



Park City Prep Charter School

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Board of Directors Meeting – October 3, 2012

Minutes

- **Public Session** – There were no attendees from the public.
- The **minutes of the June 13, 2012 meeting** were approved unanimously.
- **Financial Reports - June 2012 & August 2012**

Last year was the first year in which we exceeded our budget. All expenses that accounted for the added expenses were explained and had been previously authorized. With the increased allocation from the State for 2012-2013, we anticipate having more than enough funds to cover this year's budgeted expenses.
- **Director's Update**
 - **SEED (State Education Evaluation Development)**
 - There is a new statewide system for formally evaluating educational staff, as well as requirements for providing the professional development needed to assure their success.
 - Each district must submit their SEED plan to the Connecticut State Department of Education by March of 2013.
 - Our staff has already been briefed on the new SEED program.
 - **2012 Connecticut Mastery Test (CMT) Results**
 - After having achieved our best results in 2011, we maintained or improved our performance in 2012 with the exception of grade 8 math, which was attributed to the unsatisfactory performance of a new math teacher, who was not rehired for the current school year.
 - **CT's New Accountability System**
 - Since the State received a waiver from the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) regulations in 2012, there is a new accountability system in place for each district/school with respect to student performance. Highlight's of the new system include:
 - Level 4 (Goal) has replaced Level 3 (Proficient) as the goal for all students.
 - There is a much greater emphasis upon improvement. Schools receive credit for growth among multiple levels of performance, not just for reaching the proficient level, as was the case before.

- *Adequate Yearly Progress* (under NCLB) has been replaced with meeting yearly District/School Performance Indices (DPI/SPI).
 - Science and writing will be measured, as well as Reading and math under the new system.
 - Each school will receive a rating based upon meeting the yearly performance goals.
- **NAEP Testing in February**
 - Our 7th grade has been selected to participate in the National Assessment of Educational Progress.
 - Our results will not be used to determine our DPI/SPI from the State of Connecticut.
 - **Staffing for 2012-2013**
 - Two, new English teachers were hired, as one of our former teachers moved and the other acquired a supervisory position, elsewhere, for which she had been preparing for the past two years.
 - We hired a new special education teacher. Our former teacher left at a time when Bridgeport could not assure us that we would be able to hire our own teacher, which, ultimately, we were permitted to do.
 - We hired a full-time school counselor in lieu of a part-time counselor and a part-time social worker, each of whom could no longer work due to the demands of childcare with newborn children.
 - We hired a new administrative aide.
 - We replaced a grade 7 math teacher, who was not successful here in his first year with us in 2011-2012.
 - Two grade 6 teachers were hired, as well, replacing one who sought a new position elsewhere, for which she had been studying and the other who left for personal reasons.
 - We added three instructional assistants instead of taking teaching interns from the local universities.
 - **Revised Mission Statement**
 - Working with Charter School Improvement Partners, we revised our mission statement to better state what it is that we set out to accomplish.
 - **Accounting Outsource Proposal**
 - We approved the first increase in three years for our book keeping service.
- **Old Business**
 - **Alignment of Curriculum with New Common Core Standards**
 - Our language arts and math consultants will be working with our teachers to align our current curriculum with the new, Common Core Standards.
 - Both our consultants and some of our lead teachers will be attending a series of training sessions at C.E.S. to better familiarize themselves with the Common Core standards and the new Smarter Balanced Assessments, which are being developed to replace the current CMT's in 2015.
 - **New Board Membership**
 - We invited additional parents to join our Board of Directors but none expressed an interest at this time. The one vacancy will remain open if anyone should express interest as we move forward in the year.
 - We have invited an additional teacher to join our Board and are awaiting response.

- We are also considering adding new members who have been introduced to us by Charter Improvement Partners, and have assisted us in revising our mission statement.
 - Tiffany suggested having some STEM related people (Sikorsky, Discovery Museum, Beardsley, etc.). Tiffany also suggested having faculty from Sacred Heart University serve on the Board.
 - Tanya suggested Gwen Brantley, who has been very involved in encouraging young women of color to develop interests in the STEM fields.
 - Bruce suggested we ask Cherie Amado if she knew of anyone at Sikorsky or re-join our Board herself.
- **New Business:**
 - Proposed Performance Bonus Policy
 - Should be based upon both past performance and return to work at Park City prep for the following year.
 - Bonus should be paid at a point to be determined in the fall term, once we are certain that the employee will be with us for another year.
 - New School update
 - New Building Site
 - There will be further discussion with staff.
 - Walk-through (End of month) of the State Street building.
 - Policy Manual Update
 - The last portion of the policy manual has been completed (Series 5000 – Students)
 - Approved by Board and sent to C.A.B.E. for their preparation for our official manual.
 - New Calendar of Board Meetings for 2012-2013
 - It was agreed that Board meetings would be the fourth Wednesday of November, January, March and May. The final meeting will be in mid-June.
 - Proposed Next Meeting – Wednesday, November 28, 2012

The meeting adjourned at 8:19 pm.