

Forest Charter School

Monthly Charter Council Meeting Minutes—February 12, 2013

Tuesday, February 12, 2012

5:30 p.m. Closed Session

5:45 p.m. Regular Session

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, Zach Barram, Linda Katz, Steve Ross, Peter Sagebiel, Debbie Carter, Paul Simoes, BJ Hatcher and Nancy Nobles.

Absent: Ruthanne Buckley, Dawn Koerber, Tracy Steele and Matt Heaps.

1. Call to Order: 5:43

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Closed Session

4. Action: Closed Session

No action taken.

5. Action: Approval of Minutes of February 12, 2013.

Zach Barram made the motion to accept the Minutes. Steve Ross seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

6. Action: Adoption of the Agenda

Steve Ross made the motion to adopt the Agenda with changes. Items 8, 11 and 16 will be tabled until the March meeting. Cheri Rey seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

7. Discussion: Other

Nothing to report.

8. Information/Action: Classroom Portable Approval—Peter Sagebiel

This item was tabled until the March meeting.

9. Information/Action: 2012-13 2nd Interim Budget —Debbie Carter

Debbie presented to the Council the 2nd 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 money coming in to schools because of Proposition 30 is not “new money” but money that had been withheld by the State. The NCSos has advised that schools move “forward cautiously” in regards to future budgets.

Debbie answered the Councils’ questions before asking for approval of the 2nd Interim Budget and 3 Year Projection.

Steve Ross made a motion to approve the 2nd Interim Budget and the 3 Year Projection. Zach Barram seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

10. Information: SB 740—Debbie Carter

Debbie reported to the Council that the SB 740 application had been posted on the CDE website and that she will be submitting it by this Friday.

11. Information/Action: Revision to 2012-13 ES Salary Schedule—Debbie Carter

This item was tabled until the March meeting.

12. Information/Action: School Accountability Report Card (SARC)—Peter Sagebiel, BJ Hatcher

BJ and Peter presented the SARC for the 2011-12 school year for approval. They gave a PowerPoint presentation and explained that the SARC is required by the State for all schools and is to be posted on school websites. It includes hard, factual data (numbers) and is set up more for site based schools than home study programs, thereby making some sections difficult for a personalized learning school to fill out. SARC is made available for prospective parents to compare school performances. BJ reminded the Council that the SARC uses information from the previous year and is based on CBEDS.

Zach Barram made a motion to approve the School Accountability Report Card. Cheri Rey seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

13. Information: Student Achievement – BJ Hatcher

BJ explained the CAHSEE process and reported on the recent testing for 12th graders. He said that all of the 12th graders tested except for one that recently left the school. Results will be posted in two months and he hopes that all of the students will have passed. BJ added that there has been good attendance at the intervention classes.

14. Information: Action Plan Update—Peter Sagebiel

Peter updated the Council on the Professional Development, Goal #3. A staff committee was formed in February that is looking at ES job descriptions. Peter added that the math tier 2 VPSS group started last week and he will report to the Council on the program after the session is done.

15. Information/Action: Emergency Plan—Peter Sagebiel, Debbie Carter

Peter and Debbie presented to the Council the draft of the updated FCS Emergency Plan for approval. They explained that they had met with both police and fire departments in Nevada City, Truckee and Foresthill for advice on the plan. The only recommended change was the focus on 911. The plan will be sent electronically to the Council when complete with changes.

Linda Katz made the motion to approve the Emergency Plan as amended. Steve Ross seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

16. Information/Action: Block Class Restructure Proposal—Peter Sagebiel, Debbie Carter

This item was tabled until the March meeting.

17. Information/Action: FCS Project Priorities—Peter Sagebiel

Peter asked the Council for direction on the Project Priorities. Steve said that he did a quick e-poll of the ESs as to their preferences in regards to ES/student ratios, salaries and raises to benefit caps. The poll reflected that salary security was a high priority and more important than lowering student/ES ratios.

Dan said that he would like more information and input from employees regarding salary, benefits and teacher ratios. He suggested that the next step be that the employees be polled on the options and asked if Debbie could prepare different options to compare. Linda agreed that another poll be sent to all employees with different “scenarios.” Debbie added that all employees, including classified, be included in the poll. She said that when she receives the ‘intent to return’ from the employees she will have more information available and will report to the Council.

18. Information: Parental Visitations Draft Policy—Peter Sagebiel

Peter asked the Council for input on the policy regarding parental visitations. The draft policy was taken to the Faculty Council and they proposed that parents check in at the office for all visits and receive name tags. Linda felt that would be an “office nightmare” due to the number of visits by parents and that it would be hard to enforce. She suggested that FCS employees be aware of visitors on campus, directing them if needed and asking them to leave if they aren’t parents or classroom visitors. Dan suggested that a sign in sheet be kept in each of the pods for parent visitors. Cheri added that we need to look at perceived protection vs. actual protection and not put in place procedures that won’t solve safety issues.

Peter will take the suggestions under consideration and bring a revised proposal to the next council meeting.

19. Information: Annual County Oversight Report—Peter Sagebiel

Peter presented to the Council the Annual County Oversight Report. He reviewed the report and informed the Council that FCS received a ‘4’ overall (on a scale of 1-4.) The report was especially complimentary on Debbie’s budget work. Peter added that the school will continue to work on areas that need support including the health/safety drills and ES evaluations.

20. Information: Director’s Evaluation—Dan Thiem

Dan presented information on the Director’s Evaluation process and timeline to the Council. He explained that he will not be present for the April meeting and that he will address any questions that the Council has at the March meeting. Cheri Rey will chair the April meeting. Dan added that he would appreciate Peter’s self-evaluation before the April meeting.

21. Information/Action: Consent Agenda – Debbie Carter

Debbie asked the Council to approve the Consent Agenda.

Zach Barram made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda with change. Cheri Rey seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

22. Information: Director’s Update – Peter Sagebiel

- **2012-13 Enrollment:** Approximately 700 students; solid since October.
- **March Dance:** March 8th; Bitney College Prep is co-hosting; BJ will be the dj.
- **Tournaments:** Linda reported that FCS has placed in every tournament; the last speech tournament is coming up soon.
- **Common Core:** In preparation for the new Common Core Standards FCS has been sending a variety of staff members to various trainings focused on the new standards.
- **VPSS:** The first tier is done; after the second tier consideration will be put towards the value of the program; Peter will report back to the Council on the results.
- **A-Plus:** Peter attended the regional conference last week; he enjoyed pooling approaches and idea with other educators.
- **Other:**

23. Discussion: Future Agenda Items

- Foundation Report (as needed)
- Possible MAY meeting in Foresthill with an early meeting time
- Security Guards
- Change to Master Agreements (re: switching ESs when necessary)
- Strategic Plan (possible classified staff input)
- Salaries
- Benefits
- Action Plan
- Growth Plan (March)

24. Information: Reminder of Future Meetings

2013: March 19 (Strategic Planning Meeting and Regular Meeting); April 16; May14; June 11

25. Action: Adjourn at 7:35 p.m.

Linda Katz 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