Minutes for 2016-05-02

BOD Present:
Jonathan Lang
Jack Rivas
Sheila Cullen
Annette Cordero
Brianna Aguilar
Dan La Berge
Ed Heron
Nancy Dow
Juanita Hernandez

Minutes taken by Sheila Cullen

1. Call to Order: 5:33pm
2. Read Mission Statement: Annette Cordero read our mission statement.
3. Consent Agenda: Approve minutes of 2016-04-04. Annette Cordero made a motion to approve with the revision stated; seconded by Jonathan Lang. Unanimously approved, 7-0.
4. Review Agenda: no changes.
5. Public Comment: none.
6. Reports and Updates:
   a. Celebration of Teaching:
      i. Third graders gave a multimedia presentation about their trip to Monterey Bay Aquarium.
   b. Teachers’ Council (Paula Sevilla)
      i. Each grade level’s main events during the last month were presented with slide show.
   c. PTSO: Maria Tapia is absent but planning for Friday’s event.
   d. Curriculum Council: (Juanita Hernandez)
      i. Placed order for science materials (13K) with input from teachers.
      ii. Set aside funding for 5th grade class.
      iii. Found some money in budget for engineering materials, for manipulatives, books, etc.
      iv. Parent interested in building out our multicultural education.
      v. ATDLE Conference, Writers’ Workshop.
7. Principal’s Report (Juanita Hernandez)
   a. Questions regarding the Reading Assessment results, especially lower numbers in 6th grade.
   b. Juanita Hernandez stated they would look at past years to try to compare results with previous years.
   c. Annette Cordero concerned about reading scores.
d. No board members available to interview potential hires. We have a committee consisting of bilingual parent, Juanita Hernandez, Adriana Rey Dovgin, and a teacher, Veronica Ramos.

e. Juanita Hernandez will schedule a board training in June regarding conflict of interest.

f. We are in process of renewing directors’ insurance.

g. Annette Cordero asked about Brown Act Training powerpoint – was it sent out? Juanita Hernandez will follow up.

8. Board Business

a. Discussion of Budget 2016-17
   i. Budget will be finalized for next meeting.
   ii. P2 = 256.
   iii. 265 is number we’ll go with for next year for budget purposes (enrollment will be 290 next year).
   iv. Certificated salaries includes additional teacher, 75% art teacher, 4% increase (includes principal salary).
   v. STRS & PERS pensions will go up 2% for each next year.
   vi. Facility Grant: there has been some complications with stipulations of the grant with the state regarding ownership of the buildings.

b. Proposed LCAP Revisions
   i. LCAP reviewed with Juanita Hernandez/Nancy Dow and conclusion is that we’re totally on track with justifying our expenses.

c. Substitute Teacher Policy
   i. Brianna Aguilar conveyed that teachers have difficulty finding subs themselves. Do we have other resources to support teachers so they don’t have the burden of finding their own substitutes? Are there other options that we can explore?
   ii. We pay district a fee to have access to sub list.
   iii. Juanita Hernandez: we have a very particular school, with many methods that require special training.
   iv. Parent Inés Casillas suggested that days with substitutes just be in English. Better to have good language model rather than poor language model in Spanish.
   v. Budget for subs is 10 sick days/year/teachers.
   vii. Sub call service for district was investigated by Peabody and they concluded it was cost-prohibitive.
   viii. Nancy Dow suggests developing a sub team out of our parents. They can get emergency credentials.
   ix. Shift to administrative staff could be done by paying someone an hour a day to start at 6:00am as sub caller.
   x. We would need to revise our policy in our personnel handbook about this.
   xi. Brianna Aguilar suggests working with Dominic Paszkeicz and Juanita Hernandez to discuss further and report at next board meeting.

d. Institute for Equity in Education
i. Three teachers would like to attend IEE over the summer, June 13-17. Michael Macioce, Carolina Alcaraz, Brenda Rubio. Residence program. $2050 per person, Casa de Maria.

ii. Paula Sevilla reiterated how valuable the program was for her and Veronica Ramos.

iii. Board members expressed support for three teachers and potentially a board member to attend in June.

e. Parental Leave Policy AB375
   i. Current Parental Leave Policy is 6 weeks with natural birth and 8 weeks with C-section.
   ii. Brianna Aguilar expressed that importance of supporting our teachers and the development of their babies.
   iii. Suggested that our policies reflect our vision as a social justice school.
   iv. AB375 refers to Ed Code change only for certificated staff. 12 extra weeks would allow for differential pay. Do not have to be taken consecutively – can be within a year of baby’s birth. Staff member would get their regular pay, but sub pay would be deducted from it. Attorney recommended we keep policy as-is for this year because we can’t change anything until we change our policy formally.
   v. Policy manual would be updated in July.
   vi. Committee will be making recommendation about an ACS Policy revision.
   vii. Juanita Hernandez wants us to know that she hears from parents who are unhappy their child will not have her/his teacher for a while.

f. Discuss: Board Meeting Childcare
   i. Discussed this during strategic planning as way to be more inclusive.
   ii. Auditor recommends that charter school not use funds for childcare at board meeting. Public education funds must be tied to salaries. Funds are set aside for PTSO childcare.
   iii. Board members are willing to contribute for this purpose.
   iv. Committee will look into how to do this legally and present at the next meeting.

g. Discuss: Interpretation at Board Meetings
   i. Came up again at Strategic planning. We would like to provide interpretation two-way. All monolingual people would wear a headset.
   ii. Board agrees that his is important for achieving equity.

h. Strategic Plan Update (see attachment)
   i. Board members selected strategic planning goals committees to head and serve on.

9. Action Items
   a. Nominations for Board Vacancies
      i. Jack Rivas & Brianna Aguilar recommend Inés Casillas and Georgina Huaste.
ii. Georgina Huaste expressed her desire to contribute her viewpoint as a mother, and to represent parents with similar sentiments.

iii. Inés Casillas talked about PIDA program in the fall and is a big advocate of the school, and as a parent would like to contribute her voice.

iv. Annette Cordero made a motion to nominate both members, second by Dan La Berge, unanimously approved 7-0.

10. Next Meeting Dates & Agenda Items
   a. June 6, August 8.
   b. State Facility Grant and problem of holding title to buildings to qualify for grant.
   c. Substitute teacher policy update.
   d. Committee will present report on potential revision to Parental Leave policy.
   e. Report about providing childcare at board meetings.

11. Adjourn: 7:45pm.

Minutes Approved: 6/6/16