BLUE OAK CHARTER SCHOOL
450 W. East Ave., Chico, CA 95926
Charter Council
Regular Meeting

Tuesday, January 3, 2012

APPROVED Meeting Minutes (approved 2/7/12)

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER: Marc Kessler called meeting to order at 6:04 P.M.

2. INVOCATION: Marc read a passage from the Tipping Point, by Malcom Gladwell.

3. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS: Marc Kessler, Claire Hutkins Seda, Tighe O'Neill, Jeff Plotnik, Veronica Coates present. Heather Altfeld and Talia Scherquist absent.

4. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS: None. Jeff did note that there was an agenda item regarding the hiring timeline of administration and the hiring committee has not yet met. The charter council decided to discuss this when it comes up in the agenda, rather than move it up on the agenda. Public comments was moved up prior to closed session.

5. AUDIENCE TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL
Summer O'Neill spoke about her position as the Co-Chair of the current Blue Oak Parent Council. She indicated she will and has been present at charter council meetings to represent the parent population. She relayed that she is willing to answer questions regarding parent input during charter council meetings.

6. CLOSED SESSION
The Chair called the meeting into Closed Session at 6:10pm and announced the following agenda items:
5.1 Conference with Real Property Negotiators (CA Code 54956.8)
Property 450 W. East Av. Chico, CA
Negotiating Parties, Blue Oak Charter School, Leen Brothers,
Under Negotiation: Terms of Payment
5.2 Public Employment (CA Code 54957)
Reading Specialist, Librarian, Health Aide, Reading Instructional Aides, Games/ Movement Specialist, Math Specialist.

The Chair reported out the following people/positions approved for hire: Reading Specialist: Donica O'Laughlin; Split Health Aide position: Stacy Bearden and Adam Navone; Games and Movement Instructor: Keith Gilbar; Math Specialist: Genny Moreno; Instructional Aides: Lauren Himmelspach, Melissa Foster, Sarah Morgan, Lisa Gullen, Jeff Hull, Sarah Ouimette, and Shannon Walker.

7. OPEN SESSION
The Chair called the meeting back into Open Session at 7:09pm

8. REPORTS
8.1 <u>Administrative</u> – Michael, Linda, Laurie

Michael reported on the current enrollment of 389 students; 21 of these students are on Active IEPs. The playground is in the process of being repaired. A temporary business manager is working two days per week to work on site based issues. Michael discussed his work on a technology plan, but reported that the plans are for the 2012-2013 school year and will not be in place this spring. He also discussed his work on a report requested by Chico Unified School District, which is due on 2/1/2012. Michael also reported about a local artist who received grant money to work on a local project and she chose Blue Oak Charter School. She has done some art work outside on some of the trees.

Laurie reported that the staff will receive an in-service from Daymi Henegar, Nurtured Heart Advanced Trainer, on the Nurtured Heart program/curriculum to see if the staff would be interested in more in-depth training. Laurie also reported on an upcoming parent enrichment night focusing on health and wellness/nutrition. She also reported and distributed the job description for the Pedagogical Coordinator position.

8.2 Parent Council Report – Tighe O'Neill
Tighe deferred to Summer O'Neill, Parent Council Co-Chair who was present at the meeting. Summer reported that the Parent Council is in the process of the streamlining and downsizing inactive committees parent committees, as well as encouraging accountability for the committees that are currently active. The Organic Dinner/Feast fundraiser, put on by Parent Council has set a date for 2/12/2012 at the Arc Pavilion.

8.3 Teacher Report – Shannon spoke on behalf of the teachers. She discussed the success of the festivals that occurred prior to the break, even with changes this year. She also reported on the upcoming conference teachers and other staff members will be attending in January. She reported the progress on the implementation of the Reading Discoveries Program. She discussed new playground rules/consistency the teachers and Laurie have worked on. Shannon also read a letter from a Salary Committee that many of the teachers have drafted. It outlined that the teachers are currently researching comparable salary schedules and will be bringing more information to the Finance Committee and the Charter Council within the next month.

8.4 Committee Reports

- Charter Review – Currently on sabbatical
- Capital Development – Claire Hutkins Seda and Christine Rowe discussed the welcome center that has been developed for guests in the front office. Christine also reported on the work that she has done since the beginning of her contract and indexed binders for reference regarding recruitment, advertising and grants.
- Academic Achievement – Working on Class Studies with teachers for support, as well as developing the job description for the Pedagogical Coordinator.
- Finance – Cancelled Meeting in December

9. CONSENT AGENDA

9.1 Approval of December 6th Minutes: Claire made a motion to pass the consent agenda. Tighe seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

10.1 Admin. Staffing for 2012-2013: A timeline for recruitment of the Executive Director was discussed; Administration Hiring Committee will meet in January and finalize the job description. Jeff relayed the importance of having teacher representation on this committee.

10.2 Facilities Expansion Plan: Michael and Laurie reported on the progress of this. They have worked with the architect and come up with a draft drawing of the build out. Tighe suggested a list of the needs and solutions of the build out be provided to the charter council at the next meeting (February). Laurie reported how she is collecting feedback from the stakeholders on the renovations. Jeff made a recommendation to administration of having one meeting with all the stakeholders/architect to discuss the renovations.

10.3 API 820 Plan Update: Michael presented the board with the plan and updates of all the actions. Marc asked the teachers present to report their progress and thoughts about the changes. The teachers provided positive feedback and gratitude about the support provided, specifically in the areas of intervention. They collectively reported concerns regarding the fidelity and consistency to the Waldorf methods. They also reported positive feedback about the mentoring from Barbara Warren. There were some concerns about having all the materials required for some of the intervention programs, specifically Everyday Math and overhead projectors. Michael and Laurie responded that the teachers can request the materials needed through the requisition process.

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.1 Review of Educational Program: Laurie presented on the history of education as well as on educational alternatives. She concluded with Waldorf education and how it uniquely embodies both traditional and progressive values.

11.2 English Learner Policy: Michael presented the Charter Council with an English Language Learner Policy that satisfies the State and Chico Unified School District Requirements. Jeff made a motion to pass the ELL policy, Veronica seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

12. FUTURE CHARTER COUNCIL MEETING
12.1 Date of Next Regular Meeting February 7, 2011 6:00pm: Items for this agenda were discussed.

13. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE: None.

14. COMMENTS FROM THE CHARTER COUNCIL: None.

15. ADJOURNMENT: The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:04 PM.