



THE WORLD IS OUR FAMILY

CAROLINA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

A NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

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Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

December 8, 2011

Attendance:

	2011				2012							
	9/8	10/13	11/10	12/8	1/12	2/9	3/8	4/12	5/10	6/14	7/12	8/9
Nimish Bhatt		-										
Abby Bottoms	X	-	X	X								
Scott Elliott		-	X	X								
Tisha Greene		-										
Donna Harkey	X	-	X	X								
Dr. Charles Hutchison	X	-	X	X								
Sam Leder	X	-	X	X								
Terri Clay Meadows		-										
Mystica Nelmes	X	-	X	X								
Gloria Campbell-Whatley		-		X								
Maureen White	X	-	X	X								

Call to Order: 6:39 pm

Scott Elliott opened with a welcome and stated that he was pleased to see so many in attendance. He reiterated that a contract to purchase property was pending geotechnical assessments, which explained the delay, but that CIS was in a good position regarding the purchase and the possibility to grow especially regarding the environmental mission of the school.

CIS Mission Statement

Sarah Frankart, Teacher Liaison

Service Project Presentation:

Mrs. Canham, Mrs. Foxworth and Ms. Frankart

A presentation was shown in which these classes collected and donated 250 pounds of candy to active duty soldiers.

Finance Report:

Jennifer Bray, Acadia NorthStar, L.L.C.

Jennifer Bray reviewed the recommended changes from the November finance committee meetings, reflected on financial handouts.

- Scott Elliott requested clarification on DPI / CIS headcounts be sent to Abby Bottoms.

Scott Elliott requested information regarding Thomas Jefferson Classical utilization of bond issue to fund construction.

Abby Bottoms reported that CIS is in 'safety group' to receive rebate from insurance company.

In discussion regarding the addition of a flexible spending account option for teachers, Abby Bottoms reported plans to speak with staff regarding their interest and investigate cost feasibility.

Secretary's Report

Maureen White, Secretary

Maureen White read the November meeting minutes and made a motion to accept. Sam Leder seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Committee Reports

Academic Report:

Mystica Nelmes, Principal

Mystica Nelmes gave an overview of academic status including the following points and newly implemented programs:

- Boys basketball win game 43-13. Thanks to teachers.
- State technology assessments regarding wifi access points
- New teachers have started, Ms. Hoyle for middle grades math and Mrs. Durrence for Technology
- Honor assembly for 1st quarter went well
- Title II rep came from DPI and CIS will be audited in January
- Progress Reports for 2nd quarter went out Monday
- All staff is onboard using a digital data notebook

Discussion of LiveBinder.com program in use. Capability to track MAP, EOG, attendance for all classes, etc.

- Websites for teachers are on the school's website under "Teachers" tab
- Professional Development for teachers in December were common core for Math, Project based learning, and Rigor in the classroom
- Mid-term Exams for Middle/High will be January 17-20th.

Discussion of how to schedule half-days for exams and how to compensate staff.

Donna Harkey had the following updates:

Donna Harkey, Assistant Principal

CIS to conduct classroom and homeroom spelling bees to identify contestants to take part in the Scripps National Spelling Bee

As of December 1, the EC headcount was 35 and December's historical data was to be entered into NC Wise.

Mystica Nelmes added that the EOG scores were to be added from former schools to complete the trackable info.

The 10th grade statewide writing test is no longer administered.

The PLAN test (the pre-test to the ACT) is now required and paid for by the state for 11th grade

Reported seeing 'interesting initiatives' after several observations on technology use adding that she felt 'very positive about the progress'

Five 7th grade students had been entered into the Duke TIPS program and would take SATs in January and have access to Duke summer programs.

Discussion of students leaving for Cabarrus county's IB program. Charles Hutchison offered perspective on his child's experience in IB program. Mystica Nelmes promoted a move to IB / College Prep curriculum for CIS. Scott Elliott stated that such a move aligned closely with original charter.

Staff Update

Sarah Frankart, Teacher Liaison

Sarah Frankart had the following updates on behalf of the staff on several classes and Student Council. Details found in Staff Update attachment to minutes.

New Business:

Sam Leder made a motion to accept wording of resolution of intent to reimburse certain capital expenditures if bond issues moves forward and to sign corporate resolution. Charles Hutchison seconded. Motion passed.

Charles Hutchison requested update on design and cost per square foot. Scott Elliott stated that estimates were still around \$90-\$100 per square foot and noted that the process was still underway to identify an architect.

7:56 Sam Leder voted to go into closed session. Charles Hutchison seconded. Motion passed.

Closed Session: Contract matters: personnel. Open Session: 8:00 pm

Maureen White motioned to adjourn the meeting. Sam Leder seconded. Motion passed. **Adjournment:** 8:00 pm.

As Board Chair, I certify that these minutes have been reviewed and approved as they appear above.

Signature

Date

**CIS Staff Report from Ms. Frankart, Teacher Liaison
December 2010**

Mrs. Honan's Fifth Grade Science Class

- studying landforms
- constructed a model of our hill in the woods, using the actual rocks and clay we "borrowed" from the hill
- the class added soil and plants to model a hill/mountain, and subjected it to the weathering forces of nature and rain from a watering can, documenting the process in pictures and lab reports to be posted on our livebinder and on our class website
- next week, students are independently creating a demonstration centered around their own realistic model, for another landform process of their choice

Mrs. Eaton's Spanish Classes

3rd grade Spanish students

- visiting Kindergarten and first grade classrooms next week, to teach the younger children some Spanish.

7th grade Spanish students

- working on projects about themselves that they will share with a school in Spain
- that school has a class of students around the same age and we plan to interact with them through shared projects, Skype and e-mail.

Mrs. Fitchett and Mrs. Ruff's 4th Grades

- having annual "Gingerbread Construction Event" on Friday, December 16th
- based on the National Gingerbread Competition held in Asheville, NC
- students will construct famous NC landmarks like the Biltmore House, the Capitol Building, Cape Hatteras Lighthouse, The Queen Anne's Revenge out of graham crackers, icing, candy, and a few empty boxes.
- in Language Arts students are reading the novel Frindle by Andrew Clements and learning how to write friendly letters

Paul LaRue's Technology Students

- upper grade classes have been creating 3D models in Google SketchUp
- a pair of those students made a model of our entire campus, and exported pictures of it.

Mrs. Torres's 6th/7th Grade Classes

- creating "Climate Geographers"
- each student will be creating a paper doll that will travel to a different country
- students were able to pick their own continent or country
- no one was aloud to pick North America
- students will make clothes that represent the 5 different climate zones; tropical, continental, dry, moderate, and polar
- they also have to research that country to understand what style of dress would be appropriate
- students have to write a report telling about the climate changes and how their "climate geographer" has had to adapt to their climate surroundings

Mrs. Aranyi's Art Classes

Kindergarteners

- finishing up "All About Me" books
- illustrated books with self-portrait, their families, pets, and favorite things

1st Graders in Miss Frankart's and Mrs. Foxworth's classes

- studying the life and art of Eric Carle!
- painted their own version of collage papers to cut up for collage
- inspiration for collages are the native animals of their sister country – India

2nd Graders

- finishing up artist study of Faith Ringgold
- created a composition that combined something real and something imaginary
- also developed wonderfully creative stories to go with their illustrations

6th-8th Graders

- finished comparing and contrasting Byzantine and Roman mosaics
- created their own version of a Byzantine mosaic using colors from magazines
- starting their choice studio projects next week

Mrs. Pott's 3rd Graders

- took a "trip" to their sister country, Peru
- students researched, created and presented projects that included maps, flags, brochures, collages, songs, poems, timelines, and power point presentations.
- concluded trip with a Peru celebration, which included traditional Peruvian food, crafts, music, artifacts and slide shows

Mrs. Scopolis – Student Council

- candy cane grams to send to friends/teachers – cost \$1
- Character Day Parade was a huge success and the winners really enjoyed receiving a book from us
- donated \$100.00 to the breast cancer foundation.
- sent out 30 boxes for Samaritan's Purse/Operation Christmas Child
- taking bags full of things to the children's hospital and to a battered woman's shelter and donating the rest of the items from our student council
- went to the men's shelter in Charlotte on November 21st
 - truly learned what it means to give time, compassion, and love
 - helped prepare lunch, served and conversed with 80 men
 - donated \$100.00 towards the meal

