

Utah State Charter School Board Meeting  
Minutes  
**February 19, 2009**  
North & South Board Rooms  
Utah State Office of Education

**APPROVED**

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

Members excused: Scott Smith

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

Others present: Janet Cannon, Carol Lear, Steve Crandall, Robert L. Reed, Janene Bowen, Mark Cluff

Call to Order

Chair Brian Allen called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Public Comments

No public comment.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Member John Pingree and seconded by Member Tom Morgan to approve the minutes from the January 15, 2009 State Charter School Board Meeting. The motion was carried unanimously.

Charter School Board Chair's Report

As part of Chair Allen's chair report, Mr. Allen invited Susan Soleil to report to the SCSB regarding Legislative Charter School Day on the hill. Ms. Soleil reported that 22 charter schools participated in Legislative Charter School Day at the Capitol Rotunda, with over 400 students. She also commented on the success of the press conference that was held that day.

Member Julie Adamic reported on the District/Charter School Science Fair. Ms. Adamic informed the SCSB that five years ago, the Central Utah Science and Engineering Fair approached her about a Charter School Science Fair. The first year of the fair there were less than 20 projects, and this year there were 211. Ms. Adamic stated 60 elementary students and 30 secondary students from those 211 projects will move on to participate in the Central Utah Science and Engineering Fair held at Brigham Young University.

Board Standing Committee Reports

- Legislative Committee-Chair Brian Allen stated the budget has been impacted significantly by the economic downturn and the legislature started the session looking at various agencies around the state and asking for a 15% cut in their budgets. The exact percentage cut to the WPU has not been determined.
- Accountability Committee-Member Tom Morgan informed the SCSB the Accountability Committee met and discussed accreditation with school personnel and other individuals that have an interest in accreditation. Additional information and education was given related to accreditation issues.
- Communications Committee-Member Yolanda Francisco-Nez informed the SCSB the Communications Committee discussed a mission statement for the Charter School Board. Ms. Francisco-Nez stated the committee felt there needs to be a simple statement reflecting the SCSB vision and values.

***Information Items:***

### State Charter School Board funding

Director Marlies Burns informed the SCSB of a finalized piece of legislation. HB 3 very specifically stated that the SCSB had a reduction in FY09 of \$1,300. Ms. Burns also stated that next year, the budget that has been tentatively approved has indicated at least \$51,000 cut to the Charter School Office.

### Facilities update for schools scheduled to open fall 2009

Director Marlies Burns informed the SCSB that all of the schools that are scheduled to open in the fall of 2009 are officially in contracts with builders and have plans to move forward. Ms. Burns also stated the school's realistic contingency plans are due no later than March 31, 2009.

### UEN Steering Committee representative

Chair Allen informed the SCSB that UEN, Utah Education Network, is seeking a committee representative from the Charter School group to replace Jason Stanger. Mr. Stanger, who was formally East Hollywood High School's principal, has been on the committee for the last 18 months. He has relocated to Logan, UT and is no longer able to attend the meetings. Suggestion was made for Paul Crawford, IT Analyst in the Charter School Section, to be the representative for the UEN Committee. Mr. Crawford indicated he would accept that responsibility.

### ***Action Items:***

#### Standardized scoring rubric for charter school amendments and new school applications

Director Marlies Burns distributed the standardized scoring rubric for charter school amendments and new charter school applications. Member Julie Adamic addressed the changes of the weighting of each scored category. Director Burns informed the SCSB that this scoring rubric would not be the only tool used to score new charter school applications and charter school amendments, but would be in addition to their own personal feelings and input.

Motion was made by Member Julie Adamic and seconded by Member Tim Beagley to accept the proposed rubric for existing school amendments and new school applications. The motion was carried unanimously.

#### Revolving loan issues

Discussion regarding the revolving loan included: changes to the loan application, funding amount available for FY11, repayment options, allowable number of loans or new applicant preference, setting application fees, distributing money on a monthly basis versus an up-front lump sum. No action was taken regarding the Charter School Revolving Loan.

#### State Board of Education summary forms

Director Marlies Burns presented to the SCSB the revised summary report which included item #9, detailing a summary of the school. This summary report is given to the USBE regarding any recommended for approval actions the SCSB has taken.

Motion was made by Member John Pingree and seconded by Member Tim Beagley to approve the changes to the summary form. The motion was carried unanimously.

#### East Hollywood High School Waiver request

Chair Brian Allen informed the SCSB that East Hollywood High School is requesting a waiver from State Board Rule R277-419. The requested waiver included a four-day school week, comprising 144 school days and no less than 990 hours. Steve Winitzky representing East Hollywood High School informed the SCSB the school serves an at risk population that draws students around the valley. Mr. Winitzky stated there is a lot of parent transport, UTA public transport, and it is their feeling they will get better attendance with four longer school days and also will make an improvement in their education program.

Motion was made by Member Tim Beagley and seconded by Member John Pingree to recommend to the USBE East Hollywood High School be allowed the amendment request for a four-day week wavier for one year, on a trial basis, for the 2009-2010 school year, with the following criteria to be measured and reported back to the SCSB: disaggregated test scores, disaggregated attendance data, budget and finance, grades students received in class, enrollment, graduation rate, project participation, and staff and student survey. The motion was carried unanimously.

#### Executive Session

Motion was made by Member John Pingree and seconded by Member Tom Morgan to move into an executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel, property or possible litigation. The Board was polled and by unanimous consent of Brian Allen, Julie Adamic, Tom Morgan, John Pingree and Tim Beagley, the Board moved into an executive session. Members Yolanda Francisco-Nez and Scott Smith were absent for the vote.

Motion was made by Member Tim Beagley and seconded by Member Tom Morgan to reconvene into open meeting. Motion carried with Members John Pingree, Julie Adamic, Tom Morgan, Tim Beagley and Brian Allen voting in favor; Members Yolanda Francisco-Nez and Scott Smith absent. The board reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

Motion was made by Member Tim Beagley and seconded by Member John Pingree to allow Mountainville Academy to answer questions raised during its fiscal year 2008 audit, rather than completing an additional audit. The motion was carried unanimously.

#### Adjourn

Motion was made to adjourn at 1:15 p.m.