

Utah State Charter School Board Meeting
Minutes
June 10, 2010
North & South Board Rooms
Utah State Office of Education

APPROVED

Members present: Julie Adamic, Yolanda Francisco-Nez, Tom Morgan, John Pingree, Scott Smith, Tim Beagley, via phone conference

Members excused: Brian Allen

Staff present: Marlies Burns, Paul Crawford, Cory Kanth, Georgia Loutensock, Jeannie Rowland, Jo Schmitt

Others present: Janet Cannon, Mackie Raymond, Kenneth Surratt, Steve Winitzky, Emma Bullock, Karlene Welker, Marie Jess, Monty Hardy, Sandy Shepard, Mark Cluff, Darren Beck, Susie Scherer, Jake Hunt, Doug Larsen

Call to Order

Vice Chair Tom Morgan called the meeting to order at 8:10 a.m.

Executive Session

Motion was made by Member Scott Smith to move into an executive session for the purpose of (1) discussing pending litigation and (2) character and professional competence discussions regarding charter schools. The Board was polled and by unanimous consent of Julie Adamic, Tim Beagley, Yolanda Francisco-Nez, Tom Morgan, John Pingree, Scott Smith the Board moved into an executive session at 8:15 a.m.

Motion was made by Member John Pingree and seconded by Member Scott Smith to reconvene into open meeting. The motion was carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Member John Pingree and seconded by Member Julie Adamic to uphold the recommendation to revoke Beehive Science & Technology Academy's charter. Voting in favor of the motion were Members John Pingree, Julie Adamic and Scott Smith. Vice Chair Tom Morgan, Members Tim Beagley and Yolanda Francisco-Nez voted in opposition. Because of vote being tied (three to three), the motion fails.

Member Scott Smith made statement that there are various, serious issues regarding compliance in all areas and Beehive Science & Technology Academy needs to take responsibility. He also added that the SCSB is concerned for the safety, welfare and the outcomes for the students of the school. Mr. Smith suggested to the parents to get involved and ensure the Board of Beehive Science and Technology Academy is compliant in all areas.

Member John Pingree counseled Beehive Science and Technology Academy they need more students enrolled at the school to be financial viable; the need to develop a program that works for Special Education students; and certification of teachers, to be certified and licensed to teach the subjects they are teaching.

Member Yolanda Francisco-Nez commended the parents for providing the information to the SCSB of their feelings regarding Beehive Science and Technology Academy. Ms. Francisco-Nez went on to say she feels it is important and imperative that parents continue to be involved in their children's education; and that it is very important to hold those teachers to high standards for their children to make the progress that is necessary to excel in their charter school education.

Vice Chair Tom Morgan stated that in the “eleventh hour” there was a tremendous amount of urgency that took place seemingly at all levels of the school, the board level, administration level, parent level. Mr. Morgan addressed the Board of Beehive Science and Technology Academy, informing them they cannot lose that momentum and urgency. He counseled them to build on those things that were testified to in the hearing, the things you said you are now doing, the things that are now in place, the things that you said you are going to do from here on out, from a timing issue and perspective and from a compliance issue and perspective. You have to do these things with the same urgency that you have felt in the last few weeks and months that you have been in this situation. Work with that urgency in mind. Additionally, Mr. Morgan stated, on behalf of the SCSB, he wanted to thank those who were involved in the process. Jean Hill, who represented the State, who was excellently prepared, did a fabulous job and was very succinct in her representation. He thanked the representatives from Stoel Rives, feeling they were very well prepared and professional in their approach. Mr. Morgan thanked Doug Larsen, serving as the hearing officer, for leading and guiding those involved through the process.

Doug Larsen stated he feels though this process, the processes in the future will become better.

Motion was made by Member John Pingree and seconded by Member Yolanda Francisco-Nez for Beehive Science & Technology Academy to remain in probationary status and for the school’s entire Board to report to the State Charter School Board in their July 15, 2010 Board Meeting of the progress to correct the probationary status issues. The motion carried with Members John Pingree, Yolanda Francisco-Nez, Tim Beagley, Scott Smith and Vice Chair Tom Morgan voting in favor. Member Julie Adamic voted in opposition of the motion.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Member Yolanda Francisco-Nez and seconded by Member John Pingree to approve the minutes from the May 13, 2010 State Charter School Board Meeting. The motion was carried unanimously.

Public Comment

Erin Preston reported to the SCSB the building progress of Spectrum Academy, Quail Run Primary School, and Karl G. Maeser Preparatory Academy. She stated Spectrum Academy and Karl G. Maeser Preparatory Academy are school expansions. Ms. Preston reported that Spectrum Academy and Quail Run Primary School are ahead of schedule for completion in order for use in the 2010-2011 school year. Karl G. Maeser Preparatory Academy is scheduled to complete their expansion on November 2, 2010. Ms. Preston informed the SCSB there are two different location sites being considered for students to attend school until the permanent facility is complete.

Action Items

Revolving Loan Committee Recommendation – Soldier Hollow

Cory Kanth informed the SCSB that Soldier Hollow Charter School was awarded a revolving loan by the Revolving Loan Committee for \$155,250 as limited by student population. The purpose of the loan is for purchase and placement of portables on land under Division of Facilities Construction and Management (DFCM) supervision and site preparation.

Motion was made by Member John Pingree and seconded by Member Scott Smith to accept the Revolving Loan recommendation for Soldier Hollow. The motion was carried unanimously.

School LAND Trust plan approvals

Paul Crawford presented the School LAND Trust plans to the SCSB.

Motion was made by Member John Pingree and seconded by Member Scott Smith to accept the School LAND Trust plans. The motion was carried unanimously.

Information Items

Building Charter School Quality presentation

Kenneth Surratt and Mackie Raymond, representing CREDO from Stanford University presented to the SCSB an outline of a performance management framework for Utah Charter Schools. That framework included academic and operational quality and measures, also implementation strategies and timelines.

Motion was made by Member John Pingree and seconded by Member Scott Smith to accept the performance management as a framework for measuring charter school accountability. The motion was carried unanimously.

Adjourn

Motion was made to adjourn at 12:30 p.m. by Member Scott Smith.