

Forest Charter School

Monthly Charter Council Meeting Minutes—April 22, 2014

5:30 p.m. Regular Session
470 Searls Avenue
Nevada City, CA 95959

Council Members:

Dan Thiem, Chair
Debbie Marchi, Parent Representative
Nicole McCulloch, Parent Representative
Leslie Whitcomb, Parent Representative
Ruthanne Buckley, Community Rep., Vice Chair
Sarah Rongey, Student Representative
Linda Katz, ST Representative
Gina Holbrook, ST Representative
Nancy Nobles, Secretary

Minutes

Present: Dan Thiem, Ruthanne Buckley, Nicole McCulloch, Gina Holbrook, Leslie Whitcomb, Peter Sagebiel, Debbie Carter, Paul Simoes, BJ Hatcher and guest Kaleen Ojeda-Chatigny

Absent: Linda Katz, Sarah Rongey, Nancy Nobles and Debbie Marchi

- 1. Call to Order: 5:40**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Action: Approval of Minutes of March 18, 2014.**

Nicole McCulloch made the motion to accept the Minutes. Ruthanne Buckley seconded.

Ayes: Dan Thiem, Ruthanne Buckley, Nicole McCulloch, Gina Holbrook and Leslie Whitcomb.

Nays: None

Abstain: None

- 4. Action: Adoption of the Agenda**

Gina Holbrook made the motion to adopt the agenda with the following amendments: ???
Nicole McCulloch seconded.

Ayes: Dan Thiem, Ruthanne Buckley, Nicole McCulloch, Gina Holbrook and Leslie Whitcomb.

Nays: None

Abstain: None

5. Discussion: Other

Dan discussed the parking on the left side of the school (first driveway.) Parents have been parking along the wall which makes access difficult and hazardous. Dan added that the lane needs to be kept clear for Fire Truck Access. He recommended either painting the wall or signs that state “NO PARKING.”

Debbie asked the council for a ‘head count’ on attendance for the May meeting. Dan, Ruthanne, Leslie and Gina will be available. Nicole and Linda will not be able to attend. A quorum of five voting members is required to approve the adopted budget and LCAP.

6. Public Hearing: LCAP (Local Control & Accountability Plan)—Dan Thiem

A public hearing was held to give an opportunity for the public to provide feedback on Forest Charter School’s draft LCAP. There was no input.

7. Discussion: LCAP (Local Control & Accountability Plan)—Peter Sagebiel, Debbie Carter

Peter explained the LCAP process, how the school obtained stakeholder input and how we developed goals based on the school’s action plan and stakeholder input. The recent LCAP survey that was sent to FCS staff and families was successful, with 25% participation from families and 75% from staff.

The proposed LCAP implements are an intervention specialist in ELA/Math and the use of additional funds to support tutoring, etc. for our SED population. Various metrics will be used to identify where the needs are, and how we are meeting our goals.

Debbie explained how additional funds for low income students will be tracked and FCS’s accountability to the State, County and Council.

8. Discussion: Committee for Director’s Evaluation Report—Dan Thiem

Dan reported that the committee will assemble the evaluation over the next two weeks and will present a narrative to the Council in closed session during the May meeting. The committee will give the completed evaluation to Peter. Dan added that the evaluation is a tool to ‘create a constructive relationship with our Executive Director.’

9. Information: Budget—Debbie Carter

Debbie reviewed the current year cash flow that was sent electronically to the Council.

10. Information/Action: Employee Handbook Update—Debbie Carter

Debbie presented the updates to the FCS Employee Handbook. The changes were regarding the Supervising Teacher employment agreement options (“Annual” and “Per Student”) for the 2014/15 school year.

Ruthanne Buckley made the motion to adopt the Employee Handbook with updates. Nicole McCulloch seconded.

Ayes: Dan Thiem, Ruthanne Buckley, Nicole McCulloch, Gina Holbrook and Leslie Whitcomb.

Nays: None

Abstain: None

11. Information: Student Achievement – BJ Hatcher

BJ reported on the CAASPP (California Assessment of Student Performance and Progress.) He reminded the Council that CAASPP is the testing that will be replacing the STAR testing and that this year we are ‘testing the test.’ Testing has gone really well overall, with most students finishing within two hours. The testing will continue through the next week. BJ added that the younger students have had challenges with typing.

BJ presented information on the CAHSEE testing. We started the year with 14 seniors needing to pass and are down to only two. The next test is May 13th and 14th.

12. Discussion: New High School Graduation Requirement—Paul Simoes

Paul explained the new high school graduation requirement, Contemporary Skills. The course will replace the outdated Internet Safety course. The 2.5 unit course will include a variety of content including: financial skills, budget, life choices and internet safety. A suggestion was made to include conflict resolution skills. Paul will present the requirement for approval at the May meeting.

13. Information: Energy Plan—Debbie Carter

Debbie updated the Council on the recommendations for the Energy plan, stating that we have received our first year of funds but continue to wait for our energy plan recommendations from U.C. Davis.

14. Information: Foundation Report—Peter Sagebiel

Tabled.

15. Information/Action: A & B may be considered for Consent Agenda –Debbie Carter

Debbie presented the consent agenda for approval.

Leslie Whitcomb made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Ruthanne Buckley seconded.

Ayes: Dan Thiem, Ruthanne Buckley, Nicole McCulloch, Gina Holbrook and Leslie Whitcomb.

Nays: None

Abstain: None

16. Information: Director’s Update –Peter Sagebiel

- **Common Core Trainings:** There was an ST training at the March staff meeting; the next focus will be curriculum; some parents have voiced concerns about the change—more parent trainings will be scheduled for the 2014/15 school year.
- **New Lab Computers:** Installed at all of the learning centers.
- **Oversight Visit:** Went very well.
- **Credential Audit:** Very positive feedback; no concerns; the next audit is in four years.

- **Teacher Who Makes A Difference:** Sarah Quine, Truckee ST is this year's honored teacher.
- **2014-15 School Calendar:** The NJUHSD calendar was approved so no changes required to the FCS calendar.
- **New Family Information Nights:** The next information night is on April 30th; there has been a lot of interest in this second information night.
- **PACE Talent Show:** The PACE Co-op grades K-8 presented a talent show featuring piano and singing; there will be a high school talent show on May 9th.
- **Prom & Graduation:** Prom tickets are on sale; the dance is May 19th on the Tahoe Gal. The graduation ceremony is on June 6th at 5:00 and will be held at the G.V. Veteran's Hall; Council members are invited.
- **Other:**

17. Discussion: Future Agenda Items

- Foundation Report (as needed)
- Action Plan Update (as needed)
- LCAP (approval May)
- Director's Evaluation (closed session)
- New High School Graduation Requirement
- Adopted Budget 2014-15
- Salary Schedule 2014-15
- CAHSEE waiver
- New Employee Agreement Template

18. Information: Reminder of Future Meetings

2014: *May 27; June 10

*dates set to coincide with budget deadlines

19. Action: Adjourn at 6:55 p.m.

Nicole McCulloch made the motion to adjourn. Gina Holbrook seconded.

Ayes: Dan Thiem, Ruthanne Buckley, Nicole McCulloch, Gina Holbrook and Leslie Whitcomb.

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Nobles, Secretary

Date

Charter Council Approved:

Dan Thiem, Chair

Date

Ruthanne Buckley, Vice Chair

Date