed
- Update on parent proposal for summer soccer camp
 - Mr. Corcoran made the decision to not pursue it this summer.
- Vote on the purchase of two Smart Boards with PATH funding
 - If they are ordered now, they likely wouldn’t be installed right away and would not be used until next year anyway, so why not wait until next year to purchase them, given the current budget deficit.

- **Motion:** To approve the purchase and installation of two Smart Boards, one in Elementary School and one in Middle School, using PATH funds.

Motion: Donna Kuhl

Second: Denise Duffy

Vote: Unanimous Approval

Passed Failed

- Review and approval of the April 2, 2014 BOD meeting minutes

- **Motion:** To approve the April 2, 2014 BOD meeting minutes, with revisions.

Motion: Donna Kuhl

Second: Denise Duffy

Vote: Unanimous Approval

Passed Failed

Closed Session

Motion: To move into closed session to discuss personnel matters which warrant confidentiality pursuant to Article 33C, Section 143-318.11 (a) Section 6 of the North Carolina General Statutes.

Motion: Kim Hill

Second: Donna Kuhl

Vote: Unanimous Approval

Passed Failed

At 9:15 p.m., the meeting entered into a closed session. The closed session was ended at 9:50 p.m.

Adjournment

With no further business before the Board of Directors, the meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

The next meeting of the Orange Charter School Board of Directors will be held on **Thursday, June 12, 2014, at 6:30 PM.**