

**MINUTES OF THE
UTAH STATE CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD MEETING**
Thursday, October 9, 2014 – Board Rooms
USOE

APPROVED

Members Present:

Chair Tim Beagley
Member Laura Belnap
Member Bruce Davis
Member Robert Enger
Member Dean Brockbank

Members Excused:

Vice Chair Howard Headlee
Member Kristin Elinkowski

Staff Present:

Dan Schoenfeld
Jo Schmitt

Staff Excused:

Marlies Burns
Jennifer Lambert
Joe Heywood

Others present:

Kim Burningham, Roderic Land, Tami Pyfer, Debby Llewelyn, Joylin Lincoln, Kim Dohrer, Kathy Thornburg, Trudy Sorenson, Craig Frank, Tim Evans, Chris Bleak, Wade Glathar, Stuart Adams, Kevin Fenstermacher, Patrice Goins-Boyd, Adrienne Lansing, Heather Allen, Misty Maki, Brad Lester, Bianca Rivera, Nadia Morales

Call to Order

Chair Tim Beagley called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Chair Tim Beagley led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Chair Report

Chair Beagley reminded the SCSB members of the NACSA Conference scheduled October 20-23, 2014. Mr. Beagley also instructed the board members to pay attention to the policy analysis that NACSA has provided. He reminded them that over the next few months, as they look over charter applications for the next round of schools that will be opening, the analysis will offer guidance to decide which ones to approve and also consider other changes that the board might need to undertake.

Consent Calendar

MOTION: Member Robert Enger moved and Member Bruce Davis seconded to approve the Consent Calendar (Minutes of the September 11, 2014 Board Meeting) with recommended changes made by Member Dean Brockbank. The motion carried unanimously by those in attendance.

Discussion – Governor’s Report Card

Tami Pyfer, Education Advisor from the Office of the Governor, presented to the SCSB the Governor’s Report Card. During her presentation, she suggested and recommended ideas and ways on how the SCSB can use that information in the performance framework as the board monitors the performance of charter schools.

Amendment Request – Ascent Academies of Utah

Representatives of Ascent Academies of Utah presented to the SCSB the amendment request to change the location of their third campus opening in 2015-2016 from Granite School District to the Alpine School District.

MOTION: Member Robert Enger moved and Member Bruce Davis seconded to approve the amendment request to move Ascent Academies of Utah’s third campus from Granite School District to Alpine School District, in the Lehi area, and to include priority for high growth area and a two-mile radius with preferential enrollment. The motion carried unanimously.

Report – Violations of charter agreement specific to third party vendors providing instruction

Chair Tim Beagley reminded the SCSB members that the charter school staff was asked to visit the schools that were using third party vendors for online education and to report back to the board any findings and suggestions as well on how to proceed.

Danny Schoenfeld, a member of the charter school staff, informed the SCSB that a questionnaire was sent to each school identified as using third party vendors providing instruction and two members of the charter school staff made follow-up visits with those 11 schools. Mr. Schoenfeld referred to the email sent to the SCSB detailing comments, suggestions and recommendations for each school.

MOTION: Member Bruce Davis moved and Member Dean Brockbank seconded to accept staff recommendations and direct them to start implementing those recommendations and suggestions. The motion carried unanimously.

School report and action – Kairos Academy

Charter school staff member, Danny Schoenfeld, reported to the SCSB Kairos Academy’s status regarding student enrollment and funding.

Representatives of the school informed the SCSB of their plans to obtain grants and of student placements if the grant opportunities fail. If the grant funding opportunities are not available, the school is actively working on a transition plan to support the students into other schools, either through district schools and specific student need. A possible contingency plan for the students and school is to subsidize with Mountain Heights Academy through a blended learning model that will allow core classes online and on-site classes in the building.

Chair Beagley requested Kairos Academy to provide the charter school staff with a report to include a contingency plan for the students, should the grants not become available to help their financial situation become more sustainable over time. He also urged Kairos Academy to strengthen their relationship with Mountain Heights Academy to possibly become a subsidiary of them and still function as needed to serve the students; and help their financial situation become more sustainable over time.

Executive Session:

Motion was made by Member Bruce Davis and seconded by Member Robb Enger to move into an executive session for the purpose of a strategy session to discuss pending or reasonably imminent litigation. The Board was polled and by unanimous consent of those present the Board moved into an executive session.

Motion was made by Member Laura Belnap and seconded by Member Bruce Davis to reconvene into open meeting. The Board was polled and by unanimous consent of those present the Board reconvened into an open meeting.

Adjourn: Motion was made to adjourn at 10:50 a.m.