

Forest Charter School

Monthly Charter Council Meeting Minutes—September 18, 2012

**Tuesday, September 18, 2012
5:30 p.m. Special Session
224 Church Street
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
Zach Barram, Student Representative
Linda Katz, ES Representative
Steve Ross, ES Representative
Nancy Nobles, Secretary

Minutes

Present: Dan Thiem, Cheri Ray, Ruthanne Buckley, Dawn Koeber, Zach Barram, Peter Sagebiel, Debbie Carter, Paul Simoes, BJ Hatcher and Nancy Nobles.

Absent: Matt Heaps and Tracy Steele

1. Call to Order: 5:32

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Action: Approval of Minutes of August 21, 2012

Steve Ross made the motion to accept the Minutes with correction to item #12. Zach Barram seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

4. Action: Adoption of the Agenda

Linda Katz made the motion to adopt the Agenda. Zach Barram seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

5. Discussion: Other

Nothing to report.

6. Information: Council Binders and 2011-12 Summary—Nancy Nobles

- Binders were given to Council members.
- 2011-12 Summary was tabled until the October meeting.

7. Information: Form 700—Nancy Nobles

- The Form 700 was given out to the new members. They will be returned to Nancy within a week.

8. Information: Update Searls Facility—Peter Sagebiel

Peter presented to the Council information on the move to the new FCS facility located on Searls Avenue. He explained that FCS was in “full on move mode.” ESs had worked the previous Friday to help box up the old site and a professional moving crew would be loading up on Thursday and Friday of this week.

Classes have been up and running at the new site since August. Peter reported that there were a few “growing pains” but that overall things were going very smoothly. He feels that FCS will be settled in a month, but added it will take a full year to truly get settled in. Peter added a big thank you to the staff who has pulled together to get the move done.

Debbie had an updated budget for the Council in regards to the move and construction. She reported that construction, painting, phones, carpets, etc., were all done or close to completion.

9. Information: 2012-13 Budget Information—Debbie Carter

- Debbie explained that FCS will be going in to the 1st Interim budget soon and that there was not an update at this point.
- Debbie presented a fiscal timeline and proposed changes to the Council meeting dates including October 23, November 13, February 12 and May 14. Those changes were made to the Council calendar.
- Debbie updated the Council on the two November initiatives that impact California school budgets. She gave the Council members a handout from a recent webinar that she attended that compared Propositions 30 and 38.

10. Information/Action: SB 740—Debbie Carter

This item was tabled until the October meeting.

11. Information: Budget Training—Debbie Carter

Debbie presented to the Council a global overview of the FCS budget which included: “Revenues Identified”, “Expenses Clarified” and “Cash Flow...Optimistically Untangled”. She answered questions from the Council.

Peter explained for the Council the re-structure to the instructional budgets that was implemented two years ago. Families now have three choices which include independent study, block class or co-ops.

12. Information: Student Achievement – BJ Hatcher

BJ explained that the STAR results had not been received from the Department of Education and that the only date given for the results is September, 2012. He hopes to have a STAR report for the Council by the October meeting.

13. 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. Ruthanne seconded.

Ayes: All Nays: None Abstain: None

14. Information: Director’s Update – Peter Sagebiel

- **2012-13 Enrollment:** Enrollment for the school year is strong; approximately 670 students with enrollment interviews continuing.
- **VPSS:** Verification Process for Special Settings; a program that will certify teachers for independent study schools in subjects they aren’t credentialed in; FCS has 10 or 11 ESs that have started the pilot program in math; six week class—8 hours a week. ESs are forming work support groups.
- **Back to School Open House:** Open houses were held at both the Nevada City and Truckee sites on August 22; both went very well. There was a large participation in Nevada City because people wanted to tour the new school site.
- **First Day of School/Classes:** “We hit the ground running!”; very positive; a bit of a challenge getting the younger students to classes but they are getting in to a flow.
- **New Hires in Truckee:** Two ESs were hired in Truckee to fill the spot left by the retirement of Janet Daniels. Dan Hurley and Jessica Wilson will start as part time ESs holding approximately 10 students each; both teachers had been instructors for FCS in the past.
- **Play Structure/Fundraiser Letter:** Peter shared a letter that was sent to families and community businesses; the playground equipment is weathered from age and needs repair; it is presently closed.
- **Other:** Peter explained a recent training the FCS ESs attended entitled “Common Core Standards”; the training was presented by Stan Miller and focused on ‘skills and thinking’ not on ‘contents’ with a long term goal to move away from traditional STAR testing.

15. Discussion: Future Agenda Items

- Special Ed presentation (fall)
- Foundation Report (as needed)
- Summary of 2011-12 Charter Council
- Enrollment Philosophy (October)
- School Wide Action Plan (October)
- SB 740 Application
- Common Core Standards (November)
- STAR results
- Update on Initiatives
- Possible Spring meeting in Foresthill

16. Information: Reminder of Future Meetings

- 2012: October 23; November 13; December 18 (if needed)
- 2013: January 22; February 12; March 19; April 16; May 14; June 11

17. Action: Adjourn at 6:50 p.m.

Linda Katz made the motion to adjourn. Dawn Koerber seconded.

Ayes: All

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Nobles, Secretary

Date

Charter Council Approved:

Dan Thiem, Chair

Date

Cheri Rey, Vice Chair

Date