

Connections Public Charter School
Governing Board Minutes
April 11, 2022
Kress Building 3:15pm

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

Members Present: Shinji Salmoiraghi, Romeo Garcia, Kirk Bailey, Libby Oshiyama, Pam Thatcher, Anna Madrid, Ron Kim, Christina Wilbourn (Heather McDaniel, recorder)

Members absent: Elsie Hayashi

Guests: Cheryl Gravela, Eric Boyd, Tammy Keao, Carol Gray, Holly Sumida, Ipo Pestano, Romona Ridley

Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made by Mr. Garcia to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bailey and was approved with consensus.

Approval of Minutes March 14, 2022:

A motion was made by Mr. Kim to approve the minutes of the March 14, 2022 meeting. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Thatcher and was approved with consensus.

Public Input:

Mr. Boyd expressed his concern about the difficulty of the RIF process. He feels that the Board made the decision without exhausting other options first. He did not feel that the questionnaire was clear, and got clarification from Mr. Salmoiraghi. A letter was shared from Ms. Jerri Potter regarding RIF concerns.

Correspondence & Communication: none

New Business:

- **Approval of New Subs:** none
- **Review and Revision of Governing Board Policies:** tabled
- **Contract 3.0 Extension:** Mr. Salmoiraghi reported that after consulting with the AG, it is in our best interest to sign off on the contract extension. However, expectations of student performance markers should be based on this year's results.

A motion was made by Mr. Garcia to negotiate the student performance markers in regards to the Contract 3.0 Extension. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wilbourn. Discussion: Mr. Garcia expressed the impacts of pandemic restrictions on student performance and test scores, adding that the scores do not show the best representation of students' mastery. We do not currently have an alternative instrument to measure student progress. Mr. Garcia recommends sharing with the Commission what factors have impacted results, and what those impacts have been.

Mrs. Thatcher asked what baseline they are looking at. If it's an evaluation, then it's not a baseline.

Mr. Salmoiraghi clarified that they are looking at 2019 as a baseline.

A new motion was made by Mrs. Thatcher to authorize Mr. Garcia to negotiate the student performance markers item in the Contract 3.0 Extension. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bailey and was approved with consensus.

- **School Director/Principal Search Process:** Mr. Salmoiraghi reported on volunteers who have asked to be considered for the Search Process.

A motion was made by Mr. Garcia to form a committee to move forward with the search process, starting with a job description. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Thatcher. Discussion: Mr. Bailey asked if the consultants from Talent Enthusiasts were provided current information. Mr. Garcia reported that he has a draft job description. The motion was approved with consensus.

- **Reduction In Force/Reorganization Process:** Mr. Salmoiraghi reported on positions being considered for elimination: General Professional IV, General Laborer, three Arts Program Specialist positions, Office Assistant, and Administrative Assistant. There was some discussion from members and guests.

A motion was made by Ms. Wilbourn to go into Executive Session at 4:27pm to discuss positions terminated, and the possibility of creating new positions. The motion was seconded by Mr. Garcia and was approved with consensus.

A motion was made by Mr. Garcia to go out of Executive Session at 6:32pm. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wilbourn and was approved with consensus.

A motion was made by Mr. Garcia to eliminate the following positions: General Professional IV, General Laborer, three Arts Program Specialist positions, Office Assistant, and Administrative Assistant. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bailey, and was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Mr. Bailey, Mrs. Thatcher, Mr. Garcia, Ms. Wilbourn, Mr. Kim, Dr. Oshiyama. Nays: none. Ms. Madrid abstained from the vote.

A motion was made by Mrs. Thatcher to authorize Mr. Garcia to work with Board members to develop job descriptions for the three new positions, and any other new positions created. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kim and was approved with consensus.

A motion was made by Mrs. Thatcher to authorize Mr. Salmoiraghi to address the advice given by HSTA to teachers regarding the RIF. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bailey and was approved with consensus.

Mr. Garcia reported that in response to questions regarding the March 28 deadline for Staff Placement questionnaires, he advised staff to turn them in prior to today's meeting in order to be eligible for bumping rights.

Commission School Lead Report: none

Operations Report:

- **Financial Officer's Report:** Mr. Bailey noted no items of concern. Ms. Gravela reported on notable items, and the need for Board approval for replacement of AC units in Rms 105 and 106, totalling \$26,000.

A motion was made by Mr. Garcia to approve the expenditure of up to \$26,000 to replace the AC units in Rms 105 and 106, and to investigate other service provider options. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kim and was approved with consensus.

Mrs. Thatcher proposed the purchase of a projector for the theater for school events, including the possibility of fundraising events.

A motion was made by Mrs. Thatcher to approve the purchase of a projector in the amount of \$4999.00 plus tax and shipping. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kim and was approved with consensus.

Approval of Financial Statements: Members reviewed the Financial Statement for March 2022.

A motion was made by Ms. Wilbourn to approve the Financial Statement for March 2022. The motion was seconded by Mr. Garcia and was approved with consensus.

Title I/Student Achievement Report:

- **Status of Title I Plan SY 21-22:** Mr. Garcia reported that the Title I Plan continues to be implemented. The DNA and academic plans have been submitted.
Student Achievement: tabled

Administrator's Report:

- **Current enrollment:** 350
 - **SY 21-22 Covid Health and Safety Plan Status Report:** Mr. Garcia reported discussion about the possibility of removing the school mask mandate for Connections. Members discussed the options.
 - **Ms. Ridley submitted early results from a secondary grade level survey, indicating 70% prefer making masks optional.**
Ms. Wilbourn reported that many students and some staff are not wearing masks consistently.
Ms. Madrid expressed her opinion that she feels Connections should follow the DOE.
Mr. Kim reported that he would prefer that masks are optional, and to lift the restriction.
Mr. Garcia indicated that he will discuss the matter with the administrative team and make a decision.
 - **Kaumana Property Report:** tabled
 - **Other Items:** none
- Next Meeting: May 16, 2022 at 3:15pm

Adjournment: 7:01pm

Respectfully submitted by:

Shinji Salmoiraghi

Connections Governing Board Chair

