

Forest Charter School

Monthly Charter Council Meeting Minutes—November 13, 2012

Tuesday, November 13, 2012
5:30 p.m.
470 Searls Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959

Council Members:

Dan Thiem, Chair
Matt Heaps, Parent Representative
Cheri Rey, Parent Representative
Tracy Steele, Parent Representative
Dawn Koerber, Parent Representative
Ruthanne Buckley, Community Representative
Zach Barram, Student Representative
Linda Katz, ES Representative
Steve Ross, ES Representative
Nancy Nobles, Secretary

Minutes

Present: Dan Thiem, Cheri Rey, Dawn Koeber, Tracy Steele, Ruthanne Buckley, Steve Ross, Peter Sagebiel, Debbie Carter, Paul Simoes, BJ Hatcher and Nancy Nobles.
Student visitors: Emma Wilson, Tara Karnow, Elijah Calderon, Tim Cornell and Sam Morrill

Absent: Matt Heaps, Linda Katz and Zach Barram

1. Call to Order: 5:36

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Action: Approval of Minutes of October 23, 2012

Dawn Koerber made the motion to accept the Minutes. Steve Ross seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

4. Action: Adoption of the Agenda

Ruthanne Buckley made the motion to adopt the Agenda. Dawn Koerber seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

5. Discussion: Other

Nothing to report.

6. Information: Update on Initiatives—Debbie Carter

Debbie reported to the Council that Proposition 30 was passed by voters. While this means no “new money” to schools it does mean that the mid-year trigger cuts will not go in to effect. Debbie added that sales taxes will be put in to a special State general fund to be dispersed to schools in June of 2013.

7. Information: 2012-13 1st Interim Budget —Debbie Carter

Debbie presented to the Council the 1st Interim Budget and Narrative, 3 Year Projections, Budget Summary and Cash Flow. The Council was sent the budget information electronically for review. Debbie explained the narrative to the Council and the budget breakdown. She added that she will continue to update the Council on Cash Flow at each meeting. Peter added his compliments to Debbie and the school overall for helping to keep FCS solvent.

Debbie answered the Councils’ questions before asking for approval of the Budget and 3 Year Projection.

Steve Ross made a motion to approve the 1st Interim Budget and the 3 Year Projection. Dawn Koerber seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

8. Information/Action: SB 740—Debbie Carter

- Debbie reported to the Council that the SB 740 application had not been posted on the CDE website but is expected any day. The goal continues to be that FCS will be on the State agenda in January.
- Debbie asked the Council to approve the submission of the application when it is ready.

Ruthanne Buckley made the motion to submit the SB 740 application. Steve Ross seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

9. Information/Action: Single Plan for Student Achievement—BJ Hatcher

BJ went over the Single Plan and explained it contains basic information on students and is done once a year. He explained the school goals were recommended by WASC and added that this serves as a reminder to administrators on the goals and where FCS is headed.

10. Information: ADA Upgrades—Peter Sagebiel

Peter presented a summary of the ADA upgrades that were made to the Searls Avenue site. During construction, Siteline Architecture recommended which upgrades were needed (bathrooms, sidewalk cracks, walk way bump pads.) Peter explained that a certain percentage of the construction budget is required to be spent towards ADA upgrades.

11. Information: Student Achievement – BJ Hatcher

- BJ explained the STAR results and how the AMO impacted the FCS overall score. He added that overall the percent proficient has gone up which is key. FCS will continue to help the students to understand the importance of STAR testing.
- BJ reported that the recent CAHSEE testing went very well. Of the twelve seniors that needed to test in one or both subjects all attended the testing. He added that of the 22 juniors only 2 or 3 missed the testing.

12. Information: Action Plan Update—BJ Hatcher

BJ presented a list of features the school would like included in a data analysis program. He explained that a longitudinal data analysis program is being put in place that will include comparisons of books, testing tools, classes, etc. Pathways will help to gather the data for comparison. BJ will bring more information on the program to the next Council meeting.

13. Information: Special Education—Peter Sagebiel

Peter gave an overview of the FCS special education program. The PowerPoint presentation included: an explanation of what special education is, how it is staffed, who qualifies, how it is funded and special education “pitfalls”.

14. Information/Action: Consent Agenda – Debbie Carter

Debbie asked the Council to approve the Consent Agenda.

Steve Ross made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda with change. Dawn Koerber seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

15. Information: Director’s Update – Peter Sagebiel

- **2012-13 Enrollment:** Enrollment for the school year is strong; approximately 685 students with enrollment interviews continuing after a lottery; interviews are starting for next semester.
- **Play Structure/Fundraiser:** \$2300 has been raised towards the \$5000 goal; a letter is being distributed to local businesses.
- **Fall Harvest Party:** The K-8 block class party was a great success with games, crafts and activities.
- **Searls Operations Update:** Everyone is starting to settle in; lots of change but going well.
- **VPSS:** The first tier is done; after the second tier consideration will be put towards the value of the program.
- **New Newsletter Format:** Feedback has been positive to the new format that includes tips from ESs and rotating articles from the co-ops.
- **Other:** The first dance held at the new Searls site was a Halloween theme and went very well; families helped with decorations and were well done.
FCS recently participated in the County Spelling Bee and 6th grade Truckee student, Rhiannon Moore took first place; FCS placed 2nd overall in the competition.

16. Discussion: Future Agenda Items

- Foundation Report (as needed)
- SB 740 (January)
- Common Core Standards (January)
- Data Analysis—BJ
- Growth Plan (March)
- Possible MAY meeting in Foresthill with an early meeting time (January)

17. Information: Reminder of Future Meetings

There will be no December meeting.

- 2012: November 13
- 2013: January 22; February 12; March 19; April 16; May14; June 11

18. Action: Adjourn at 7:18 p.m.

Dawn Koerber made the motion to adjourn. Steve Ross seconded.

Ayes: All

Nayes: None

Abstain: None

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Nobles, Secretary

Date

Charter Council Approved:

Dan Thiem, Chair

Date

Cheri Rey, Vice Chair

Date