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

APPROVED

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

Staff present: Marlies Burns, Paul Crawford, Jo Schmitt

Others present: Deputy Superintendent Martell Menlove, David Crandall, Freddie Cooper, Kim Dohrer, Sean Thomas, Natalie Grange, Nancy Lindeman, Barbara Alldredge

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

Charter School Teacher of the Year
Charter School Teacher of the Year, Brittani Powell, 6th grade teacher at Salt Lake Center for Science Education was introduced by the school's director, Larry Madden.

Consent Calendar
Motion was made by Member Robert Enger and seconded by Member Kristin Elinkowski to approve the September 13, 2012 General Consent Calendar. The motion was carried unanimously.

Review of State Board of Education's September 2012 meeting
Member Laura Belnap (via phone conference) informed the SCSB of proceedings from the September USBE meeting.

State Charter School Board bylaws
Chair Tim Beagley reminded the SCSB members that every year the Charter School Board bylaws are reviewed and updated as needed. Chair Beagley asked for suggestions of any items the board members feel need to be reviewed or changed and to include those items on a future board meeting agenda.

Trust Land Advisory Committee Appointment
Dr. Martell Menlove informed the SCSB he has recommended to the Trust Land Advisory Committee they expand their membership to include a representative of charter schools. Dr. Menlove stated the Advisory Committee has accepted the recommendation and would like the SCSB appoint an individual to sit on that committee and attend their meetings. Chair Beagley requested nominations from the SCSB and/or charter school community be given to Director Burns to be placed on next month's agenda for a vote to serve as an advisor to the Trust Land Committee.

Amendment Request – Maria Montessori Academy
Representatives of Maria Montessori Academy informed the SCSB of its request to increase enrollment by 185 students in 2013-2014 and add grade 9 and 75 students in 2014-2015, with a total of 750 students.

Chair Beagley inquired about the need of a new facility. He was informed the school plans on a portable unit to address that need, but will acquire additional property in the future.

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

Amendment Request – Oquirrh Mountain Charter School

Representatives of Oquirrh Mountain Charter School informed the SCSB of its request to change the name of the school to Jefferson Academy.

Members Robert Enger and Dean Brockbank expressed concerns regarding the school's budget. Gavin Hutchinson of Academica West addressed their concerns.

Motion was made by Vice Chair Dean Brockbank and seconded by Member Robert Enger to recommend for approval to the USBE the amendment request to change the name of the school. The motion was carried with affirmative votes from Chair Tim Beagley, Vice Chair Dean Brockbank, Members Kristin Elinkowski, Robert Enger, and John Pingree. Member Laura Belnap voted in opposition.

Amendment Request – American Preparatory Academy-SLC #4

Representatives of American Preparatory Academy-SLC #4 informed the SCSB of its request to increase enrollment by 405 students in 2013-2014 with a total of 975 students.

Motion was made by Vice Chair Dean Brockbank and seconded by Member Kristin Elinkowski to recommend for approval to the USBE the amendment request to also include a waiver from Board Rule R277-487-7. The motion was carried with affirmative votes from Chair Tim Beagley, Vice Chair Dean Brockbank, Members Kristin Elinkowski, Robert Enger, and John Pingree. Member Laura Belnap voted in opposition.

Amendment Request – American Preparatory Academy-TAS

Representatives of American Preparatory Academy-TAS informed the SCSB of its request to accelerate enrollment by 60 students in 2012-2013.

After much discussion, American Preparatory Academy-TAS withdrew their request.

Charter School monitoring discussion

Sean Thomas, from USOE's School Finance Section, distributed and presented to the SCSB a charter school annual financial monitoring document. The focus of the discussion related to Rent and Debt Service and the Occupancy calculation. Also the "adherence to statutory budget" and the "adherence to operating budget" were discussed.

Charter school accountability discussion

Director Burns distributed a handout outlining indicator measurements and performance framework for charter schools. Those indicator measurements are Board Performance & Stewardship, Student Attendance & Enrollment, Student Achievement Level, Financial Performance & Sustainability and Staff Evaluation.

Director Burns distributed a handout reflecting the Special Education Prevalence Rates from a Special Education Services in Charter Schools report she had given to the USBE. One of the recommended changes discussed was a change to the timeline for expansions that do not require a new facility to move the April 1 deadline to September 1. Also, changes to statutory language that creates the SCSB and defines the roll of board roll and what it is to accomplish and budgetary recommendations to the USBE.

Recommendations on legislation and rules

The SCSB members discussed possible recommendations they would like to make to the Legislature and State Board of Education that will assist charter schools in carrying out their obligations.

Executive Session

Motion was made by Member Robert Enger to move into an executive session for the purpose of discussing the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual; The Board was polled and by unanimous consent of those present the Board moved into an executive session at 12:15 p.m.

Motion was made by Member Robert Enger to reconvene into open meeting at 12:35 p.m. The motion was carried unanimously.

Adjourn

Motion was made to adjourn at 12:45 p.m. by Vice Chair Dean Brockbank, seconded by Member Robert Enger.