BETHANY CHARTER SCHOOL – Board Meeting March 14, 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. 6 visitors present.

Ryan Hari called the meeting to order at 7:05 pm

Rhett Randall moved to accept the consent agenda consisting of approving the agenda for the March 13, 2016 board meeting, approving the minutes for the February 1, 2016 board meeting, approving the minutes for the February 8, 2016 board meeting and approving the minutes for the March 6, 2016 board phone session. Heidi Mudrick seconded. Passed unanimously.

Budget Report – looks ok. Acknowledge check numbers 1490-1496 in the amount of $1,038.30 and 5 debit transactions in the amount of $82.04.

Audience with visitors
  • Booster Club liaison – Boosters have postponed the dance party. They are looking at purchasing a bench to commemorate Mr. Bonham.
  • Auction Committee – Shelley Otte – will need $100 for bartender and $1,200 for catering as we get closer to auction. There has been a suggestion of having a line item for Meghan Bonham at the auction. Board response that this could possibly cause legal problems for the school – what can be done is a donation jar put out and just hand her the jar at the end of the auction. Any checks someone wants to put into the jar would need to be made out to her.
  • Suggestion to name the gym “Bonham Court” and paint the inside of the gym.

Administrator’s Report

Enrollment Numbers
  • Total of 136 Bobcats
  • Phase 1 of BCS enrollment in place

Highlights
  • Kindergarten cubs report 8 students know ALL 35 kindergarten sight words. They are now learning words from the first grade list. They have leveled first grade books in their reading folders. 15 students sounded out all 5 c-v-c words on the assessment (fan, mop, lid, hen, rug). Now it is time to introduce the “silent e” which changes for example “hop” into “hope”. This is usually introduced the last couple of weeks of school. 14 out of 16 can count to 100 with ease and 7 can tie their own shoes.
  • We started spelling tests. I found 16 first grade spelling workbooks available. Many kids are now reading Dr. Seuss books in their reading folders and for fun. They are having success with “The Foot Book”, “Hop on Pop” and “Green Eggs and Ham”. It is exciting to read “real” books, not just curriculum.
  • First grade students have mastered their ones facts by memory. They can do 30 facts in under 2 minutes.
  • Fifth and sixth grade students dissected a pig’s heart for science standard.
  • All second graders can independently summarize a story.
  • All first and second grade students know the eight planets in our solar system.
  • Fifth and sixth grade finished a study on “The Westing Game” and wrote mystery stories to share.
• Fifth and sixth grade field trip to OMSI where they viewed “Jean-Michel Cousteau’s Secret Ocean 3D” to prepare them for the coastal overnight field trip.
• 7th and 8th graders for social science and literature: made power point presentations of the life of William Shakespeare and read “A Midsummer’s Night Dream” and the intro to “Romeo and Juliet”. They also went to Portland and watched the ballet of the first act of “Romeo and Juliet”. We also toured Portland State University and talked about their sustainability efforts.
• In science, the 7th and 8th graders are working through the periodic table of elements and are memorizing a portion of the table. This will culminate in producing 3D models of an element.
• Also in Language Arts, we just finished a performance task for informational writing on Google Classroom and are working on more effective conclusions.
• 3rd-8th grade students are completing practice run-throughs for the SBAC testing.
• First and second graders are writing inventive planet stories and publishing a class book.
• Third and fourth grad finished a unit on landforms. Students gave oral presentations on the landforms they researched. Now they have just begun an introductory unit about Native Americans in the 5 major regions of the US which will lead us into Native Americans of Oregon. Students are getting online research experience.
• Third and fourth grade are also allowing more time for AR reading and testing.

Facility Happenings
• Mr. Fisher has re-barked and weeded for the spring bulbs to bloom

Staffing
• Mrs. Bean, a hand-picked substitute by Mr. Bellando, is filling in until a temporary teacher is hired to complete the school year in the 5th and 6th grade classroom.

The month of March happenings – Scholastic Spring Book Fair 14-18; Spring Break 20-25; Easter 27; Returning student registrations due 31.

Board Reports
• From Michael Slevcove – working on layout for modular. Has talked to Andy Bellando – to make official, needs a written proposal of how we would use the modular. Asked Kathy Frank to write something up.

Discussion Items

a. Computer lease – good deal, SFSD has done it. Administrator should have waited for board authorization prior to signing a lease agreement. Understand that administrator was trying to meet the deadline from the district tech department – they had said that if this was not done by a certain date that they would be unable to get to them before November due to the district moving schools around. Will help classroom tech problems if all systems in a classroom are the same.

b. Hiring procedure – need to authorize Kathy Frank to post position opening. Kathy has already posted the long-term temp position. If the temp is interested in the position, they would need to apply and go through interview process. Kathy would like to wait until April to post position and focus on getting a sub right now. Questions have come up about what future will look like, dynamics. Climate survey by computer? Kathy’s current focus is on the kids in the classroom. Climate survey right now will very likely be centered around current situation and could skew results. Recommend having a climate survey in the near future. Difficult choice, difficult path forward. Only a 2-week difference between posting now and in April. Can authorize Kathy to post when ready.

c. Review mission and vision statements.
d. Budget for 2016/2017 – looked at; table for now. Budget is due April 1st. Next meeting is April 4th. Karyn Buchheit to ask for extension from Andy Bellando.

Correspondence – none

Audience with visitors
- As a parent, likes the idea of a climate survey. Good benchmark. Anonymous. Important to hear what have to say. Timing right now might now be best. Board discussed adding to April 4 agenda; maybe utilize one of SFSD surveys.
- End goal with a survey, not just to have voices heard.
- While timing is bad, do have concerns. If can’t be heard now, potentially go a whole other year. Concerns don’t have anything to do with 5th/6th room.
- Ability to email “webmaster” or “board” or “administrator” from website
- Lance Kamstra – thinks that the board and staff are doing very well under the current situation. Suggest getting input from another group/school who may have gone through something similar.
- Question about mission/vision statements
- Posting for job – agree with Kathy Frank on waiting and with focus on now.

Ryan Hari apologized for coming across as unfeeling, trying to look at having best options.

Action Items

a. Karyn Buchheit moved to retroactively authorize Kathy Frank to sign the lease agreement for the classroom set of 30 computers and purchase a cart. Michael Slevcove seconded. Passed unanimously.

b. Board agrees that they need clarification on Booster lease of a classroom set of computers

c. Karyn Buchheit moved to authorize Kathy Frank to post position notice on her own timeline. Heidi Mudrick seconded. Passed unanimously.

Moved into executive session at 9:06 pm in compliance with ORS 192.610(2)(a) as pertains to personnel.

Out of executive session at 10:18 pm

No action taken from executive session pending a discussion with Kathy Frank in executive session at the April board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:19 pm