



A Public School of Choice, Inc.

Board Meeting Minutes

- Regular Session on April 9, 2015
- Closed Session on
- Special Session on

DRAFT

APPROVED

In Attendance:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lisa Dukelow/Chair | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ben Balderas/Vice-Chair |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kim Hill/Secretary | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jamia Bachrach/Parent Rep |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Julie Williams/Teacher Rep | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Jewitt/Teacher Rep |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rich Peterson/Parent Rep | <input type="checkbox"/> Open/Community-at-Large Member |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jurgen Wanke/Parent Rep | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jon Corcoran/Administrator |

The meeting was called to order by Lisa Dukelow at 6:37 p.m.

The mission statement was read and a moment of silence was observed.

Public Comments/Discussion

- The following people made comments regarding pursuing a High School
 - Alicia Urmston presented plan for High School.
 - Thomas Crichlow: Driving from Durham
 - Scarlett Jordan: Happy about the plan, overwhelming. Need to have solutions for problems
 - Hannah Johnson: Wants traditional calendar
 - Robin Bowers
 - Kristi Anspach: Presentation from Summit Engineering and possible financial backer on May 7th or 14th.
 - Maire Alexander
- The following people made comments regarding bus service
 - Thomas Crichlow: Bus doesn't serve Durham, which creates economic segregation. If feasible to keep the buses, would support it. Reaching a wider audience would be good.
 - Scarlett Jordan: Bus to Sportsplex is needed. No way to get her daughter to the swim team.
 - Robin Bowers: No idea that there was a bus; uses the bus to get her child to after-school activities. Lose the bus now, would need to create bus service when there's a high school. Without a bus for high school, limits what can be done. Knows of at least one person who left OCS because there would be no bus.
- The following people made general comments
 - Brenda Hunt: Concerned about 6th- grade PLTW plans for robotics; understood there was a decision to move forward with the robotics program but has not yet signed up for training. Feels the money for training and the program could be used to purchase additional Chromebooks, which are needed immediately. Currently, scheduling computers is a nightmare. Need a 1:1 ratio.

- Kristi Anspach: There's no time to add another course to the schedule. Chromebooks were moved to K-4 which left a lack of computers for the middle school.
- Robin Bowers: Aware of the issue with the Chromebooks, but that there were enough to fulfill the need now. Should move towards a 1:1 ratio.

PATH designation of funds for 2015-2016 – Betsy Martin

- Survey results provided, sorted by decreasing priority.
- BOD needs to review the proposal and make the decision how future PATH money should be spent.
- If major changes to the list, please work with PATH.
- Would like to purchase a rug for Ms. Apelgren's class.

Committee Reports

- Treasurer's Report: March Budget available
- Grievance Committee: There was no cause to meet.
- Personnel Committee
 - BOD elections will be held at the end of May 2015.
 - Need to update policy manual pursuant to March 2015 BOD meeting. Hiring process needs to be created.
 - Ms. Hover will be the Middle School representative at the BOD meetings for the next two years.
- Policy & Strategic Planning Committee
 - Unsure when the committee met the last month.
- Community Relations and Fundraising & PATH
 - Spring Fling will be by May 31st from 2:00 – 4:00. Will have live auction for class artwork.
- Education Committee: Did not meet since last BOD meeting.

Principal's Report

Grade	Current Enrollment	Wait List	2015-2016 Projected Enrollment
K	20	78	21 – Confirmed
1	20	17	21 – Confirmed
2	22	27	22 – Confirmed
3	20	21	23 – Confirmed
4	21	22	21 – Confirmed
5	22	15	21 – Confirmed
6	39	0	44 – Confirmed
7	42	0	43 – Confirmed
8	28	0	42 – Confirmed
Total:	234	180	258

- Highlights
 - STEAM evidence everywhere on campus during 4/8/15 building walk-through!
- STEAM/Curriculum Update:
 - Common Core-aligned EOG review guides purchased for grades 3-8
 - Looking ahead to 2015-2016:
 - ES on verge of K-5 Math Expressions adoption to bolster & unify our Math Program
 - 2 year phase-in to 1:1 student/device ratio (40 devices/year)
 - Expand blended learning to 6-8
 - Ongoing professional development to support STEAM implementation:
 - Arts Integration with Southeast Center for Arts Integration postponed until August 2015.
 - Scaling STEM on April 13th-15th
- Personnel:
 - Teacher summative meetings and contract renewals begin shortly.
 - 3 finalists identified following 8 phone interviews for MS Health/PE position
 - Model lessons/2nd interviews on 4/8, 4/10, & 4/17
 - Orientation in May/June, official start date=August 2015
 - Beginning Teacher Support Program (BTSP) Team making preparations for State monitoring visit on 5/19
 - Pre-visit with Region 5 Educational Facilitator Cindi Rigsbee on March 3rd
- Athletics
 - Intramural Girls Basketball begins today, 4/9/15
- Miscellaneous
 - March Budget Update
 - A representative Schedule Team has begun reviewing the daily schedule for 2015/2016.
 - Education minors from UNC-Chapel Hill (ED 522) began fieldwork on Monday, 4/6.
 - Annual Fund Letter is finalized & goes out next week with online donation option-great collaboration here!

New Business

- Board discussion of High School
 - Discussion session will be held May 14th
 - Is it possible to have a stop gap for those 8th graders interested in staying at OCS before the high school is completed?
 - There was concern about hiring the necessary teachers, finding space to have classes, and to create the curriculum, while not compromising OCS' reputation.
- Board discussion of PATH funds
 - The top three items on the wish list are playground improvements, STEAM curriculum supplies/support, and technology.
 - Playground improvements are on the list. With the possibility of a High School in the very near future, unsure if these improvements would be needed. If this item is removed, the stipend towards curriculum support for teachers would be third on the list.
 - Need to purchase 24 more Chromebooks.
 - PATH is willing to help purchase the Chromebooks, if needed.
 - The Chromebooks moved to the Elementary School (for pilot testing) could be moved back to the Middle School, which would fulfill the immediate need.
 - Mr. Corcoran provided the following comments as a response to Public Comments:
 - ~ Technology/Chromebook access greatly improved overall in last 2 years
 - ~ 6th grade currently the only grade not receiving a formal engineering curriculum, only a quarter long enrichment

- ~ Relocated Chromebook cart was vetted thru the BOD during Acer purchase proposal; it addressed no laptop access for grades 3 and 4
- ~ PLTW expansion not the reason for limited Chromebook access; both were factored into initial budget proposal for 15-16 (during March meeting)

Old Business

- Review of proposed budget for 2015 – 2016
 - If there are concerns about curriculum spending, Ms. Apelgrem would like to come to the May BOD meeting and address the concerns before the final vote.
 - Proposed math curriculum (nothing new since 2007) needs to be further evaluated to determine if it's the direction OCS should go.
- Vote on Bus for 2015 – 2016
 - Need estimate of how much money field trips will cost if there are no buses.
 - Survey should be sent to those riding the bus to ensure families are aware of the change and to determine what impact there might be to them if there is no bus service.
 - Will the Sportsplex provide transportation to those on the swim team?
 - Will hold off on vote until the next BOD meeting so this information can be collected.
- Discussion of timeframe for what, if anything, is needed for STEAM
 - No comments made on this.
- Review and approval of March, 2014 BOD meeting minutes
 - **Motion:** To approve the minutes from the March 12, 2015 BOD meeting, with revisions.
Motion: Kim Hill
Second: Rich Peterson
Vote: Unanimous Approval
 Passed Failed
- Other items
 - PATH question about rug for Ms. Apelgren
 - Can Ms. Apelgren go through a Donors Choose type program to raise the money for the rug?
 - Will all teachers have the opportunity to request a classroom item?
 - PATH needs to create a form for teachers to request wishlist items.
 - Chromebooks
 - **Motion:** To spend up to \$6000.00 on Chromebooks, with \$2200.00 from PATH and \$3800.00 from the OCS budget.
Motion: Jamie Bachrach
Second: Rich Peterson
Vote: 6 For; 1 Against
 Passed Failed

Adjournment

With no further business before the Board of Directors, the meeting was adjourned at 9:34 p.m.

The next meeting of the Orange Charter School Board of Directors will be held on **Thursday, May 14, 2015, at 6:30 PM.**