

North Oakland Community Charter School (NOCCS)
Special Meeting of the Board
@ 6:00 pm January 7, 2015
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: Carolyn Gramstorff, , Jenny Bond, Erica Mackie, Pam Rich, Mia Birdsong, Adam Howell, Ann Gordon, Iliana Phirippidis, Rachel Venning, Steve Fox, Tracy Hanna, Sahra Halpern, Kristen McCluskey

Meeting called to order at: 6:03

Public Comment- none

Charter Renewal: The board engaged in a thorough discussion about this draft document. Sahra asked if there would be a table of contents. Carolyn answered that there will be.

Mia suggested that in the gender section it says, "another" gender instead of "the other". The board discussed.

Erica asked a question about editorial feedback and how Carolyn wanted this communicated. Pam shared the editing process up to this point that included a good deal of formatting. Carolyn reported that she and David Bond would be working on final production on Monday.

Pam asked if the strategy for charter renewal and Strategic Plan revisions are different. Carolyn responded with the strategies she was using to create the Charter Renewal. Sahra asked what the risks and rewards are for saying less or more. Carolyn responded that the saying what you are going to do allows you to use your charter to assess your progress and for accountability and to be able to use the document as a plan for the next five years.

Tracy asked when the X% sections will be added. Carolyn responded that all of those are from the LCAP, which will be updated this year. It will say X% in the charter renewal. Tracy suggested that there will need to be language added to explain. Carolyn asked if it was in the footnote. Sahra asked, why a footnote? They are harder to read. Why not just put it right in place. Tracy suggested adding a sentence above stating that these goals will be quantified by ____.

Erica asked if the punitive statements are all standard aspects of the charter. Carolyn responded that this is all required text based on Ed. Code. Sahra asked what % was required text and what was developed? Carolyn shared that the majority was developed by NOCCS.

Erica asked about some of the admissions policy. She asked about the 40%, if there is 1 spot do you only pull from the 40%, Yes. Do we pull the 40% from the neighborhood lotto for the waitlist? Carolyn stated that it is okay for us to change and make adjustments to this piece of the policy in the future.

Erica stated that this needed to be solved by the lottery in March. She said that the new gender policy will make the whole process more complicated. Carolyn stated that the new admissions policy will not go into effect until the charter is approved.

Tracy commented on how many pre-enrollment requirements exist in the draft and could be road blocks for families. Carolyn responded that these requirements are needed to trigger the preference in the lottery. Tracy also commented on the 72-hour turn around time. She explained that if we are working to serve more low-income families this will be a burden. Tracy suggested requiring these documents after acceptance rather than before.

Carolyn stated that we should review the admissions portion of the charter. We are submitting an updated admissions policy and procedure with only two revisions: inclusion of Sankofa and Claremont and the gender balance issue.

Ann asked if the teachers are updated on the revisions. Carolyn replied that they have been updated on the major portions that have been changed.

Pam asked for clarification about when the changes would be made. Carolyn responded that administrative revisions could be made after approval but material revisions would need to be heard in front of the OUSD board.

Carolyn shared that there is discussion amongst charter schools about going universal with a single application for all schools with school preference checklists for families.

Erica moved that we approve the charter as substantially presented here, enabling Carolyn and her editing team to make final edits.

Rachel seconded the motion.

Unanimous approval

Meeting adjourned: 6:42