

NOCCS Board Minutes September 28, 2016

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of North Oakland Community Charter School was held on **September 28, 2016 at 6 pm** at the School. The meeting was called to order at **6:08 pm**.

The following members of the Board were present: Stephen Ajani, Mia Birdsong, Teresha Freckleton-Petite, Juliana Germak, Melanie Gross, Sahra Halpern, Tracy Hanna, Devon King-Neece, Melissa McDonald, Rachel Vyda-Venning, Lakisha Young

Absent: Raja Antony, Leslie Bell, Mariah Landers, Luis Rodriguez, Joy Sherrod,

Guests: Aleshia Reeves (FTO Co-President), Chien Wang (FTO Secretary), Kelly Hoppe (EdTec Reo), Annette de la Llana (6th grade ELA teacher/MS Dean of Instruction)

Public Comment

Aleshia Reeves introduced the new FTO Secretary Chien Wang to the board.

Minutes

Approval of the previous meeting's minutes were tabled until October.

Finance Update

Kelly from EdTec reviewed the 2015-16 unaudited actuals report with a negative unrestricted operating income of \$22K that was approved at the August board retreat. An official audit is in progress that is expected to be complete in December for the board to review and approve. The state budget forecast is that a recession is coming and local education agencies need to prepare. The board discussed the 2016-17 budget, including July and August financials. YTD actuals show \$108K in revenues and \$209K in expenses. The budget now includes a line item for vacation payout. The tracking of vacation time is still being worked out between EdTec and NOCCS' admin team. Cash will become tight by February according to projections. A cash infusion from PEC might be needed earlier than when they usually grant us funds. It was decided that a conversation with the PEC was needed to clarify the grant disbursement schedule and their board structure.

The finance committee has updated policy and procedures that will be presented at the next meeting.

Miscellaneous

Lakisha thanked everyone for their feedback on the board retreat and assured the group that their comments are being taken seriously.

Tracy proposed having regular check-ins throughout the year to discuss the role of the board in school governance to ensure we are serving the school community in the most effective and

impactful manner. As a general guideline, board members who are also parents should direct parent issues to the staff and be vigilant of potential conflicts of interest. They may also have to recuse themselves from voting on issues for which they have given public opinions. It was agreed that the board could do a better job of educating the school community about its role.

Head of School Update

The board discussed the head of school update and Mr. Ajani answered questions. Special education at NOCCS is exceeding expectations under our new SELPA. Our outgoing representative from El Dorado paid our school's program a huge compliment by saying she'd send her child to NOCCS. Our partnership with Get Empowered got off to a bumpy start due to scheduling conflicts. Mr. Ajani assured board members that this program was meeting the state requirement for Physical Education. In addition, a new partnership with Playworks during recess will provide additional physical activity.

The HOS report also included two major proposals: change the admissions lottery preference and extend the kindergarten schedule to 3pm. The change to the lottery would give preference of 50-55% open slots to FRL applicants from NW Oakland. The lottery would be drawn as such:

1st Bucket: Kindergarten – 8th Grade applicants who qualify for free and reduced lunch and live in the Northwest Oakland attendance area. This bucket is drawn from until 50% enrollment is reached or the list of applicants who qualify for free and reduced lunch and live in the Northwest Oakland attendance area is exhausted.

2nd Bucket: Kindergarten – 8th Grade applicants who live in the Northwest Oakland attendance area and do not qualify for free and reduced lunch

3rd Bucket: Kindergarten – 8th Grade applicants who qualify for free and reduced lunch and live in Oakland.

Also it would apply to applicants for all grades, not just kindergarten and 6th. This is a time-sensitive matter because the NOCCS enrollment application opens in November and the school would need to submit changes in admission to the OUSD charter office for approval beforehand. The board was instructed to send follow-up questions and do research on the lottery structures at similar local charter schools before a vote.

A full-day kindergarten would make the school more attractive to working families and would provide more academic instructional time so that teachers wouldn't be playing catch-up in first grade. But we would lose the revenues from the Seedlings program and there would be no additional funding support from the state to provide an extended kindergarten day. Mr. Ajani was asked to crunch the numbers to show how this change would affect the budget.

Committee Updates

Tracy made a motion to table the discussion about new committee structures and assignments. Sahra seconded the motion. 10 approved: Stephen, Mia, Teresha, Juliana, Sahra, Tracy, Lakisha, Melissa, Melanie, Devon. 1 opposed: Rachel.. The committees update was tabled until the next meeting.

Board Elections

Tracy is stepping down as co-chair but will remain on the board for the duration of her term.

Officer candidates:

Co-chairs: Lakisha and Melissa ***Treasurer: Devon King-Neece ***Secretary: Teresha

Tracy moved to approve the slate of officers. Rachel seconded. The motion unanimously passed to elect these board members to executive office.

Adjourn

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 8:01 pm

Respectfully Submitted, Teresha Freckleton-Petite, Secretary