

BETHANY CHARTER SCHOOL – Board Meeting May 2, 2016

Please be aware that these minutes are not official until approved at the next board meeting.

Board Members present: Karyn Buchheit, Ryan Hari, Heidi Mudrick, Rhett Randall and Michael Slevcove. Kathy Frank present as administrator. 10 visitors present.

Ryan Hari called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Michael Slevcove moved to accept the consent agenda consisting of approving the agenda for the May 2, 2016 board meeting and approving the minutes for the April 4, 2016 board meeting. Rhett Randall seconded. Passed unanimously.

Budget Report – looks to be on target; all district spending will be closed at the end of May; audit process has started. No reconciliation page presented for checking account, unable to acknowledge checks this month.

Enrollment Lottery

6th Grade

1. Olivia He
2. Joseph Dettwyler
3. Braden Hall
4. Emma Sisomphou

7th Grade

1. Andrew Bustmante
2. Sophie Barstad

Audience with visitors

- Booster Club liaison – glow stick dance party, teacher appreciation luncheon on Monday, May 9th
- Auction Committee – profit looks to be approximately \$5,625.00; did have a purchase of stamps today; penciled in for next year at the same location as there were lots of positive responses on the location

Administrator Report

Enrollment Numbers: total of 133 bobcats; Enrollment phase is complete. We will need to conduct a lottery in 6th grade and 7th grade.

Highlights

Student Happenings

- Pentagames medals and ribbons abundant
- Grandparents Day – great performance and luncheon
- Auction – community gathering of support and smiles
- Full schedule of testing ahead
- Bobcat students and staff presented Mrs. Campbell with treats, cards and flowers on administrative secretary day
- Mrs. Evonuk has been volunteering to teach art in the upper grades
- Mrs. Davis has piloted a new on-line gradebook “think wave” where students and parents have on line access to missing assignments and grades
- 1st and 2nd grades are completely thrilled about accelerated reading testing

- 1st and 2nd graders are focusing on the parts of speech – nouns, verbs and adjectives and identifying them in their writing
- 1st and 2nd grade are studying the 5 habitats and will work on projects to complete the study
- Kindergarten up to lesson 9 in 1st grade spelling book with test with 85% mastery
- One student has accomplished reading above the grade level, leveled reading books in K
- 5th and 6th grade invention writing project completed
- Mrs. Merklin has been prepping reading and writing with the 5th and 6th grades for assessment
- Students in the 7th and 8th grades finished narrative and informational writing and are moving into persuasive
- 3^{rs} and 4th grade class completed their Native American study by making Native American shelters
- 3rd and 4th grade class produced book reports as “commercials”. All students read a novel and shared a performed commercial about their book
- The 4th graders are finishing their math unit on fractions: 100% acknowledge fractions show parts of a whole, and though students have struggled, I anticipate a solid percentage of 70+% understanding how to make equivalent fractions
- 3rd graders started fractions today
- AITC visitor shared AG in the classroom lessons with K-4th
- Administrator attended first PACE Day training. Informative topics

Facility Happenings

- 9 Silverton High students spent their senior clean-up day helping Bethany Charter School. They tended to the weed ridden greenhouse. They planted filbert trees, blueberries, roses and hosta plants. Tilled another tier along the greenhouse and weeded our strawberry beds. They also enjoyed a fun filled recess with the young bobcats. Mr. Fisher adjusted his schedule to come in and supervise the Foxes.

Staffing:

- Contracts have been returned. Mrs. Willis will not be returning as PE teacher next year. She has been placed for her student teaching practicums and will not be able to teach and student teach at the same time. We need to look at adjusting Mrs. Merklin’s contract as there seems to be a mistake in the level.

Calendar

3rd – National Teacher day; 4th – Primary grade music program; 12th-13th – Coast trip for 5th/6th grades; 18th – Oregon Coast Aquarium for 3rd and 4th grades; 19th – K-2nd field trip to Blue Line Farms; 20th – Science Fair presentations and author Tricia Brown to visit; 23rd – Kindergarten Round-up; 25th – 3rd/4th grades to Salem capitol; 25th-27th – 7th/8th outdoor school trip

Board Reports

- Michael Slevcove reported that the modular is back on the table and gave a quick recap of history of the process. He has met with Andy Bellando. They will consider if proposal includes a long term plan to replace the modular with a permanent structure. District also asked again if we would be interested in purchasing the property – they would carry the note. Pro would be that we would have full decision on use. Con – info we have had in the past is that we would have to pay property taxes if we own it. Suggestion that we have time in the audience with visitors next month to hear community input on modular; or do a survey; or do a petition.
- Parking – need to finish getting debris out
- Question brought up – can we utilize some of the school history of being founded by an Oregon Trail wagon master

Discussion Items

- a. Policy revisions
 1. Board Accountability Policy 0003c – Ryan Hari talked to OSBA about how to handle classroom visitations. Recommended to proceed with caution as it isn't board role to be evaluators. Needs to be more of a check in style visit. Work on wording; maybe do a rotation; keep at once a month
 2. Complaint Procedure 0002d – OSBA feedback – risk with “hearing” wordage; could facilitate slander and board to be held liable. Check with OSBA policy review for policy. Karyn to send to OSBA.
 3. Hiring Procedure 0009c – some word changes
- b. Climate survey – preliminary results of 43 responses, still open for another week. 2 comments read. The board will read through all of the results. It is showing things we do well or don't do well and can give us an improvement plan. Ask OSBA for legal advice on survey usage. There are about 80 families in BCS. It was designed to ask for feedback only if a response was 2 or lower.
- c. Academic Audit – it was recommended previously to use Dr. Ballance from SFSD; state charter division does have its own people who can do this, but we need to specify exactly what we want. Administrator needs more specified direction to put in proposals and as to what to look for: accountability? To standards? To? Look at options; need more information; what to review? Kathy Frank to contact ODE and Dr. Ballance.

Correspondence – received a letter of resignation from Leslie Starr. She does ask that students not be informed by parents at this time – that it would be better for them to hear at the end of the school year. Board is sorry to hear that she is leaving, but respect her decision.

Audience with visitors

- Board accountability – would like to have it clear
- Climate survey – surprised at how specific it was about teachers; will the teachers get the feedback. Always thought that a climate survey was about overall climate. Response – being specific as an opportunity to improve; will get guidance as where/how to proceed. Being specific was aimed for those with multiple students in different classes. This was a learning experience, tool, looking for ways to improve, pulled from other surveys for other schools
- Academic audit this year is crazy. Next year would be a better choice and board would see a better/different situation. Include curriculum. Suggest doing it in January in terms of timeline. Be super specific; include mission/vision statement
- School audit – bothered that it appeared that we questioned teachers/administration/everything and that we had to be exactly like a SFSD school. Our tests show that we are at same level as SFSD. To be used as a tool to see where we want to go – ok
- Death has played into a lot of difficulties. Different generation of parents and views of how to advocate for their children. Needs to be taken into consideration.
- Board member in classroom/staff access to board. Accountability – validate good things too. Doesn't want to see climate survey. Consistency of complaints/concerns for

review/weigh in? Have “agreed upon procedures”. Academic standards might be good. Don’t want to “hurry up and do just to do”. Allow time to process feedback.

- Jobs posted – yes

Action Items

- a. Rhett Randall moved to accept resignation of Leslie Starr. Heidi Mudrick seconded. Passed unanimously. Thank you for your years here.

Moved into executive session at 8:45 pm in compliance with ORS 192.610 (2)(b) as pertains to personnel.

Out of executive session at 9:31 pm

Acknowledge receipt of complaint, no board action at this time.

Moved into executive session at 9:32 pm in compliance with ORS 192.610 (2)(b) as pertains to personnel.

Out of executive session at 9:59 pm

Special Session board meeting scheduled for Wednesday, May 11, 2016 at 6:00 pm. Most of this will be in executive session.

Moved into executive session at 10:01 pm in compliance with ORS 192.610 (2)(f) as pertains to information exempt by law from public inspection.

Out of executive session at 10:19 pm

Board received updates on investigation. Recommended to reach out to Mrs. Dahlberg.

Moved into executive session at 10:21 pm in compliance with ORS 192.610 (2)(a) as pertains to personnel

Out of executive session at 10:26 pm

Karyn Buchheit moved that Kim Merklin be offered salary for the 2016/2017 school year according to the SFSD step 3MA to equal \$43,067.00. Rhett Randall seconded. Passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 10:27 pm