

Connections Public Charter School

Governing Board Minutes

January 11, 2021

Via googlemeets 3:00 pm

Call to Order: Mr. Salmoiraghi called the meeting to order at 3:04 pm.

Members Present: John Thatcher, Kirk Bailey, Libby Oshiyama, Jerri Potter, Cheryl Gravela, Shinji Salmoiraghi, Elsie Hayashi, (Heather McDaniel, Recorder)

Members Absent: Jonelle Fukushima, Alvina Kahoonei

Guests: Romeo Garcia, Eric Boyd, Carol Gray

Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made by Ms. Potter to approve the agenda, with changes to move the Administrative Evaluation Process item to end of the agenda, and correct the Approval of Minutes for December 14 rather than November 9. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bailey and was approved with consensus.

Approval of Minutes for December 14, 2020 meeting: Members reviewed minutes from the December 14, 2020 meeting.

A motion was made by Mr. Bailey to accept the minutes from the December 14, 2020 meeting. The motion was seconded by Ms. Potter and was approved with consensus.

Public Input: none

Correspondence & Communication: none

New Business:

- **Approval of New Substitute Teachers:** The names of one current part-time employee and one former employee were presented. Both are able to sub for general education teachers.
A motion was made by Mr. Thatcher to approve adding two people to the sub list. The motion was seconded by Ms. Potter and was approved with consensus.
- **Review and Revision of Governing Board Policies:** tabled

Commission School Lead Report: none

Operations Report:

Operations Status: A revised budget was presented with some changes in line items (food service, furloughs). It is not known whether we will receive the last 10% of the per pupil allocation. Mr. Salmoiraghi asked for clarification on how the money allocated for Professional Development is being spent, and on the loss amount of \$208,000. Ms. Gravela clarified that the PD is being spent on , and that the loss reflects the remaining 10% of the per pupil allocation in question. If the remaining 10% is received, the loss will be resolved.

Financial Officer's Report: Dr. Oshiyama reviewed the Operations Statement and found it to be appropriate.

- **Approval of Financial Statements: Members reviewed and discussed the Financial Statements.** *A motion was made by Mr. Bailey, to accept the December 2020 Operations Statement. The motion was seconded by Ms. Potter. Discussion: Mr. Thatcher asked for clarification about the list of typical expenses for the auditors. Ms. Gravela clarified that the auditors requested documentation of typical expenses that don't require a purchase order. Mr. Thatcher asked if the amounts could be included, with a descriptor of the expense, and be presented again next month for review. The motion was approved with consensus.*

Title I/Student Achievement Report:

- **Status of Title I Plan SY 20-21: Mr. Thatcher reported on the SY 20-21 plan. He and Mr. Salmoiraghi received an email from Title I staff describing where we are in the process. We are compliant.**
- **Student Achievement: Mr. Garcia reported that grades are due today. We will implement the "no Fs" process, and are looking at opportunities for students to complete those courses during the summer.**

Administrator's Report:

- **Current enrollment: We are funded for 353, and projected 360. As of today we have 367 enrolled.**
- **SY 20-21 Covid Emergency Plan Status Report: Mr. Garcia reported that we are continuing with our hybrid learning model, no changes. More students are asking to attend more often. More overflow spaces have been created. Many classrooms are at maximum capacity. We will look at using the Kaumana property more. We are also considering modifying Covid plan for 4' distance in the classroom instead of 6', with barriers.**

A motion was made by Mr. Bailey to approve modifying the Covid Safety Plan. The motion was seconded by Dr. Oshiyama. Discussion: Mr. Bailey asked for clarification on what types of barriers. Mr. Boyd explained that they are pvc frames with plastic sheeting. Mr. Thatcher suggested doing more research on what other schools are using, and that getting staff input is essential. Mrs. McDaniel suggested delaying the modifications until staff have access to vaccines. Mr. Bailey withdrew his motion and asked that it be tabled until next month.

- **Kaumana Property Report: Mr. Boyd reported that the water tank was installed, More student spaces are being created, including the greenhouse. About twenty students can be accommodated there now. Mr. Thatcher reported on communication from Zendo Kern, County Planning Director. Mr. Kern has expressed support for charter schools, and for CPCS' Kaumana project. He agreed to get the project on the Planning Commission calendar. Other members can send testimony. The Board can send testimony as an entity.**

A motion was made by Dr. Oshiyama to authorize Mr. Salmoiraghi to author a letter of support on behalf of the Board, for Mr. Kern's appointment as Director of the Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by Mr. Bailey and was approved with consensus.

Mr. Garcia presented a request for approval of the expenditure of up to \$63,000 for an excavator for the Kaumana property project. Three quotes: new 62,000 > 40000 used. Mid range 45000, recommended by staff. Eric: rented in November, realized benefits of access to equipment, renting is expensive. John operators permit needed? Eric: no. John: Is it considered grubbing? Eric: only for 1 acre at a time or more. Jerri: Need a price for rock buster. Eric: 10,000. Jerri left the meeting at 4:36.

A motion was made by Mr. Bailey to approve the expenditure of up to \$63,000 for an excavator for the Kaumana project. The motion was seconded by Dr. Oshiyama. Discussion: Mr. Thatcher asked if an operator's permit would be required. Mr. Boyd said it is not. Mr. Thatcher asked if the work would be considered grubbing, for which a permit is required. Mr. Boyd said anything under one acre does not require a grubbing permit. Ms. Potter expressed the need for a "rock buster" attachment. Mrs. McDaniel, on behalf of CBESS' participation in the Kaumana Planning Committee, expressed that the "rock buster" attachment should be included. Ms. Potter left the meeting at 4:36pm. The motion was approved by the

following vote of remaining members: Ayes: Mr. Thatcher, Dr. Oshiyama, Mr. Bailey, Mrs. Hayashi, Mr. Salmoiraghi. Ms. Gravela abstained.

- **Other Items:**
- **Mr. Garcia presented a request for approval of the expenditure of up to \$63,000 for an excavator for the Kaumana property project. Three quotes: new 62,000 > 40000 used. Mid range 45000, recommended by staff. Eric: rented in November, realized benefits of access to equipment, renting is expensive. John operators permit needed? Eric: no. John: Is it considered grubbing? Eric: only for 1 acre at a time or more. Jerri: Need a price for rock buster. Eric: 10,000.**

Jerri left the meeting at 4:36.

A motion was made by Mr. Bailey to approve the expenditure of up to \$63,000 for an excavator for the Kaumana project. The motion was seconded by Dr. Oshiyama. Discussion: Mr. Thatcher asked if an operator's permit would be required. Mr. Boyd said it is not. Mr. Thatcher asked if the work would be considered grubbing, for which a permit is required. Mr. Boyd said anything under one acre does not require a grubbing permit. Ms. Potter expressed the need for a "rock buster" attachment. Mrs. McDaniel, on behalf of CBESS' participation in the Kaumana Planning Committee, expressed that the "rock buster" attachment should be included. Ms. Potter left the meeting at 4:36pm. The motion was approved by the following vote of remaining members: Ayes: Mr. Thatcher, Dr. Oshiyama, Mr. Bailey, Mrs. Hayashi, Mr. Salmoiraghi. Ms. Gravela abstained.

Old Business

- **Administrator Evaluation Process: Mr. Thatcher dismissed himself from this portion of the meeting. Members discussed the progress of the process, as well as planning for Mr. Thatcher's upcoming retirement August 1, and filling the vacancy.**

Next Meeting: February 8, 2021 at 3:00 pm.

Adjournment: 5:20 pm.

**Respectfully submitted by:
Shinji Salmoiraghi
Connections Governing Board Chair**