Utah State Charter School Board Meeting
Minutes
January 14, 2010
North & South Board Rooms
Utah State Office of Education

APPROVED

Members present: Julie Adamic, Brian Allen, Tim Beagley, Tom Morgan, John Pingree, Scott Smith
Members excused: Yolanda Francisco-Nez

Staff present: Marlies Burns, Paul Crawford, Cory Kanth, Jeannie Rowland,
Staff excused: Jo Schmitt

Others present: Superintendent Larry Shumway, Deputy Superintendent Martell Menlove, Steve Crandall, Holly Brown, Troy Walker, Mike Anderson, Mark Johnson, Kelli Mattingly, Erin Preston, Emma Bullock, Jack Garzella, Kim Frank, Mark Cluff

Call to Order
Chair Brian Allen called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Public Comments
None

Approval of Minutes
Motion was made by Member Scott Smith and seconded by Member Tim Beagley to approve the minutes from the December 10, 2009 State Charter School Board Meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Charter School Board Chair's Report
Chair Brian Allen informed the SCSB that he had attended the ground breaking for Quail Run Primary School in Utah County. He stated he feels they have a beautiful plot of land they are planning to build their school. Mr. Allen went on to say he was impressed the number of people in attendance from the community and from potential students and parents that will attend the school.

Chair Allen commented on the upcoming legislative session and stated we continue to face budget challenges as a State, and are very fortunate in Utah that our challenges are not as large as other states.

Chair Allen encouraged the excellence seen in our charter schools to continue, and commended the charter school operators for that excellence.

Information Items
NAAS (Northwest Association of Accredited Schools update
Jeannie Rowland informed the SCSB that 55 schools are in the process of accreditation and 21 will need to begin in 2010, which includes the five new schools that open in August 2010.
Member Julie Adamic expressed concerns regarding school libraries. Director Marlies Burns informed the SCSB that she would discuss with Georgia Loutensock the flexibility NAAS will allow with certified library personnel.

Summit Academy High School update

Steve Crandall representing Summit Academy High School updated the SCSB of land acquisition issues and the possibility of leasing space for 9th and 10th graders from Summit Academy.

Charter application and amendment process work group report

Chair Brian Allen informed the SCSB that this is an ongoing discussion and by no means a final process. Chair Allen suggested the SCSB think about the process, read the notes they have received and provide feedback to the rest of the board members to work together with the Charter School Staff to find a consensus to the process.

Performance management recommendations from staff

Director Marlies Burns presented to the SCSB three performance management recommendation categories: (1) Academic Quality, (2) Operational Quality and (3) Charter Fidelity. Staff will see school feedback.

Action Items

Board Standing Committee Reports

- Assistance Committee-Member Tim Beagley informed the SCSB the Assistance Committee discussed a Transfer/Exit Form to be used by charter schools when a student no longer attends that school. Mr. Beagley distributed that Transfer/Exit Form to the SCSB.

  Motion was made by Member Tim Beagley to recommend for approval to the USBE the distributed document as the formal document that would be used when transferring and exiting students. After much discussion, Mr. Beagley withdrew his motion and will address the form again after the legislation session.

- Rule Review Committee-Member Julie Adamic informed the SCSB the committee discussed R277-470-1 regarding cleaning up language and changes to parent board members (lines 525-533).

  Motion was made by Member Julie Adamic and seconded by Member John Pingree to recommend for approval to the USBE the draft document as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

- Legislative Committee-Chair Brian Allen invited Kim Frank and Mark Cluff to explain funding parity pros and cons.

  Motion was made by Member Scott Smith and seconded by Member Julie Adamic to recommend for approval to the USBE the support of the Utah Association of Public Charter Schools (UAPCS) proposed funding mechanism. The motion carried unanimously.

- Accountability Committee-Member Tom Morgan informed the SCSB that the Accountability Committee discussed the status of NAAS process and implementation.

  No motion was made.

2010 Charter School Board Meeting Schedule

Motion was made by Member Scott Smith and seconded by Member Julie Adamic to approve the 2010 Charter School Board Meeting schedule as presented, including the November date change.

Executive Session

Motion was made by Member Scott Smith and seconded by Member Julie Adamic to go into Executive Session to discuss pending litigation and character and professional competence regarding charter schools. The Board was polled and by unanimous consent of those present, the Board moved into an executive session.

Motion was made by Member Scott Smith and seconded by Member Julie Adamic to reconvene into open meeting. The motion carried unanimously.

Action Items (cont.)

Financial oversight procedure

Cory Kanth referred to the written summary that had been distributed. Dr. Kanth informed the SCSB that the USOE has been in the midst of an oversight audit by the Office of Legislative Auditor General, which prompted her to look through their prior audit and noticed in regard to financial oversight, the request for a written procedure, had not been implemented.

Motion was made by Vice Chair Tom Morgan and seconded by Member Tim Beagley to approve the financial oversight procedure. The motion carried unanimously.

Revolving Loan Committee recommendations

Mike Anderson presented recommendations in the form of a PowerPoint presentation outlining the Charter School Revolving Loan Fund.

Motion was made by Member Scott Smith and seconded by Vice Chair Tom Morgan to recommend for approval to the USBE to give full support to the information provided by the Revolving Loan Fun Committee regarding rule change, with the request to the USBE when the rule is crafted, they send it back to the SCSB Rules Committee for review and comment. The motion carried unanimously.

Amendment Request – Providence Hall-decrease Spanish instructional time

Director Marlies Burns informed the SCSB of the school's amendment request to reduce the amount of time spent on Spanish instruction, from four days, 30 minutes per day, to 2 days, 30 minutes per day.

Motion was made by Member Scott Smith and seconded by Vice Chair Tom Morgan to recommend for approval to the USBE the amendment request to change the frequency of Spanish instruction. The motion carried unanimously.

Amendment Request – Mountainville Academy-add grade 9, 75 students for 750 total enrollment

Director Marlies Burns informed the SCSB of the school's amendment request to add 9th grade, 75 students, to their instructional program. The school will be making changes to their facility to accommodate the additional students. Member Tim Beagley questioned if the school's intention was to stop at 9th grade and not add additional grades at a later date. The SCSB was informed that Mountainville Academy would only request to 9th grade, in order for them to be in alignment with the local district, and has no intention of expanding to high school.

Motion was made by Vice Chair Tom Morgan and seconded by Member John Pingree to recommend for approval to the USBE the amendment request, along with the timeline waiver request. The motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn

Motion was made to adjourn by Vice Chair Tom Morgan at 2:00 p.m.