

# *Forest Charter School*

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## **Monthly Charter Council Meeting Minutes—June 12, 2012**

**Tuesday, June 12, 2012  
5:30 p.m. Special Session  
5:45 p.m. Regular 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, Cheri Ray, Dan Thiem (via conference call), Dakota Crider, Matt Heaps, Steve Ross, Peter Sagebiel, Debbie Carter, Paul Simoes, BJ Hatcher, Mary Whittlesey, Jen Rogers, Zach Barram, Ruthanne Buckley, Tracy Steele and Nancy Nobles.

### **Absent:**

- 1. Call to Order: 5:30**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Closed Session**
- 4. Action: Reconvene to regular session; 5:47**  
No action taken.
- 5. Action: Approval of Minutes of May 15, 2012**

Steve Ross made the motion to accept the Minutes. Matt Heaps seconded.

Ayes: All    Nays: None    Abstain: None

## **6. Action: Adoption of the Agenda**

Linda Katz made the motion to adopt the Agenda. Steve Ross seconded.

Ayes: All    Nays: None    Abstain: None

## **7. Discussion: Other**

Nothing to report

## **8. Information: Retiring Members—Peter Sagebiel**

Peter thanked retiring members Pam Barram and Dakota Crider for their service, consistency and time. He added that FCS couldn't function without the volunteer hours that we see from the parents.

## **9. Information/Action: Appointment of 2012-13 Council Members—Pam Barram**

Pam presented Ruthanne Buckley for appointment as community representative and Tracy Steele and Dawn Koeber as parent representatives. Tracy and Dawn volunteered after the election window had closed and need to be appointed by the Council rather than elected.

Dakota Crider made a motion to approve the Council appointments. Matt Heaps seconded.

Ayes: All    Nays: None    Abstain: None

## **10. Information: 2012-13 Charter Council Elections—Pam Barram**

Pam presented to the Council the new student representative, Zachary Barram for next year's Council.

## **11. Information/Action: New County District School (CDS) Code Resolution—Debbie Carter**

Debbie asked the Council to approve Resolution number 1112-081-108 regarding the new CDS code assigned to FCS.

Steve Ross made a motion to approve the Resolution. Matt Heaps seconded.

Ayes: All    Nays: None    Abstain: None

## **12. Information/Action: Lease Approval—Peter Sagebiel**

This item was tabled.

## **13. Information/Action: Tax Shelter for Classified Employees—Pam Barram, Peter Sagebiel**

Pam reported that she had received a letter questioning the dissolution of the 403B tax shelter for classified employees. Peter explained the process that led to the tax shelter being in place for classified employees and recommended to the Council that the tax shelter be reinstated. The issue will be re-visited in November when there is more information on the impact of the state budget.

Steve Ross made a motion to reinstate the 403B tax shelter. Cheri Rey seconded.

Ayes: All      Nays: None      Abstain: None

**14. Information: 2012-13 Budget Information—Debbie Carter**

Debbie reported that the State Budget will need to be passed by June 15 and that much will be known about future budget impacts after that date. She will report on the budget in the fall. Debbie reminded the Council that there are two tax initiatives coming up in the November election that could impact schools.

**15. Information: Report on Parent and Staff Surveys—Peter Sagebiel, BJ Hatcher**

BJ explained to the Council that suggestions and input from the two recent surveys will help give direction to the administrators. Peter and BJ gave an overview of the survey and will present a report for the Council on goals in the fall.

**16. Information/Action: MOU with Chicago Park School District—Peter Sagebiel**

Peter explained the MOU and the transfer of property tax money that stemmed from the renewal process and Chicago Park's denial of sponsorship for FCS. Payments will be made three times a year and will total approximately \$130,000. Peter asked the Council to approve the MOU.

Dan Thiem made a motion to approve the MOU. Matt Heaps seconded.

Ayes: All      Nays: None      Abstain: None

**17. Information: WASC Update—Paul Simoes**

Paul gave a brief explanation of WASC for the new members and then reported to the Council that FCS had received a six year renewal with a mid-term visit. He concluded with: "We're done, it went well...that's all." The Council thanked Paul for all of his work with the WASC process.

**18. Information: Retired Employee Stipend—Peter Sagebiel, Debbie Carter**

Peter reviewed the issue with the Council and reported that a retroactive stipend was not an option.

**19. Information: Student Achievement – BJ Hatcher**

BJ presented information on the recent CAHSEE testing results for 10<sup>th</sup> graders. He said that this was the final exam for the year and was happy to report that FCS made the 95% participation mark. BJ added that the 10<sup>th</sup> graders had done extremely well and that it is a strong class overall.

**20. Information: Letter from County—Peter Sagebiel**

Peter explained the Program Improvement Letter that was sent from the NCSOs office to FCS families. The superintendent's office sent the letter to all of the schools; it was not specific to FCS. There was some confusion that parents thought it meant that FCS was not improving. Peter explained that FCS does not need improvement in this area and that ESs have been answering any parent concerns about the letter.

## **21. Information/Action: Consent Agenda – Debbie Carter**

Debbie asked the Council to approve the Consent Agenda.

Matt Heaps made the motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Steve Ross seconded.

Ayes: All      Nays: None      Abstain: None

## **22. Information: Director's Update – Peter Sagebiel**

- **2012-12 Enrollments:** enrollment for the next school year is strong; approximately 600 students with enrollment interviews continuing.
- **ES Check-outs:** the yearly check-outs have started and are going well; self-evaluations and goals are included.
- **New newsletter format:** possible change in format; discussions with faculty council for input; possibly add more parent support sections; more information at the next meeting.
- **Graduation:** Friday, June 8<sup>th</sup>; the ceremony went really well; Anne Keeling was the keynote speaker; approximately 600-700 in attendance.
- **Open Houses:** open houses were held at St. Canice, 9-12 block classes, the PACE co-ops and in Foresthill; wonderful opportunity to spotlight each program.
- **Other:** brief overview of the 'TK' or two year kindergarten option; we will be offering it as part of our program.

## **23. Discussion: Future Agenda Items**

- Special Ed presentation (fall)
- Foundation Report (as needed)
- Elect Council chair
- Goals from parent survey
- Lease approval

## **24. Information: Reminder of Future Meetings**

- June 21 (special meeting)

## **25. Action: Adjourn at 6:58 p.m.**

Cheri Rey made the motion to adjourn. Steve Ross seconded.

Ayes: All      Nays: None      Abstain: None

***Respectfully submitted:***

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Nancy Nobles, Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

***Charter Council Approved:***

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pam Barram, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Vice Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date