

Utah State Charter School Board Meeting
Minutes
March 14, 2013
North & South Board Rooms
Utah State Office of Education

APPROVED

Members present: Tim Beagley, Laura Belnap, Kristin Elinkowski, Robert Enger, Howard Headlee
Members excused: Dean Brockbank

Staff present: Marlies Burns, Jennifer Lambert, Jo Schmitt

Others present: Leslie Castle, Teresa Theurer, Janene Bowen, Joyce James, Tina Smith, Joylin Lincoln, Sandy Shepard, Tom Gregson, Dustin Griffith, Tye Hoffmann, Shelley Nordick, Kim Dohrer, Stephen Jolley, Rick Haskell, Sol Garcia, Joel Wright, Renee Edwards, Mark Peterson, Kris Vollmer, Angie Peterson, Michael Westover

Call to Order

Chair Tim Beagley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Public Comment

Joel Wright expressed concerns regarding the Credit Enhancement Program.

Introduction of new employees

Director Marlies Burns introduced two new employees that will be working with the Charter School section at USOE. Jennifer Lambert, coming from the Utah Education Policy Center, and has previously been employed by USOE. Her strength is in data analysis and will be working with the performance framework. Janene Bowen, will be working part-time on specific projects including a system to measure performance within the performance framework. Janene retired from Jordan School District and had been the Charter School liaison for that district.

Approval of Consent Calendar

Motion was made by Member Robert Enger and seconded by Member Laura Belnap to approve the consent calendar (minutes of SCSB meeting held February 13 & 14, 2013). The motion was carried unanimously.

Scholar Academy application

Chair Tim Beagley reminded the SCSB that Scholar Academy had presented their application to the board last month, and had been asked to return this month, to inform the board of revisions to their charter application. The revisions requested by the SCSB included an increase in the capacity of the governing board and clarification in terms of the instructional model the school was interested in.

Representatives of Scholar Academy informed the SCSB they have added individuals to their board to enhance expertise with experience in the following areas: financial, education, marketing, real estate and non-profit. Also, Scholar Academy is asking for an elementary school at this time, and return in three years to request a Jr. High school; and at that time make a decision regarding the IB program.

Motion was made by Member Robert Enger and seconded by Member Howard Headlee to recommend for approval to the USBE Scholar Academy's charter school application. The motion was carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Member Kristin Elinkowski and seconded by Member Robert Enger to place Scholar Academy in the seventh spot on their prioritized list of new charter school applicants. The motion was carried unanimously.

Amendment request – Itineris Early College High School

Representatives of Itineris Early College High School informed the SCSB their amendment request to charter with the State Charter School Board and add 115 students in the 2014-2015 school year.

Shelly Nordick from Jordan School District informed the SCSB that from the district's perspective they are supportive of Itineris Early College High School's decision to move to a new charting entity.

Motion was made by Member Howard Headlee and seconded by Member Robert Enger to recommend for approval to the USBE the request to charter with the State Charter School Board and add 115 students in the 2014-2015 school year. The motion carried unanimously.

Amendment request – Quail Run Primary School

Representatives of Quail Run Primary School informed the SCSB their amendment request to change the name of the school to Canyon Grove Academy, modify their mission statement, modify the school's organizational structure and governing board, to pioneer single-gender classrooms and add a distance learning program.

Motion was made by Member Kristin Elinkowski and seconded by Member Robert Enger to recommend for approval to the USBE the requested amendments.

Substitute motion was made by Member Laura Belnap and seconded by Member Howard Headlee to split the original motion into 1) single-gender classroom; 2) district learning program; and 3) all other parts of the amendment request. Members Laura Belnap and Howard Headlee cast affirmative votes to the motion. Members Robert Enger and Kristin Elinkowski voted in opposition. The substitute motion did not pass.

The original motion was made by Member Kristin Elinkowski and seconded by Member Robert Enger to recommend for approval to the USBE all requested amendments. The motion carried with affirmative votes from Chair Tim Beagley, Members Howard Headlee, Kristin Elinkowski and Robert Enger. Member Laura Belnap voted in opposition.

Chair Beagley instructed Quail Run Primary School to submit a monthly updated budget report, enrollment report and a more detailed plan of benchmarking and formative assessment for the distance learning program the school intends to implement.

Presentation – The Competitive Effects of Charter Schools in Utah

Dr. Mike Martineau, Senior Research Analyst, from the Office of Budget & Institutional Analysis, University of Utah, presented a study that had been made regarding competitive effects of charter schools in Utah.

Update – Aristotle Academy

Representatives of Aristotle Academy updated the SCSB on its 2013-2014 enrollment and budget.

Update – State Charter School Board evaluation

Chair Tim Beagley reminded the SCSB that in their bylaws it requires an evaluation of themselves every two years. Marlies Burns has sent to the SCSB members evaluations that have been completed by external organizations for review and input. Information needed is what questions, if any, is the board interested in knowing the answer to and who the board wants to have answer those questions. Ms. Burns was instructed to proceed with questions that have previously been received and to present those questions to the SCSB for further input.

Turnover and Retention rate reports

Director Marlies Burns discussed the “within year” student transfer report or student transfer rate, and the re-enrollment rate. Ms. Burns informed the SCSB the rates she discussed can be found on Charter School meeting website. Also, Ms. Burns discussed the annual financial monitoring report.

Adjourn

Motion was made to adjourn at 12:50 p.m. by Member Laura Belnap.