

Connections Public Charter School

Governing Board Minutes

January 22, 2024

Kress Building 3:15 pm

Call to Order: Mr. Garcia called the meeting to order at 3:19pm.

Members Present: Romeo Garcia, Pam Thatcher, Damon Murphy, Nalu Tufui, Joanna Highstein, Clint Kolyer, Christina Wilbourn

Members Absent: Michael Fischer, Gerald Taber

Guests: Cheryl Gravela, John Woolverton, Tracie Stacey, Debbie Anderson, Romona Ridley (Xiomara Mejia as Recorder)

Approval of Agenda: Members reviewed the draft agenda for the January 22, 2024 meeting.

A motion was made by Mrs. Highstein to approve the agenda for January 22, 2024 as presented. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Wilbourn and was approved with consensus.

Approval of Minutes December 18, 2023 meeting: Members reviewed the minutes from meeting on December 18, 2023.

A motion was made by Mr. Kolyer to approve the December 18, 2023 minutes as presented. Members discussed the minutes. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Tufui and was approved with consensus. Mrs. Wilbourn abstained due to last months absence.

Approval of New Members: none

Election of Officers: none

Food Program Update: Mr. Murphy reported that they will be conducting a Food Quality Survey that will go out to the students between February and March. He also stated that he is planning on meeting with the farm employees to see how much yield is currently being produced. He will be communicating that information with the kitchen staff and planning a time for them all to meet. Members discussed.

Public Input: none

Correspondence & Communication: Mr. Murphy gave a further update regarding the EEOC and a complaint that was made by a previous employee. After Mr. Murphy met with an EEOC representative, it was found that the employee policy did not have the correct EEOC verbiage. To rectify this, Mr. Murphy agreed that Administration and HR personnel will do a training through the EEOC and will work with their representative to find the correct verbiage.

Commission School Lead Report: Mr. Murphy reported that there will be a visit on Wednesday, January 24, 2024 with the Commission. The focus of the visit will be to review Indicator 1.

Old Business: none

New Business:

Approval of New Substitute Teachers: Mr. Woolverton requested the board's approval for a new substitute teacher: Emerson Reinke. Miss Reinke is currently volunteering in lower elementary.

A motion was made to approve Emerson Reinke as a substitute teacher by Mrs. Thatcher. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Wilbourn and was approved with consensus.

Review and Revision of Governing Board Policies: none

Operations Report:

Operations Status - Financial Officer's Report:

Members reviewed the financial statements for December 2023. Ms. Gravela reviewed the report with the members, stated there was nothing of concern and answered members questions. Members discussed.

Approval of Financial Statements:

A motion was made by Mrs. Highstein to approve the Financial Statement for December 2023. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Wilbourn and was approved with consensus.

Administrator's Report:

Current enrollment: 347

Title I Report: Mr. Murphy reminded members of the database that will house all student information. He is currently working with the contractor to get the database portal running.

Student Achievement Report: none

Kaumana Property Report: none

Other Items:

Mr. Murphy gave an update on PBIS, a rewards program to help incentivize students to improve behaviorally and academically. He reports that they have seen improvement since beginning the program.

Mr. Murphy also reported that there will be a first honor roll program, that will be rolled out late January. Each grade level will have their own ceremony to celebrate students.

Mr. Woolverton reported that a radio station working with BJ Penn Youth Foundation has reached out and introduced a proposal to put in a FM broadcast antenna. They will partner with Kris Kua and Studio Shaka, with the goal being to allow the station to be run by students at all levels. Students will also receive credit for participating. The proposal is in its initial stages, with a plan to start next school year.

Mr. Woolverton gave members an update regarding athletics. There are currently 6 teams: riflery and cross country in the fall, wrestling and paddling in the winter, and judo and track in field in the spring. They are working to get girls and boys volleyball and basketball team going

within the next 2 years. Mr. Woolverton also reported that there will be a new mascot, and a school wide contest to create the logo.

Mrs. Anderson is working on an SRO (School Resource Officer) proposal in which she is requesting that the county attorney allocate an SRO for as much as the school year as possible. Justification for this proposal is to free up administration to help work on academic issues rather than behavioral issues and help keep students and staff safe. Members discussed and Mrs. Anderson answered questions.

Mrs. Anderson is also working on a proposal to create a digital media library. The fee for this program is \$1500 per year. Mrs. Anderson justification for this proposal is that it would give students access to more books. The program will also give the school access to films, which could be used to fundraise. Members discussed. Mr. Murphy will give a decision by February 16, 2024.

Mr. Garcia adjourned the meeting at 4:44 pm.

Next Meeting: February 20, 2024 at 3:15 pm.

Adjournment: 4:44 pm

Respectfully submitted by:

Mr. Romeo Garcia

Connections Governing Board Chair