

October Board Meeting Minutes

XAVIER CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Location: 771 North College Road
5:30 pm, October 8, 2009

MISSION

The mission of Xavier Charter School is to instill in students a love of perpetual learning, an aspiration for personal achievement, and the capacity to become cooperative contributors of society.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Board Members Present: Scott Hunsaker, Teresa Berry, Emily Huber, Tracey Meyerhoeffer, Jeff Bulkley

5:37 PM – Welcome and Introductions

Approval of Agenda

SHunsaker added to the agenda an executive session and a “discussion item” regarding JBulkley’s service to the board. TMeyerhoeffer moved to adopt the agenda as amended. JBulkley seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

SHunsaker recognized patrons wishing to speak at the board meeting, and TBerry requested that patrons sign in to speak at the meeting.

REPORTS

Paragon Management Report – Christine Ivie

Clvie indicated that BFairbanks, from Paragon Schools, would put together a timeline for construction of the new facility. JBulkley provided an additional update on information he had received from BFairbanks regarding the big toy and updated the board on recent comments he had heard from stakeholders about the recent addition of grass to the elementary school site. Clvie indicated she has been working with CFulcher on Special Ed and NCLB

programs and is currently seeking ways to make things more time and cost efficient. Clvie is also preparing job descriptions for some of the associated positions. Clvie indicated that Paragon and CFulcher are working on a new Albertson grant for charter schools that are undergoing expansion. She indicated that both SHunsaker and CFulcher will need to sign assurance pages prior to submission. Clvie ended by thanking the board and staff for participation the board/staff retreat and said she and Brandon enjoyed participating with them.

Principal's Report – Cindy Fulcher

CFulcher discussed the activity from the board/staff retreat and the surveys taken at the retreat. She indicated she is collecting data and will report out at the November Board meeting. The board discussed having a meeting like that once a semester and thought it would be good to keep updated on progress. CFulcher noted that three people representing Xavier attended the Federal Programs Directors meeting (Josh Pfiester, Christine Ivie, Pamela Houston-Powell). Regarding the Idaho Public Charter School Commission, CFulcher clarified that the Commission wants Xavier to give a verbal report at the January meeting and then submit a written report by April – CFulcher is working with Clvie on analyzing data and developing a plan. CFulcher provided a staffing update wherein Xavier received approval for all provisional certification applications.

CFulcher updated the board on Mr. Krause. She informed the board that Mr. Krause is home and recovering from his recent accident. The substitute math teacher has experience and CFulcher hopes Mr. Krause will return soon. She also indicated that they have prepared a list where people can sign up to deliver food to Mr. Krause while he recovers.

CFulcher noted that elementary math seems to be struggling some. As a result, CFulcher will be meeting with the teachers to discuss and will report back at next meeting. TMeyerhoeffer will serve as the Board member on the corrective action plan committee.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Discuss and Vote on Medicaid Billing Services – Cindy Fulcher & Christine Ivie

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TMeyerhoeffer moved to authorize CFulcher to enter into a contract with Medicaid Billing Services. TBerry seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Discuss and Vote to join Idaho Charter School Network – Cindy Fulcher

CFulcher described the Idaho Charter School Network's services and said that the ICSN does programmatic audits. She discussed the advantages of joining the ICSN and having them conduct the annual programmatic audit. JBulkley moved to authorize Xavier Charter School to become a member of the Idaho Charter School Network. EHuber seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Discuss and Vote to ratify school board member election – Scott Hunsaker

EHuber was appointed to print out election ballots. General discussion regarding availability of ballots and absentee ballots. No vote was taken.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Update: Need for New Board Member – Jeff Bulkley

JBulkley notified the Board that he is not moving and asked whether the Board wants him to stay or to resign. SHunsaker said that they could designate the position that they are voting on as one of the positions that expires in 2011. The Board discussed whether to cancel the election or have a six member board. TBerry moved to increase the number on the Board to 6. TMeyerhoeffer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

TMeyerhoeffer moved that the new board member's term will expire in 2011. JBulkley seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

General discussion about whether all members are going to be voting members or have to be voting members. The specific issue was whether the Chair votes only to break a tie. TBerry indicated that the board chair is the "tie breaker." Board determined the board chair would have two votes in the case of a tie. The board will look into this further.

Discussion on Xavier Charter School homework policy/philosophy – Tracy

Meyerhoeffer

TMeyerhoeffer sought clarification on Xavier's homework policy/philosophy. CFulcher the policy as contained in the charter. Several patrons commented and like more homework. EHuber said she doesn't want kids spending all of their time at home doing homework and agrees with a two hour maximum as the general rule. JBulkley shared his concern with whether teachers actually plan out the exact amount of homework per grade. TMeyerhoeffer asked about the purpose of homework. CFulcher explained direct instruction in the class with practice at home. JBulkley indicated that he feels there is a gap between parents and students, and parents cannot always help their children. He suggested parent training. TMeyerhoeffer requested that CFulcher looks into the matter further and asked if CFulcher could potentially conduct a staff meeting on instructional cycle.

EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO ID CODE SECTION 67-2345(1)(b)

TMeyerhoeffer moved to enter executive session pursuant to ID Code Section 67-2345(1)(b). EHuber seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

TBerry moved to conclude executive session and resume open meeting. JBulkley seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

ADJOURN

EHuber moved to adjourn the meeting. TBerry seconded. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.