



CHARTERED
PUBLIC SCHOOL

School Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes

February 18, 2015

Board Members Present: Thomas Frischknecht, Kim Lavallee, Sarah Frischknecht, Richard Hyotte, Lenka Steiger, Kevin Ahern

Public Attendance: Lenka Steiger, Matt Southerton, Stacey Weigler, Susan Lawton, Kristy Ouellette, Bob Marville, Emily Ahern, Allison Ouellette, Patrice Benard.

The meeting was called to order at 4:06 PM.

1. Public Comment Session –

Mrs. Kristy Ouellette: Talked about that students who used study hall for homework are affected by the new bell schedule. Feels parents should have been consulted before new schedule went into effect.

One attendee (didn't sign in) : Feels school's resources are being used for underperforming students and other students are suffering because of it.

Student Presentation (Allison Ouellette & Emily Ahern): A study hall was taken out of the schedule. Concern addressed by students that this extra study hall was needed. They also presented the board with a petition signed by students and faculty to have the study hall reinstated.

Mrs. Patrice Benard: Suggests that in the public comments people be allowed to address the board on any matter they want to, even if the item is not on the agenda. (Mr. Frischknecht noted that items can be added to the agenda if notice is given to the board two weeks in advance.) She mentioned that Manchester middle schools do not have study halls. At most only one is necessary, but does not believe any are necessary. Students should learn to

manage their time outside the building. She does not believe the students should be given two study periods.

2. Approve Minutes from Previous Meeting

***** Mr. Hyotte motioned to approve last board minutes. Mr. Ahern seconded. All voted in favor.*****

3. Charter School Business

A. Board Chair Comments:

Mr. Frischknecht proposed to open two new ex-officio board seats—one for a student, and one for faculty.

Board discussed and then opened the item to the floor to discuss. Public comments were favorable to the idea.

*****Mr. Hyotte motioned that the board add two new seats to the board, one for a student and one for a faculty member. Mrs. Lavallee seconded. All voted in favor.*****

This will be referred to the administration to implement.

B. Treasurer (& Finance Committee) Report:

Budget for next year will be presented at the next meeting.

We have drawn out about 50% of the federal grant money at this point.

Intent to return forms have been sent and most have returned the form. 1% are not returning, 7% are unsure, but leaning towards yes. The rest are returning.

Next year probable classes: 4- 6th grade classes, 4- 7th grade classes, 1- 8th grade and 1- 9th grade class.

C. Director's Report:

Smarter Balance Update: According to DOE, we are not allowed to offer a simple opt-out letter to the families. We will have to administer the Smarter Balance test. If a child is absent, the school is directed to treat it like any other absence. TFA will not offer make-ups for student missing the SBT. The director will send a letter to all parents with information about the test.

Admissions have closed. Most placement tests have already been administered.

Administration is actively planning for next year—working on curriculum and reviewing the need for additional faculty.

Honor roll (three tiers) has been implemented at Founders. It is posted in the lobby.

Facility: We have taken ownership of the Humanities (east wing) since construction was completed. We will take ownership of the west wing after vacation next week. We will not occupy all classrooms at this point. We will be locking doors to rooms which will not be used to conserve energy.

Faculty: We are working to create a computer science curriculum. It will be a rigorous program. We found a computer science teacher for next year and have extended a contract to him (pending approval financially). We will give a 1099 contract for curriculum development in that department and he began yesterday.

The intent to return forms for faculty were distributed and all but 2 have returned the form, indicating they will be returning. The two remaining faculty have been notified the forms are due and must be returned or arrangements will be made for their replacement.

PR: Congressman Guinta will be visiting. Mayor Gatsas will be visiting 3/6. Feb. 19 some students and parent will be on the radio.

D. Committee Reports:

i. Finance Committee: Nothing else to report

ii. Policies Committee: This is the first reading for the following policies: ADC, BEA, BEDH, BGB, C, EEAG, GBED, GBJ, JLDBA.

ADC—move forward
BEA—move forward
BEDH—move forward
BGB—move forward
C—move forward
EEAG—move forward
GBED—move forward
GBJ—move forward
JLDBA—move forward

***** Motion by Mr. Ahern for a consent vote to approve all these policies as presented. Mrs. Lavalley seconded. All voted in favor. *****

iii. Outreach Committee:

The dance committee purchased the PA system for the school to use with money they raised through fundraising.

Fundraising idea: Entertainment night/Gala/Silent Auction

Family Fun day or field day for current families and new families to help build a sense of community

Annual Fund letter should be sent out in the next two weeks.

Working with the finance committee to look into holding educational camps during the summer.

E. Next Board Meeting: 3/18/15

Motion to adjourn at 5:25 PM .

Respectfully submitted: Sarah Frischknecht
Board Secretary