

Utah State Charter School Board Meeting
Minutes
December 13, 2012
North & South Board Rooms
Utah State Office of Education

APPROVED

Members present: Tim Beagley, Laura Belnap, Dean Brockbank, Kristin Elinkowski, Howard Headlee, John Pingree, Robert Enger-via conference phone

Staff present: Marlies Burns, Paul Crawford, Jo Schmitt

Others present: Deputy Superintendent Brenda Hales, Joel Wright, Shelley Nordick, Sol Garcia, Chris Bleak, Roxanna Orellana, Sonia Woodbury, Mike Westover, Carolyn Bayly, Mark Ursic

Call to Order

Chair Tim Beagley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Public Comment

Sonja Woodbury, Director City Academy, expressed her concerns regarding unused student enrollment numbers. Ms. Woodbury suggested taking the students back on a case by case situation.

Joel Wright, representing Kirton McConkie law firm, expressed his concerns regarding the Credit Enhancement Program.

Consent Calendar

Motion was made by Vice Chair Dean Brockbank and seconded by Member Laura Belnap to approve the December 13, 2012 Consent Calendar. The motion was carried unanimously.

Recommendations on legislation and rules

U.C.A. 53A-1a-502.5 *Approval of increase in charter school enrollment capacity*

Members of the board expressed their concerns and proposed language changes to the charter school enrollment capacity.

Motion was made by Member Howard Headlee and seconded by Member John Pingree to recommend for approval to the USBE the proposed changes and to amend paragraph '1c' to "reflect material deficiency on an ongoing basis" and to eliminate "80% and two consecutive years". The motion was carried unanimously.

U.C.A. 53A-1a-508 *Content of a charter-Modification of charter*

After much discussion, Chair Tim Beagley suggested holding any motions to this code for the January 2013 Board Meeting.

R277-470 *Charter Schools – General Provisions*

Following the discussion of changes to letter 'C' in Section 9, motion was made by Member Kristin Elinkowski to table any decision at this time.

Substitute motion was made by Member Howard Headlee to direct staff to draft a rule that requires any school offering incentives using state funds, to submit plans to the Charter School staff for review and approval of incentives by the SCSB. Member Kristin Elinkowski withdrew her motion and seconded Member Howard Headlee's substitute motion. Vice Chair Dean Brockbank, Members Howard Headlee and Kristin Elinkowski voted in favor of the motion. Because of no majority vote, the motion did not pass.

Motion was made by Member Robb Enger and seconded by Member Laura Belnap to approve R277-470-9c verbiage as written. Members Robb Enger, Laura Belnap and John Pingree voted in favor of the motion; Members Kristin Elinkowski, Howard Headlee and Dean Brockbank voted in opposition of the motion. Because of a tie vote, Chair Beagley cast his vote, in opposition. Because of a four/three vote in opposition to the motion, the motion failed.

Chair Tim Beagley directed staff to make proposed changes that better reflect the SCSB's concerns as a result of the discussion and bring those changes back to the January 2013 board meeting for action.

R277-481 Charter School Oversight, Monitoring and Appeals

Director Marlies Burns informed the SCSB that Northwest Accreditation Commission has changed to AdvancedED Accreditation Process which is the accrediting association which Utah is a member. The name change has been made in the rule as a technical correction. After discussion regarding schools being accredited, it was determined to hold any motions until the Performance Framework discussion.

R277-482 Charter School Timelines and Approval Process

Motion was made by Vice Chair Dean Brockbank and seconded by Member John Pingree to recommend for approval to the USBE the proposed changes. The motion was carried unanimously.

Utah Comprehensive Assessment System (UCAS)

Director Marlies Burns instructed the SCSB how to access and use the data included in the Utah Comprehensive Assessment System on the USOE's website.

Concerns were expressed with the results presented and questions concerning the way calculations were made.

Deputy Superintendent Brenda Hales addressed concerns with an explanation of how the assessments and data were obtained.

Monitoring charter schools using a performance framework

Director Marlies Burns distributed a schedule which will be used for monitoring visits to Utah's charter schools over the next five years, using a performance framework. Chair Tim Beagley reminded the SCSB that the performance framework has three purposes: 1) act as guide for best practices; 2) an early warning system to flag any struggle the school may have; 3) SCSB is required by statute to monitor charter schools and hold them accountable.

Amendment Request – Renaissance Academy

Representatives of Renaissance Academy informed the SCSB of its amendment request to make changes to multiple sections of charter to simplify, clarify, and provide curricular flexibility.

Motion was made by Member Howard Headlee and seconded by Member John Pingree to recommend for approval to the USBE the amendment request to make changes to multiple sections of charter to simplify, clarify and provide curricular flexibility.

Update-Utah State Charter School Board evaluation

Chair Tim Beagley reminded the SCSB that in their bylaws it states they will self-evaluate annually their performance and determine ways to improve. Chair Beagley suggested doing the evaluation after the next round of approval of new charter schools, so that approval process can be used in the evaluation. He also suggested the SCSB devise a model that can be used for the self-evaluation process.

Update-Utah State Board of Education December meeting summary

Member Laura Belnap updated the USBE the of the USBE's December meeting events: Deputy Superintendent Hales was introduced, replacing Dr. Menlove; UCAS reports and data; Concerns with the Common Core; Board of Education's calendar for 2013, making it necessary for the SCSB to change meeting dates; Canyons School District changing grade alignment, which will affect some of the charter schools; Graduation requirements are being updated; New USBE members will be sworn in in January 2013; Ray Timothy from UEN presented their website; State Board Leadership changed, Debra Roberts will remain Chair and Dave Crandall will be new Vice Chair; School Children's Trust presentation informing how the funds are used; Legislative update handout.

Adjourn

Motion was made to adjourn at 1:00 p.m. by Member John Pingree.