

Forest Charter School

Monthly Charter Council Meeting Minutes—November 15, 2011

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

5:30 p.m. Regular Session

5:40 p.m. Closed Session

224 Church Street

Nevada City, CA 95959

Council Members:

Pam Barram, Chair

Linda Katz, ES Representative

Steve Ross, ES Representative

Dakota Crider, Student Representative

Matt Heaps, Parent Representative

Cheri Ray, Parent Representative

Dan Thiem, Parent Representative

Nancy Nobles, Secretary

Minutes

Present: Pam Barram, Linda Katz, Peter Sagebiel, Debbie Carter, Paul Simoes, BJ Hatcher, Cheri Ray, Dakota Crider, Dan Thiem, Steve Ross and Nancy Nobles.

Absent: Matt Heaps

1. Call to Order: 5:31

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Closed Session: 5:35

Teleconference with legal counsel—anticipated litigation.

4. Information/Action: 6:15 Reconvene to Regular Session

No action taken.

5. Action: Approval of Minutes of October 11, 2011

Dan Thiem made the motion to accept the Minutes from the November meeting. Steve Ross seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

6. Action: Adoption of the Agenda

Dan Thiem made the motion to adopt the Agenda. Dakota Crider seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

7. Discussion: Other

Nothing to report.

8. Information: Update on Facilities

FCS Realtor, Scott Hicks spoke with the Council about the options available in the GV/NC area for a new building(s) for the school. He asked the Council for input such as what area they would be interested in (locations); what they would like a facility to look like; and configurations (consolidating multiple buildings or one large building.) Council members expressed that they would like to stay closer to town and that they are open to either one large site or two different sites.

Peter added that FCS continues to look at all options available.

9. Information: Annual County Oversight Report—Peter Sagebiel

Peter reviewed the report and informed the Council that FCS received “very good reviews.” The report stated that FCS is “well run and fiscally sound.” Peter added that the school will continue to work on areas that need support.

10. Information: 2011-12 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, identifying the budget challenges schools are currently facing and how FCS is meeting these challenges. She added that more budget information will be coming from the State in December and that she will continue to update the Council on Cash Flow at each meeting.

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

Linda Smith made a motion to approve the 1st Interim Budget and the 3 Year Projection. Cheri Ray seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

11. Information/Action: Suspension/Expulsion Policy—Peter Sagebiel

Peter reported to the Council on the amendment added to the Suspension/Expulsion Policy. He asked the Council for approval.

Dan Thiem made a motion to approve the ammendment to the Suspension/Expulsion Policy. Steve Ross seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

12. Information: Policy Binder—Debbie Carter

Debbie presented the policy binder to the Council. The Council will be notified when the policies are posted on the website. A hard copy of the policies will be available at the FCS office.

13. Discussion: NCSoS Charter Renewal Update—Peter Sagebiel

Peter gave a brief overview of what is included in the Charter Renewal document. He will e-mail the renewal document to Council members for review. Peter reminded the Council that the last version of the governing document was 15 pages and that the new one is a very comprehensive 60 pages.

14. Information: Student Achievement – BJ Hatcher

- BJ presented information on the recent CAHSEE testing. He reported that there were a high number of absences, probably due to the testing being held the day after Halloween. He added that the students who did test seemed to do well. The test results will be sent in January.
- BJ has started gathering information from the ESs to help plan which STAR tests need to be ordered. He reported that FCS is looking at changing the testing process, possibly dividing the grade levels into AM/PM sections.

15. Information: WASC Accrediting Update—Paul Simoes

Paul gave a PowerPoint presentation for the new Council. The presentation explained the four areas of the report: Community and Student Profile, Analysis, Progress Report, Criteria Reports and the Action Plan. Paul explained the the first three portions are almost completed and that the last two have gone through the first draft stage.

Peter reported that WASC has recommended that the Action Plan ‘dovetails’ with the Strategic Plan. An overview of the Action Plan was included in the PowerPoint presentation. The Action Plan includes: Academic Intervention, Facility, Curriculum and Professional Development.

Paul added that the target date to send the draft report is in mid-December and that the ESs are promoting awareness of the ESLRs in the classrooms and with their students’ families.

16. Information/Action: Consent Agenda – Debbie Carter

Debbie asked the Council to approve the Consent Agenda.

Cheri Ray made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Steve Ross seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

17. Discussion: FCS Education Foundation Report – Peter Sagebiel

Peter reported that the Foundation annual fund drive letter has been sent out and that approximately \$2500 had been donated. It was noted that more people are participating in this year's drive than did last year.

18. Information: Director's Update – Peter Sagebiel

- **2010-11 Enrollments:** Enrollment is at 678; enrollment is closed as of November 15 except for special circumstances.
- **New Office Staff Employee:** Peter will report next month.
- **Office Door Locks:** All locks have been installed as part of the FCS disaster plan.
- **Harvest Festival:** Festivals were held at the Truckee Learning Center, K-8 Block Classes and the Foresthill Co-op.
- **A+ Conference:** Peter and Debbie attended; the conference is a good networking and contact opportunity.
- **Other:** for the second year in a row, the **Law Day Essay Contest** was won by FCS student Kalle Wagner. Linda Smith reported that FCS had 7 of the 39 total entries.

19. Discussion: Future Agenda Items

- Director's Evaluation Form Revision
- Resolution for lead petitioner
- Disaster Plan
- New office staff employee

20. Information: Reminder of Future Meeting

- Special meeting set for Renewal and 1st Interim on November 29 at 5:30.
- 2011: December TBA (if needed)
- 2012: January 17; February 7 (date changed); March 20; April 17; May 15; June 12 (if needed)

21. Action: Adjourn at 7:34 p.m.

Linda Smith made the motion to adjourn. Dakota Crider seconded.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Nobles, Secretary

Date

Charter Council Approved:

Pam Barram, Chair

Date

Vice Chair

Date