

North Oakland Community Charter School (NOCCS)  
**General Board Meeting**  
@ 6:00 pm January 18, 2011  
1000 42nd Street, Oakland

Our Overarching Role as Board Members:

*Serve as pro-active stewards of NOCCS' sustainability and growth, in alignment with its guiding principles*

Outcomes

Better understand the current state of the school  
Make progress on strategic priorities; fine-tune implementation strategies  
Address emerging policy issues  
Agree on next steps

AGENDA

Present: Ken Sommer, Katherine Orr, Wendy Barry-Owen, Rachel Wylde, Erica Mackie, Eric Rathaus, Li-Mei Johnson, Carolyn Gramstorff, Jay Weil, Michael Schwartz, Victoria Foks.

Absent: Kristin Zimmerman, Mara Benitez

Public Comment: none

Minutes

Erica Mackie

**Eric Rathaus moved and Ken Sommer seconded approval of December minutes.** Motion carried with one abstention from Rachel Wylde, who was absent.

Educational Program Report and Community Building Report

Carolyn Gramstorff

Carolyn introduced Mosaic as an organization and described its history with NOCCS. She spoke of a new slant to this year's work. Events are planned with three activities combined: showing up to work, showing up to eat/be entertained, showing up to learn. Three dates are scheduled: MLK event, Cesar Chavez event, Malcolm X event. Destiny Arts is also involved. It's also one strategy for implementing Goal #5 in the Strategic Plan. The staff are required to come and do something as a class for one of the three events. The first event will feature the K/1 classes. Carolyn requested that board members attend at least one, if not all of the three events.

Carolyn explained that the Longfellow Community Association (LCA) is partnering in putting together the Chavez event. The students are flyer-ing the neighborhood. Erica suggested that we try to capture the attendance and participation, especially

of neighbors. This one is an inside one, the Cezar Chavez one will be more focused on gardening and will hopefully be outside.

#### Finance Committee Report

Jay Weil

Jay is coming off of shoulder surgery. We finished the calendar year in good shape. Fundraising has bounced up so that line item is looking healthier. Jay, Carolyn, and Beth have started working on the initial planning for 2012-13 budget, which will include a lot of changes. This will be followed by a staff retreat in February and a board budget retreat in March. We will aim to approve a budget in April. Because it's better to have the board retreat in early March, we need to get this calendared very soon. Jay will initiate a doodle poll.

#### Personnel Committee Report

Victoria Folks

The big topic in our last meeting was looking at the data from parents and faculty regarding the 80% teachers. Since the feedback was very positive the recommendation from the committee is to continue this practice and firm up the policies around the program. There was some discussion about what things are decided about at the committee level and what things are decided about at the board level. Carolyn was asked to summarize the survey results to the community in her newsletter in a general way that protects confidentiality and that makes clear that we are tweaking the program based on survey results. The committee will give the board proposed policies to vote on as soon as they are developed.

#### Nominating Committee Report

Michael Schwartz

Michael talked about board policies. He also sent out a list of existing policies. Several policies that may be needed but don't currently exist are a Brown Act Policy and a Use of Counsel Policy. There was discussion about the Brown Act and whether it makes sense to have a policy. Eric opined that the area of board communication may be the area where we need a policy. The board requested that the committee discuss this further. The committee should also take on succession planning and board recruitment and report back to the board.

#### Strategic Planning

Li-Mei Johnson

Next steps include the introduction. Erica reported that she and Carolyn have communicated about this and it should be ready in draft form by the February board meeting.

Another next step involves publication plans. Carolyn suggested that we streamline this by collaborating with the capital campaign consultants to make a plan for publication and produce everything at once. The consensus is that having an introduction should be a prerequisite to putting the strategic plan up on the website. In the meantime, the board blast will include an announcement that we've finished and thanks to the community for their input.

The third next step is to figure out who is monitoring each action step. The executive committee agreed to work on this and bring it back.

From now on at every board meeting we will be reporting on progress on the strategic plan.

Development Committee Report

Ken Sommer

Ken described the process of selecting the consultants who were on hand to meet the board at this meeting. A round of introductions began our discussion. Marissa Ireland and Mariana Moore described their backgrounds. They described what the capital campaign can do for NOCCS and for the board. They summarized what is required of the board and its members in the capital campaign. The campaign is slated to last a minimum of two years. There is a little buffer of time that we can take if necessary. The timing of the quiet phase which will take place along with the planning phase will be for the remainder of this school year. The parent community will become involved perhaps as early as Fall 2012.

Board meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.