



Prairie Crossing Charter School
Board of Directors' Meeting
Tuesday, January 26th 2010 7:00 PM
Approved 2-23-10

The minutes of a meeting of the PCCS Board of Directors held on **Tuesday, January 26th 2010** in the Conference Area of the Anna B. Comstock Building, Prairie Crossing Charter School, 1531 Jones Point Road, Grayslake, Illinois.

A copy of the board documents for this meeting is available for viewing either on the school website (www.pccs.ws) or in the school office.

Board Members Present

Geoff Deigan, President
Dr. Barbara Provost, Vice President
Steve Achtemeier, Treasurer
Dr. Eric Hebert
Tom Keenan
Elizabeth Stearns
Dean Thorson
John Wylie

Parents and Guests Present

Bill Batz
Terry D'Angelo, Parent/Board Recorder
Laura Elizabeth Fay, Parent
John Rizzo, PCCS Holdings,
Committee member, Parent
Jennifer Ropke, Parent/PSO President
Vicky and George Ranney

Board Members Not Present

Mark Dybas, Secretary

Staff Present

Myron Dagley, Director
Brian Greene, Principal
Sarah Kirch, Director of Development
Stacy Gavin, Business Manager
Shirley Berger, Staff Liaison
Ed Caplan, Interim Teacher

Motion to Open the Session:

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 P.M.

Those members answering roll call to constitute a quorum were:

Roll Call: Ayes Geoff Deigan, President, Dr. Barbara Provost, Vice President, Steve Achtemeier, Treasurer; Tom Keenan; Dr. Eric Hebert; Elizabeth Stearns; Dean Thorson; and John Wylie.

Pledge of Allegiance recited by John Wylie and Brian Greene

Motion to Approve the Agenda by: Dean Thorson and second by Steve Achtemeier
Motion carried 7:00 P.M..

Geoff Deigan on behalf of the Board, applauded the effort, passion, and strength of the PCCS community for giving their time to the US Cellular Contest.

Sarah Kirch extended appreciation staff members, Kathy Beyer, Yvonne Schaffer, and Dill Dybas for their time and energy.

Director, Myron Dagley asked to remove the Director's Report upon further discussion with PCCS staff. The Director's Report will be tabled until the February Board meeting.

Discussion Agenda

1. Update Executive Director Search:

Upon further review of the applicants vying for the Director position, the Board's goal is to narrow the candidates to a smaller group. Subsequently, the Human Resource Committee will continue to be involved. Dr. Barb Provost stated that the potential candidates are all very good, however the position of Director will continue to be posted.

Public Comment: 7:15-7:21

Vicky Ranney: Stated that it is very important to attract high quality candidates who possess an environmental focus as this will lead the school in the direction to the charter's original intent. She said that it is not only the parents but the founding members of the charter school, and the community who are interested in a qualified applicant. She is pleased that there are good applicants and that the school is trying to express a new and different kind of education. The larger community is looking forward to a high quality person to lead the school.

2. Review Legal Bills

- December 29, 2009 – Franczek, Radelet and Rose (\$540.00)

3. Second Reading: Proposed Amended Policy 400.3 – Leave of Absences:

No further comment

4. Second Reading: Proposed Amended Bylaws Article VI

Elizabeth Stearns commented on the Advisory Board language.

Myron Dagley commented that at the time of the renewal/re-charter, the Advisory Board was noted in the revision.

5. First Reading: Proposed Policy 600.8.10 – Student Use of Internet

The Internet Policy change is the result of ongoing work of the Communications, Public Relation & Fundraising Committee. Myron Dagley commented on student internet usage. Myron revised the documents to fit the circumstances of PCCS. In addition, the Human Resource Committee reviewed the documents. Myron stated that when the board adopts Policy 600.8.10 then policy #400.5 will need to be rescinded. Shirley Berger said she believes that PCCS insurance covers the staff computers if they are in the trunk of a car or in the staff member's home.

Elizabeth Stearns was concerned that the policy needs to be more specific by adding the terms blogging, social media, etc.

Steve Achtemeier proposed that if a parent checked their application form that they did not want their student to use the internet this could hinder a teacher's ability to teach, Dean Thorson stated that having non specific language in the policy gave administration more latitude.

6. First Reading: Proposed Policy 200.14 – Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

Myron Dagley commented on the revision of policy and admin procedures. Illinois General Assembly and the Governor signed the Public Act exempting public school teachers, principals, and superintendents from allowing public access to their evaluation records. Further work is underway to include other school staff.

7. Partner with Parents Update: Sarah Kirch, stated that staff, teachers, parents, and board members are teaming and moving forward with many community businesses to offer them a mutual partnership. Businesses have the opportunity to participate on levels from in-kind

donations, volunteering, to monetary donations. Elizabeth Sterns commented that Sarah provides training opportunity on how to meet and work with businesses. A local bank was approached today, which cultivated the start of a business relationship. Steve Achtemeier confirmed the school seeks and needs all levels of business participation.

8. Annual Report: Questions: Does the annual report go by calendar or fiscal year? The annual report will be in line with the School's fiscal year.

9. Update of PCCS Website: Dr. Eric Hebert apologized to the Board and Committees for delays in the website launch. The timeline may extend into February.

Public Comment: 7:56-8:00

10 Minutes

Director Dagley introduced the staff liaisons: Ed Caplan, Shirley Berger and Christine Jeffery Sarah asked who was the audience in the past of the annual report. Steve A commented that it would be important to clarify the audience.

Motion to go into closed session by Dr. Barb Provost and second by John Wylie

Closed Session

Discussion related to 5ILCS 120/2(c) 1-The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee to determine its validity.

10. Review Interim Teacher Contract – 5th Grade

11. Review/Discussion of Executive Director Candidates

ROLL CALL - Ayes

Geoff Deigan, President; Dr. Barbara Provost, Vice President; Steve Achtemeier, Treasurer; Dr. Eric Hebert; Tom Keenan; Elizabeth Stearns; Dean Thorson, and John Wylie. – Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

12. Director's Report - includes Principal's, Manager's of Benefits & Facilities and Business Manager's Report

Written report removed from Consent Agenda.

13. Financial Statements, December 2009

Written report removed from Consent Agenda

14. Treasurer's Report and Finance Committee Report

Written report provided.

15. Human Resource Committee Report

No report provided.

16. Governance Committee Report

Hand delivered.

17. Communications/Public Relations and Fund Raising Committee Report

Written report provided.

18. Excellence in Academic Programs Advisory Committee Report

No report provided as Committee has yet to meet in January.

19. President's Report

Written report provided.

20. PSO Report

Written report provided.

21. Review Open Session Minutes –12/16/2009

Written report provided.

22. Motion to Approve Open Session Minutes –12/16/2009

Moved by John Wylie and second by Tom Keenan motion carried

Ayes all in favor

23. Motion to Accept Reports on Consent Agenda
Moved by Dean Thorson and second by John Wylie - all in favor - motion carried

Public Comment 9:58 No comment

Action Agenda – New Business

2A - Authorize Payment of Legal Bills- \$\$540.00

Moved by Dr. Eric Hebert and second by John Wylie to Authorize Payment of Legal Bills

Roll Call – All ayes - So Moved

3A – Adopt Amended Policy 400.3 – Leave of Absences

Moved by Dr. Barb Provost and second by Dean Thorson to adopt,

So Moved - all in favor

4A – Adopt Amended Policy Bylaws Article VI

Moved by Steve Achtemeier and second by John Wylie,

So Moved - all in favor

10A – Approve Interim Teacher Contract – 5th Grade

Moved by Dr. Eric Hebert and second by Dean Thorson,

Roll Call – All Ayes - So Moved

New Business - Future Agenda Topics

The Board will reconvene on February 23, 2010 at 7:00 P.M.

Open discussion on advisory board and SP committee.

Compensation Study discussed from late 2009 presented by the HR Committee

Partners for Parents

Continue with director search with phone interviews of the top five candidates

Update on web site.

Motion to adjourn by Dr. Barb Provost and second by Elizabeth Stearns to adjourn the PCCS
Board of Director's Meeting at 10:02 P.M.

Motion Carried