

Prairie Crossing Charter School

Board of Directors

Strategic Planning Steering Committee &

The Board of Directors

Minutes

Thursday, July 23, 2009

Approved 9-1-09

The minutes of a meeting of the PCCS Strategic Planning meeting held on Thursday, July 23, 2009 in the Anna B Comstock Building, Prairie Crossing Charter School, Grayslake, Illinois.

Board Members Present

Geoff Deigan, President
Barb Provost
Steve Achtemeier
Elizabeth Stearns
Eric Hebert
Mark Dybas

Staff Present

Myron Dagley

Absent:

Bob Bentz
Bob Creviston
John Wylie

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Geoff Deigan.

Pledge of Allegiance

Special Presentation – Preview of new Prairie Crossing Charter School Fundraising Brochure Presenters: Myron Dagley, Brian Greene, Geoff Deigan, Elizabeth Stearns and Gary Mitchiner

Mr. Dagley informed the committee and audience that tonight's presentation was part of the school's ongoing efforts to maintain open communication and dialogue with the public. Further, tonight's presentation is the result of work that has been done to achieve tasks identified in the strategic plan including establishing sustainable funding and having a brand that is recognizable. As part of these goals, the school has sought to further develop materials that can be used to reach out to potential funders outside the parent base. Mr. Dagley acknowledged the efforts of many individuals who have helped achieve these goals and stated that most of the work was done on a pro bono basis.

Elizabeth Stearns and Gary Mitchiner led the presentation of the new brochure. Members of the audience gave input. It was stated that all suggestions made by the board on June 23, 2009 had been incorporated into the brochure.

Discussion Agenda

- Second Reading – Amended Policy 800.2: Collection of Student Instructional Fees

Mr. Dagley presented the Policy for a second reading. The Policy had been on hold during negotiations with the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE). The Policy has been amended per the desires of ISBE and previous board suggestions. The board offered suggestions regarding cross references and clarification regarding family notifications regarding aspects of the Policy. These suggestions were incorporated into the Policy.

- FY10 Special Education Teacher Contract

Mr. Dagley presented administration's request that the board approve the employment contract for a new special education teacher. It was noted that the teacher has experience at an environmental learning center.

- Review Minutes of April 14, 09 meeting
Pulled by Mr. Deigan

Public Comment

None

Action Agenda

- **Approve Amended Policy 800.2: Collection of Student Instructional Fees**
Motion to Approve Amended Policy 800.2: Collection of Student Instructional Fees as amended
Moved: Steve Achtemeier **Second:** Barb Provost
Voice vote
Carried
- Affirm FY10 Special Education Teacher Contract
Motion to Affirm FY10 Special Education Teacher Contract as presented by Mr. Dagley
Moved: Mark Dybas **Second:** Steve Achtemeier
Roll Call: Ayes: Geoff Deigan, Barb Provost, Steve Achtemeier, Elizabeth Stearns, Eric Hebert, Mark Dybas
Carried
- Approve April 14, 09 meeting minutes
No action taken

Resume Strategic Planning: Committee Rolls and Staff Support

The Strategic Planning session resumed at 7:29 PM.

As a continuation of the previous night’s meeting Mr. Dagley presented and led a discussion on proposed time frames and the process related to the handling of such items as agendas and minutes. The committee gave suggestions on these tasks and time frames. The committee stated their belief that it would be best to have committee chairs present committee reports to the board.

Mr. Deigan facilitated a discussion on what should be the next tasks for the school to undertake both in relation to the strategic plan and otherwise. Several board members offered their opinions on what tasks they believe are most important. Suggestions included: developing a strategy for insuring compliance with all Recharter Agreement requirements; the formation of a foundation that could support the school; the establishment of the new website; the development of a comprehensive communication strategy; continued efforts to insure we keep the school focused on providing an environmentally based education; the development of a long term financial strategy that is mindful of the school’s future financing needs; continue addressing time management issues for staff.

The committee ultimately expressed its belief that three crucial areas to address include: developing a strategy to insure compliance with all aspects of the Recharter Agreement; developing a comprehensive communication strategy for both internal and external communication; and the development of a long term comprehensive model to insure financial stability.

It was agreed that these priorities would be communicated to Mr. Dagley and that he would work on these issues with his staff and the committees.

Motion to Adjourn at 9:14 pm

Moved: Mark Dybas 2nd: Eric Hebert

Voice Vote: Carried

Meeting Adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Dybas
PCCS Board Secretary