



Prairie Crossing Charter School
Board of Directors' Meeting
Tuesday, February 23, 2010 7:05 PM
APPROVED 3-23-10

The minutes of a meeting of the PCCS Board of Directors held on Tuesday, February 23, 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
Mark Dybas, Secretary
Dr. Eric Hebert
Tom Keenan
Elizabeth Stearns
Dean Thorson
John Wylie

Parents and Guests Present

Laura Elizabeth Fay, Parent
John Rizzo, Parent/LLC Board Representative
Jennifer Ropke, Parent/PSO President
Lisa Mulvaney-Nelson: Parent
Suzanne Coonan: Parent
Barb Erikson (HLERK)
Tina ____ (HLERK)

Board Members Not Present

Staff Present

Myron Dagley: Director
Brian Greene: Principal
Sarah Kirch: Director of Development
Stacy Gavin: Business Manager
Mary Burks: Manager of Employee Benefits and Facilities
Ginger Bohac: School Psychologist
Ray Martinez and Megan Wright: Staff Liaisons
Nasreen Nasir, Reena Bagri, and Madhu Kumar: Teacher Assistants

Those members answering roll call to constitute a quorum were:

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

Pledge of Allegiance recited by Elizabeth Stearns

Motion to Approve the Agenda by: Steve Achtemeier and seconded by Dean Thorson with the approval to make changes to remove the special presentation regarding the Compensation Study by Gallagher HR Advantage as well as the discussion of reactivating the Advisory Board. Motion carried 7:08 P.M.

Discussion Agenda

1. **Staffing Model Update:** Geoff Deigan discussed the board's goal to continue the search for an optimal staffing model without decreasing the value of education, however, keeping in mind a cost savings plan.
2. **Review Legal Bills**
 - December 31, 2009 - Hodges, Loizzi, Eisenhammer, Rodick & Kohn (\$859.13)
 - Clarification was requested on the flat fee rate compared to the hourly rate.
 - Discussed staff driving students to and from events. Myron stated that staff members are advised to **not** drive students in their personal vehicle. Drivers are personally liable when transporting students.
3. **Partner with Parent Progress:** Sarah Kirch discussed targeting local businesses with the input and help of PCCS parents. Provided to the PCCS Board of Directors was a packet describing a plan and format for making personal contacts. Sarah made a plea to the board to provide a list of prospective business contacts
4. **Reviewed the Second Reading of Proposed Policy 200.14 – Freedom of Information Act (FOIA):** No changes made
5. **First Reading: Proposed Amended Policy 900.1** Moves to second reading
6. **First Reading: Proposed Amended Policy 900.3 – Maintenance/Accountability of Donor Records:** Elizabeth Stearns stated that the donor bill of rights be attached to the policy to protect the donor. Eric commented that donors should be able to maintain anonymity. Elizabeth read the language of the policy that dictates... *maintaining anonymity with respect to the law...* Moves to second reading pending edits from the Governance Committee
7. **Review FY10 Strategic Plan Goals:** Myron presented goals for each of the standing committees. The board, by consensus, accepted those goals. Steve Achtemeier commented that for the development of the budget, the finance goal deadline should be moved to the end of the year.
8. **First Reading: Review/Discuss Proposed FY-11 School Calendar Models:** Reviewed and discussed two potential calendars; one with a start date of August 16th and the other August 23rd, 2010. Geoff Deigan noted concern of absentee rate. With board consensus, administration will select a calendar moving to a second reading for the March meeting.

Public Comment 7:51 No public comment

10 Minutes

Motion to go into closed session by Dr. Barbara Provost and seconded by Eric Hebert

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

Moved to Closed Session at 7:52 PM

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. Director Search Progress Report
11. New Special Education Director

Discussion related to 5ILCS 120/2(c) 21-Discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under this Act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi annual review of the minutes mandated by Section 2.06

12. Review Closed Session Minutes: 12/16/2009, 1/26/2010, Special Meeting – 2/17/10 & 2/18/2010

Discussion related to 5ILCS 120/2(c) (2) Collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning salary schedules for one or more classes of employees.

Returned to Open Session 10:10 PM

ROLL CALL

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

Consent Agenda

13. Progress Report Executive Director Search

Director Deigan gave an update on the search process. A discussion was held with public input on the involvement of parents in the process. There was general consensus that the PSO officers should be involved in hearing the candidate presentations.

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

No comments

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

Mr. Dagley added the School has learned of a potential issue with the snow removal contract related to the contractor's certificate of insurance. A contingency plan has been developed.

16. Financial Statements, December 2009

Written report provided.

17. Financial Statements, January 2010
Written report provided

18. Treasurer's Report and Finance Committee Report
Written report provided

19. Human Resource Committee Report
Written report provided

20. Governance Committee Report
Written report provided

21. Communications/Public Relations and Fund Raising Committee Report
Written report provided

22. Excellence in Academic Programs Advisory Committee Report
Written report provided

23. President's Report
Written report provided

24. PSO Report
Written report provided. Mrs. Ropke asked that Board members provide written feedback to Kathy Beyer.

25. Review Open Session Minutes –1/26/2010, 2/17/2010, 2/18/2010
No comments

26. Motion to Approve Open Session Minutes –1/26/2010, 2/17/2010, 2/18/2010
Moved: Dean Thorson Second: Steve Achtemeier
All Ayes, Motion Carried

27. Motion to Accept Reports on Consent Agenda
Moved: John Wylie Second: Dr. Eric Hebert
All Ayes, Motion Carried

Public Comment

Laura Fay asked that reports not included in the Board packet be placed on the website. Ms. Fay stated that the vote to unionize by the teachers could be viewed as a no confidence vote.

John Rizzo cautioned the Board that having a completely open forum with Director Candidates could result in unforeseen issues and suggested that a limited number of parents be involved in the process.

Ms. Ropke stated that if parents are involved in this process it must be made clear what level of input they will actually have.

Susan Coonan gave input on ways parents could be involved and gave suggestions for candidate presentations.

Action Agenda – New Business

2A - Authorize Payment of Legal Bills- \$859.13

Moved by John Wylie and second by Dean Thorson

Roll Call:

AYES: Geoff Deigan, President; Dr. Barbara Provost, Vice President;

Steve Achtemeier, Treasurer; Mark Dybas, Secretary; D.r Eric Hebert; Tom Keenan;

Elizabeth Stearns; Dean Thorson, and John Wylie

Motion Carried

4A – Adopt Amended Policy 200.14 – Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

Moved by Steve Achtemeier and second by John Wylie

Voice Vote: All Ayes

Carried

8A - Approve FY-11 School Calendar

Tabled

12A – Approve Closed Session Minutes: 12/16/2009, 1/26/2010, Special Meeting – 2/17/10
& 2/18/2010 as amended

Moved by Dr. Eric Hebert and second by Tom Keenan

Voice Vote: All Ayes

Carried

New Business - Future Agenda Topics

10 Minutes

The Board will reconvene on March 23rd, at 7:00 P.M.

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn by Dean Thorson and second by Tom Keenan to adjourn the PCCS Board of
Director's Meeting at 11:02 PM.

All Ayes

Motion Carried

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Dybas

PCCS Board Secretary