



A Public School of Choice, Inc.

Board Meeting Minutes

- Regular Session on May 14, 2015
- Closed Session on
- Special Session on

DRAFT

APPROVED

In Attendance:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Dukelow/Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ben Balderas/Vice-Chair |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kim Hill/Secretary | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jamia Bachrach/Parent Rep |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Julie Williams/Teacher Rep | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Jewitt/Teacher Rep |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rich Peterson/Parent Rep | <input type="checkbox"/> Open/Community-at-Large Member |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jurgen Wanke/Parent Rep | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jon Corcoran/Administrator |

The meeting was called to order by Lisa Dukelow at 6:35 p.m.

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

Presentation of building for expanding campus of OCS

- Mark O'Neal (Realtor), Steve Hubrich (Investor), George Horton, and Jim Parker (representative from Summit) talked about the plans for expanding OCS.
- Steve has finance eight school projects, similar to what OCS is looking at doing.
- Because of the strong financial standing of OCS, reputation in the community, strong testing scores, and the fact that OCS has an external accountant, Steve is comfortable working with OCS on this project.
- Some of the schools Steve has worked on were shown, to get an idea of building design.
- There was discussion on how to expand the school were discussed. OCS could start with trailers on the new property and then move those students into the new building; could move middle school over into the trailers next, or elementary. Target 75% occupancy of the new building to make full use of it and then complete rest of campus.
- Steve would finance the entire project through completion, at which time he would help OCS secure a low interest, long term loan, likely through the USDA for rural communities (*e.g.* 3% for 40 years).
- Target 20% revenue towards the loan; 2 – 3 year expansion process. OCS would fund bleachers for any gyms built on property.
- Proposal to Hillsborough Board in July for rezoning of the property where new campus would be located.
- Discussion of having rising 9th-graders move to Meadowlands as a short-term solution until new high-school could be built. Steve thought it would be possible to expand to a smaller space to accommodate the students. George would outfit the space for OCS needs. The more students OCS could move into the new high school, the better. For May 28th meeting (for review of contracts), get information about the number of 8th grade families interested in staying with OCS in a smaller area for 9th-grade.
- OCS needs to see proposals and vote on expansion before July 1st so the re-zoning proposal could be removed if OCS does not want to pursue the project.

Public Comments/Discussion

- Donna Kuhl
 - Mr. Peterson needs special recognition for his time on the BOD and for all the time he has put towards OCS.
 - Thank you to PATH for Teacher Appreciation Week.
 - Extra-curricular activities; teachers are stepping up and doing so without stipends.
 - BOD needs to compensate teachers for extra hours; teachers are docked time if they are out for an hour.
 - There is parent disparity at the school.
 - After listening to the discussion at this meeting, teachers are not being listened to.
- Kristi Anspach
 - Appreciates all the time and energy it takes parents to be on the BOD.
 - During her time on the BOD, teachers have been able to make suggestions and be heard.
 - Disagrees with earlier statement that teachers' opinions don't matter.
 - The only way to get more money without fundraising is to raise the number of students coming to the school. Acadia has always stated to keep teachers' salaries at 50% of the budget.
 - If the BoD disagrees, they usually do so with respect.

Presentation of Project Lead the Way

- Ms. Apelgren presented proposal for a robotics program at OCS.
 - Currently, Design and Modeling is being taught as part of PLTW.
 - Would like to expand the projects offered next year to include Automation and Robotics.
 - Ms. Apelgren will be going to training in June for robotics.
 - For the automation and robotics, can use many of the kits currently being used.
 - No need for additional iPads or computers because the classes won't overlap next year.
 - For the third year expansion, would need extra computers like the Acer computers originally purchased.
 - Expanding the program over the next two years would ensure all Middle School classes are exposed to engineering.
 - What is the cost of this expansion? No definitive answer.

Old Business (at this point Jamia Bachrach had to leave the meeting; votes taken do not include her vote)

- Vote on Bus for 2015 – 2016
 - If OCS does not have buses, field trips would not cost more than they already do, per the transportation company.
 - Triangle Sportsplex has confirmed it will come and get kids who are on the swim team.
 - Of those riding the bus, two may have a definite need for transportation.
 - The After-school program is in place for those who cannot pick up their kids in the afternoon.
 - **Motion:** To discontinue bus service after the 2014 – 2015 school year, as previously voted.
 - Motion: Kim Hill
 - Second: Rich Peterson
 - Discussion: Families already knew there would not be bus service after this year.
 - Vote: 4 For; 1 Against
 - Passed Failed

Committee Reports

- Treasurer's Report: Requested budget from Acadia, but nothing received.
- Grievance Committee: There was no cause to meet.

- Personnel Committee: Met April 21, 2015
 - Pay for Teachers with longevity at OCS, may be able to do something about this.
 - Have a more comprehensive rubric in the future.
 - The April 21, 2015 meeting minutes will be attached at a later date.
- Policy & Strategic Planning Committee
 - Scheduled a meeting to work on the Strategic Plan; however, cancelled the meeting after no one attended. Wait until after vote on OCS expansion before proceeding.
 - Have not received an update from the Committee Chair.
- Community Relations and Fundraising: Annual Fund letter has been sent to the OCS community.
- Education Committee: Met May 6, 2015 and May 14, 2015.
 - Detailed minutes received for May 6, 2015; general topics as follows
 - Parent concern regarding overuse of worksheets in Middle School
 - K-5 to create a matrix of projects at each grade level for each quarter
 - Math Resources curriculum for K-5
 - Recognition Assembly (Grades 4 – 8)
 - Reading Screener/Benchmark Tools
- PATH:
 - Spring Fling; everything funded through sponsorships.
 - Teacher Appreciation Week: currently on-going. Teachers meeting at Radius Friday after school as part of TAW.
- Technology: No cause to meet.

Principal's Report

Grade	Current Enrollment	Wait List	2015-2016 Projected Enrollment
K	20	78	21 – Confirmed
1	20	17	21 – Confirmed
2	22	27	22 – Confirmed
3	20	21	22 – Confirmed
4	21	22	20 – Confirmed
5	22	15	21 – Confirmed
6	39	0	41 – Confirmed
7	41	0	41 – Confirmed
8	28	0	41 – Confirmed
Total:	233	180	250

- Current Wait List for 2015-16
 - K = 102, 1st = 32, 2nd = 8, 3rd = 17, 4th = 18, 5th = 16, 6th = 3, 7th = 2, 8th = 0

- Highlights
 - Our STE(A)M-based extracurricular/enrichment program is thriving and helping us fulfill our overall (well-rounded) mission!
 - Alice @ Wonderland Production clearly exceeds ordinary MS Drama standards & student participation/community attendance is widespread (inspiring & epitomizes STEAM!)
 - Seven student-participants in NC Junior Tarheels Statewide Competition
 - ~ ES Civil War Essay-1st Place (Lauren P.)
 - ~ Diarama-2nd Place (Thomas M.)
 - ~ African-American MS Essay-1st Place (Katie D.)
 - Individual standout: 4th grader Thomas McKiernan places 8th out of 50+ MS competitors at Regional Science Olympiad Bridge-building Competition on April 24th
 - Charter School Performance Framework results
 - Initial unveil on May 1st
 - A tool to raise accountability/inform strategic planning-prepared by NC Office of Charter Schools
 - Measures our performance across 3 core/component areas: Academic, Operational, Financial
 - ~ OCS meets or exceeds 34/37 standards with overall good standing
- STEAM/Curriculum Update
 - Twenty new Chromebooks deployed in Middle School
 - Looking ahead to 2015-2016
 - Expansion of MS Engineering Curriculum
 - ~ PLTW Automation & Robotics slated to come online
 - 2nd foundational course/8th grade capstone
 - Completes the K-8 continuum with PLTW/Engineering
 - Kim Apelgren has completed online Readiness Training/pre-registration for Summer Core
 - Blended Learning Preview Activity
 - ~ All staff asked to complete by June 5th
 - ~ Blended learning=a hybrid traditional/online teaching model to capitalize on impending 1:1 student/device ratio
 - A positive/progressive trend in education
 - Enhanced differentiation & student motivation/achievement
 - Successful 3rd thru 5th grade pilot, expand to K-2, 6-8
 - Math Expressions selected by K-5 staff to bolster & unify our Math Program
 - ~ Shared training w/individual teacher discretion over level of class implementation
- Personnel
 - Ryan Gatt has accepted the MS Health/PE Position
 - 1st choice of interview team
 - Exemplary model lesson & glowing references
 - Part-Time ES Spanish
 - Interview Team has identified its top choice
 - Offer will be made pending reference check
 - 25/30 summative/year-end reflection meetings have taken place, 19 contracts signed and submitted for BOD approval
 - Beginning Teacher Support Program (BTSP) Team making preparations for State monitoring visit on 5/19

- Miscellaneous
 - April Budget Update
 - Apply 14-15 surplus to interior painting/ES library shelves
 - Daily schedules for 2015-2016 have been finalized
 - Annual Fund Campaign is underway & off to a positive start. Received our first 2 online donations via PayPal.
 - Audit Contract

New Business

- Set Board date for review of contracts
 - May 28, 2015
 - Add High School Discussion to this meeting and send agenda out to OCS community so members are aware of what is being discussed at Board meetings.

Old Business

- Review and possible vote of proposed budget for 2015 – 2016
 - Costs associated with OCS expansion need to be included.
 - Wait to vote on budget at June BOD meeting.
- Discussion of timeframe for what, if anything, is needed for STEAM
 - Support needed for “E” in STEAM.
- Review and approval of April, 2015 BOD meeting minutes
 - Vote on these during the May 28, 2015 meeting since they were sent out to the BOD for review late.
- Other items
 - Contract with Petway, Mills & Pearson, PA for audit
 - **Motion:** To contract Petway, Mills & Pearson, PA to conduct the 2015 Audit.
 Motion: Ben Balderas
 Second: Kim Hill
 Vote: Unanimous
 Passed Failed

Adjournment

With no further business before the Board of Directors, the meeting was adjourned at 10:03 p.m.

The next meeting of the Orange Charter School Board of Directors will be held on **Thursday, May 28, 2015, at 6:30 PM.**