

BLUE OAK CHARTER SCHOOL
450 W. East Ave., Chico, CA 95926
Charter Council
Regular Meeting

Tuesday, June 5, 2012

UNAPPROVED MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

The Chair called the meeting order at 6:03pm

2. INVOCATION

3. ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Claire Hutkens Seda, Marc Kesler, Heather Altfeld, Talia Scherquist

4. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

Heather pulled 7.2 from Consent Agenda and put it under New Business 9.9.

5. AUDIENCE TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

A parent read a letter that was mailed to the Charter Council. This letter was written to the Administration of BO from the parents of Miss Shannon's class regarding cutting her schedule by one day a week and replacing her with another teacher for that day. The letter was to request of Administration to find a better plan. Abe German spoke also on behalf of the letter. Jack Gratich spoke in favor of keeping Miss Shannon full time. Bob Kreuger shared that he supports Miss Shannon one hundred percent and that he is concerned that parent input was not involved in the decision making for the schedule for this class next year. David Ornellas spoke in favor of Miss Shannon receiving full support from the school. A parent also spoke in favor of Miss Shannon. A teacher, Mr Judkins, spoke in support of Miss Shannon. This teacher also spoke regarding his teaching as the Spanish teacher at Blue Oak. He shared that he received notice that he will not be continuing next year and he explained that this is not in agreement with letting him go and is concerned about the students having to start over with a new Spanish teacher. Heather Altfeld shared that she is a 7th grade parent and did not received notice of what was going on until she received the letter from the parents as a Charter Council member. Another member of the audience spoke that it is painful to watch Miss Shannon go through this. She wants to see more support for our teachers. Another parent, Eve Warner, spoke regarding Mr McCutcheon class. She stated that she is also speaking for other parents of children in his class. She stated that she has heard that he will not be coming back to teach next year and that it would be terrible if he does not come back next year. She also shared that she was hearing that he was not receiving support from Administration. She requested that the Charter Council and Administration pledge to support his use of Waldorf methods to continue to teach children at their own level. Tom Blodget stated that he agreed with everything Eve Warner said and added more examples of what a great teacher he is. Another three members of the audience spoke in favor of Mr McCutcheon. Shannon McLaughlin spoke regarding hearing that teachers aren't feeling sported and parents not feeling heard. She feels that communication between the Charter Council, Administration, Faculty and Parents is not functioning very well. She stated that it is a big issue that parents were not given a voice when such a big decision is made regarding her schedule. Heather Altfeld thanked the audience for showing up and speaking up. A parent asked how parents can know that teachers will be supported. Heather responded that she believes we need to recruit university professors who can help with subject matter. A parent who identified herself as a parent in Shannon's class, asked who makes the decision regarding Shannon's schedule. Marc shared that the Charter Council is involved with hiring, discipline and any type of decision that impacts a decrease in pay. So it was clarified that yes, the board will be making the decision tonight regarding Shannon's schedule. Another parent spoke in favor of Miss

Shannon and the Spanish teacher. Marc shared that the audience’s comments are helpful in giving the Board direction towards achieving a healthy school.

6. **REPORTS**

6.1 Administrative – Michael: introduced our new Executive Director and shared that the enrollment is at 438 for next year but realistically it will be around 420. There are 10 students on the wait list for kindergarten with 66 registered. Construction will begin tomorrow on the Build out Plan. Laurie: Registration days are planed next in August that are mandatory for all parents. An all school meeting is planned for September 11th. There is a learning center model for reading and math and special education will be meeting together with kids.

6.2 Parent Council Report – Tighe O’Neill: no one present to report.

6.3 Teacher Report – Shannon O’Laughlin: teachers closed out the year and had a great end to the year. Report cards are due this week. She stated again how grateful the faculty are for Laurie for her work getting them organized and ready for upcoming events. Trainings are set for the summer. She stated that the classroom move went really well and was orchestrated beautifully for the first time ever. Shannon also shared that teachers with children who utilized the afterschool program are now concerned that having to pay for aftercare is going to cost more than the actual raise they are receiving from the school.

6.4 Committee Reports

- Charter Review: Marc shared the tentative timeline for Charter Renewal.
- Capital Development-Dissolution of Committee Discussion: The Blue Oak Foundation Advisory Council met and requested to be on the agenda for the June 19th meeting to present on how the Council will function. She also requested the dissolution of the Committee be on the agenda as well.
- Finance: Minutes were emailed ahead of time.

7. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- 7.1 Approval of May 1 and May 15 minutes
- 7.2 OARS Student Performance Data Services Contract (moved to 9.9)
- 7.3 Technology Lab- Increase Build-Out Funding to \$150K
- 7.4 CARD MOU (pulled and moved to 9.10)

Claire moved to approve the Consent Agenda, Heather seconded, motion carried by unanimous vote.

8. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

8.1 PC Bylaws with Changes:
Questions came up from the Charter Council and it was moved by Claire to tablet the item, seconded by Talia, and approved unanimously. Item will be on the July 19th meeting.

9. **NEW BUSINESS**

- 9.1 Pupil Promotion and Retention Policy: Marc explained that this document is based on the Ed Code and there is not much we can do to alter it. Claire suggested that we bring this to MYM, ask them if we can make additions to it, if we can we should bring it to the faculty. Talia moved to approve the document and have it reviewed and represented to the Board at a later date. No second was made so the motion was dropped. Claire moved to redirect the document back to Admin to be reviewed by MYM, the faculty and Admin made again and be brought back to the Board at a later date. Heather seconded the motion, motion carried by unanimous vote.
- 9.2 Education Foundation, Board Orientation: tabled.

- 9.3 2012-13 Adopted Budget Revision: The State made budget revisions which caused BO the need to find \$20k, the finance committee did, it includes a \$440/student totaling \$185,000. Starting our year with a \$225 surplus. This will be submitted to the district and will go to the state and will go into our Charter renewal document. Heather requested to add to the next Agenda an item for the Board to resolve that we support the initiative. Heather moved to approve the 2012-2013 budget. The finance committee found this money by Education Director changing to a three quarter time position. The remaining three quarters of that budget item for the Education Director will be used to provide education to the faculty. Talia seconded the motion, motion carried by unanimous vote.
- 9.4 BOCC Election- Ratify Results: Heather and Jeff were appointed to the Board in lieu of an opponent. An add has been placed in the News and Review and applications have been received. Applicants will be invited to the June meeting to meet the Blue Oak community. Claire moved to approve the appointments, Talia seconded, motion carried by unanimous vote.
- 9.5 Personnel Policies: Talia moved to table this item to June 19th, Claire seconded, motion carried by unanimous vote.
- 9.6 Teacher Contracts: This is MYM’s basic teacher contract. Shannon asked if teachers are required to accept mentoring by the mentor teacher. Heather stated that we should add one sentence that states faculty need to be participating in ongoing training throughout the year. Claire requested to see that language in the contract, regular participation in Waldorf training as provided by the school. Nathan explained that a more appropriate place for that language would be on the Job Description. The Board requested to see the Job Description at the June 19th meeting. Hours were discussed that they should be reflected with the actual time. Heather moved that we approve the teacher contract pending review of the job descriptions for kindergarten and grades with the amendment of changing the work schedule from 7:45 to 3:15pm. Claire seconded, motion carried by a 3/1 vote.
- 9.7 Report Card Procedures: Michael shared that all teachers need to have a file box outside their door. Marc shared that there is a policy established on this topic. Michael proposed that report cards be put into the file boxes or mailed home. Shannon requested that teachers receive address labels to mail report cards home. Claire moved to amend the policy to state that parents will receive report cards in person or via US mail, Talia seconded, motion carried by unanimous vote.
- 9.8 Teacher Training Contracts Approval: Laurie requested: Live Education for \$10,250 for 20 participants, Housing agreement with UC Santa Cruz for \$8280 for 6 apartments and Teacher Training Institute for \$5,000. Marc brought it to the Board’s attention that there is only \$10000 for the year allocated for housing expenses and this proposal leaves not much for the rest of the year. Claire suggested we ask the PC to help recoup the costs for the housing. Talia moved to approve the presented contracts, Claire seconded, motion carried by unanimous vote.
- 9.9 OARS Student Performance Data Services Contract: this is a reallocation of funds from the Zoom program. It will cost the school more for the first year. This program will be able to generate benchmark assessment tests that are based on the standards and will measure student growth and individualizes support for bubble students. Talia moved to approve the OARS contract, Heather moved, motion carried by unanimous vote.
- 9.10 CARD MOU: Talia moved to table the CARD MOU until the MOU is present and a fee structure has been presented. Heather seconded the motion, motion carried by unanimous vote. Board and Admin agreed that the school should find a way to support faculty’s use of aftercare while they are in meetings etc. Cyd and Laurie will look at this and bring it to the June 19th meeting.

10. CLOSED SESSION: The Chair called the meeting into Closed Session at 8:36pm and announced the following items:

- 10.1 Public Employment (CA Code 54597)
Position: Classroom Teachers; Classroom Aides, Principal DISCUSSION/ACTION

10.2 Public Employee Performance Evaluation (CA Code 54597)

Position: Asst. Director DISCUSSION/ACTION

10.3 Public Employee Discipline, Dismissal, Release
(CA Code 54597) DISCUSSION/ACTION

The Chair called the meeting back into Open Session at 11:06pm and announced that

- Contracts are being offered to the following individuals for the 2012-2013 school year: Susan Whitelsey (K), Cheryl Grant (K), Barbara Robers (K), Sara Lee (1st), Kari Madera (2nd), Ginger Chew (2nd), Michelle Miller (3rd), Elska King (3rd), Brianna Lee (4th), Rebecca Ginney (5th), Jennifer Glennen (5th), Allyson Welch (6th), Andrew McCutcheon (7th), Shannon O’Laughlin (8th), Shelley Fairchild (strings), David Janinis (games), Lars Sundelis (woodwork), Patty Harrison, (K aide), Amy Jurkiewicz (K aide), Katie Shinn (K aide), Laurie Kopping (Principal).
- The following are being offered contracts as new employees: Katherine MacLeod (1st), Nicholas Meier (4th), Jacob Carr (6th).
- The following staff were dismissed: Intervention Teacher, Spanish Teacher.
- The following staff were released: Games Teacher.

No other action was taken.

11. FUTURE CHARTER COUNCIL MEETING

11.1 Date of Next Meeting June 19, 2012, 6:00pm

12. COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

No audience present.

13. COMMENTS FROM THE CHARTER COUNCIL

The Council recognized the valuable parent involvement at Blue Oak.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 11:09pm.