

Utah State Charter School Board Meeting  
Minutes  
January 19, 2006  
North & South Board Rooms  
Utah State Office of Education

**APPROVED**

Members present: Julie Adamic, Brian Allen, David Moss, Scott Smith, and Sonia Zisumbo  
Members excused: Barbara Killpack and Eric Smith

Staff present: John Broberg, Gary Belliston, Jo Schmitt

Others present: Associate Superintendent Ray Timothy, Steve Winitzky, Janene Bowen, Marlies Burns, Kim Frank, Representatives from Lakeview Academy, Representatives from Lincoln Academy, Celia Baker from the media.

Call to Order

Chair David Moss called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Member Brian Allen and seconded by Sonia Zisumbo to approve the minutes from the November 17, 2005 State Charter School Board Meeting. The motion was carried unanimously.

Legislative Issues

Kim Frank, Coordinator for the Utah Association of Public Charter Schools, presented an outline concerning the initiatives that are before the legislation this session. The objective of these issues are “Adequate revenue to start a new school, and the payment of property tax through lease payments” and “Charter School level administrative cost appropriations, also information on a proposal to implement a charter school administrative cost formula within the Minimum School Program”.

Charter School Board Rule Changes

Chair David Moss reminded the State Charter School Board of the two rule changes that were on the Utah State Board of Education’s agenda for January 12, 2006 meeting. Mr. Moss stated because the rule changes that had been approved by the State Charter School Board in their November 17, 2005 meeting were substantially different than those that were presented to the Utah State Board of Education, those recommendations had been tabled and brought back to the State Charter School Board to be readdressed.

After much discussion, the following changes were suggested and approved.

**R277-470-3. Charter School Orientation and Training.**

- A. Beginning February 1, 2006, all charter school applicants, approved applicants and current charter schools shall be invited to attend an orientation designed by the State Charter School Board for charter school applicants.
- B. Orientation meetings shall be scheduled at least quarterly beginning March, 2006, or more often as determined by the State Charter School Board.
- C. Charter School applicants that attend orientation/training sessions shall be eligible for a start-up bonus, upon approval, in an amount to be determined by the State Charter School Board provided through federal charter school funds or general funds to the extent of funds

available. Information received at the training sessions will facilitate the completion of the application process.

- D. Orientation sessions will consist of a pre-application seminar, a planning year seminar and an annual on-going training seminar and shall include information regarding:
- (1) charter school implementation requirements;
  - (2) charter school statutory and Board requirements;
  - (3) charter school financial and data management requirements;
  - (4) charter school legal requirements;
  - (5) federal regulations governing charter school funding; and
  - (6) other items as determined by the State Charter School Board.

Motion was made by Vice Chair Scott Smith and seconded by Sonia Zisumbo to recommend the changes made to the Charter School Orientation and Training rule. The motion was carried unanimously.

There was no need for another vote for the Charter School Parental Involvement rule change because the language of that rule will remain the same as it was drafted and presented to the Utah State Charter School Board in their January 12, 2006 meeting.

#### Lakeview Academy Amendment

Kristy Gordon, President of the Board of Trustees for Lakeview Academy informed the State Charter School Board that Lakeview Academy would like to amend their charter to add grades 7 and 8 for their first year of operation. Lakeview Academy was granted a charter for K-6 and to add a grade each year thereafter through 9<sup>th</sup> grade. The original plan was to construct two buildings, one for grades K-6 and the other for grades 7-9. After discussions with their construction contractor, it became clear it was more economical and efficient to design and build only one building to house all grades. Since their annual lease payments are directly tied to the cost of construction and in order to be able to meet their lease payment obligations, it would be necessary to expand their student base from K-6 to K-8 in their first year of operation.

Member Julie Adamic expressed her concern of the student enrollment number being turned in to the legislature based on existing numbers, by adding 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade; it would take funds away from existing charter schools causing their funding to decrease. Chair David Moss inquired of the number of students this amendment would add to the school enrollment count. He was informed the 7<sup>th</sup> grade would add 75 students and 8<sup>th</sup> grade, 25-50 additional students.

Motion was made by Chair David Moss and seconded by Vice Chair Scott Smith to recommend Lakeview Academy to offer grades K-8 for first year of operation (school year 2006-07) enrollment of 675 students, and to add grade 9 (school year 2007-08) enrollment 750 students. The motion passed with affirmative votes from Chair David Moss, Vice Chair Scott Smith, and Member Brian Allen and opposing votes from Members Julie Adamic and Sonia Zisumbo.

#### Lincoln Academy Amendment

Julie Walker, President of the Founding Board of Lincoln Academy informed the State Charter School Board of their request to amend the original charter to add a 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Lincoln Academy currently serves K-8. The local high schools serve grades 10-12. By adding 9<sup>th</sup> grade it would give Lincoln Academy's 8<sup>th</sup> graders the opportunity to attend the school for another year and not need to enter junior high for one year only before entering high school.

Member Julie Adamic inquired if the school had the secondary certified teachers for math, science, language arts, social studies and P.E. if they had begun the NorthWest Accreditation process and if the school had the volumes the library needs for 9<sup>th</sup> grade. Julie Walker informed the Charter School Board they had all of those concerns in place.

Again, Member Julie Adamic voiced her concern regarding adding student enrollment numbers that were not part of the October 1 count, therefore affecting existing charter schools.

Motion was made by Member Brian Allen seconded by Vice Chair Scott Smith to recommend Lincoln Academy to add grade 9 (school year 2006-07) with an addition of 60 students. The motion passed with affirmative votes from Chair David Moss, Vice Chair Scott Smith, Members Brian Allen, and Sonia Zisumbo and an opposing vote by Member Julie Adamic.

#### Uintah River High School Amendment

Marlies Burns, Principal of Uintah River High School informed the State Charter School Board of their request of amend their charter to include the Ute Indian Tribe Adult Education program. This inclusion changes nothing but the reporting institution from Uintah School District to Uintah River High School. Reporting includes all state mandated reports, as well as issuing credits and transcripts to the Ute Indian Tribe Adult Education program. The fiscal agent was, and remains the Ute Indian Tribe.

Motion was made by Vice Chair Scott Smith and seconded by Member Sonia Zisumbo to recommend the approval of Uintah River High School's amendment to their charter to include the Ute Indian Tribe Adult Education program. The motion was carried unanimously.

#### Adjourn

Motion was made by Vice Chair Scott Smith and seconded by Chair David Moss to adjourn the meeting at 12:00 noon. The motion was carried unanimously.