



THE WORLD IS OUR FAMILY

# CAROLINA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

A NORTH CAROLINA PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

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## Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

February 9, 2012

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
Tom Anderson					X	X						
Nimish Bhatt		-										
Abby Bottoms	X	-	X	X	X	X						
Scott Elliott		-	X	X	X	X						
Tisha Greene		-										
Donna Harkey	X	-	X	X	X	X						
Dr. Charles Hutchison	X	-	X	X	X							
Sam Leder	X	-	X	X	X							
Terri Clay Meadows		-			X	X						
Mystica Nelmes	X	-	X	X	X	X						
Gloria Campbell-Whately		-		X								
Maureen White	X	-	X	X	X	X						

Call to Order: 6:39 pm

CIS Mission Statement

Pam Batra

Service Project Presentation:

Students from

Third grade students from Ms. Potts, Kowski, and Scott's 3<sup>rd</sup> classes showcased their recent service project to send letters to U.S. soldiers. Fourth grade students from Ms. Fitchett and Ruff's classes showcased their project to send books to countries in need.

Secretary's Report

Maureen White, Secretary

Maureen White read the January meeting minutes and made a motion to accept. Tom Anderson seconded the motion.

**Motion passed.**

Finance Report:

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

- Scott Elliott congratulated Jennifer Bray on her promotion. Jennifer Bray stated that she would remain present at CIS Board meetings. Jennifer Bray reviewed the recommended changes from the January finance committee meetings, reflected on financial handouts, and noted the amendments needed to some dates in the documents. She stated she would send amended version for school records.
- Jennifer Bray noted that Acadia had not heard word on 2012-2013 budget projections. Discussion of budget planning meeting to be scheduled. Scott Elliott stated that the streamlined process from previous years left him confident that budget planning session would be as smooth as last year's.
- Scott Elliott made a motion to accept the recommended changes to the budget. Maureen White seconded.  
**Motion passed.**
- Scott Elliott made a statement for the record that though the finance committee appreciated the offer extended from Cabarrus Bank and Trust, the committee recommends that CIS remain with Wells Fargo for the land acquisition and funding process. Scott Elliott made a motion to accept offer from Wells Fargo. Tom Anderson seconded. **Motion passed.**

## Committee Reports

### Campus Construction Committee:

Tom Anderson

Tom Anderson recapped the earlier meeting with Little Architects. He stated the committee's hope to take interested school community members to see the property soon.

Scott Elliott stated that the intention was to close on the property by the end of February and noted that the attorney is reviewing and editing the contract to be sent to Edifice.

### Academic Report:

Mystica Nelmes, Principal

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

- Rocky River Church offered use of their bus for field trips

Scott Elliott commented on how often dedicated parents and community members coordinate to help with CIS finds itself "in a bind."

- Professional Development update: Affective Teacher with Mrs. Harkey and Formative assessments with NCFalcon
- Teachers are updating their digital data notebooks for quarter 2
- Edmodo for professional development assignments and blogging with PLC's
- Australian pre-service teachers visited us in January, positive response from students and teachers and high level interaction
- Halfway through MAP testing
- CIS awarded statewide scholarship to attend CeTo program for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Leaders in Technology, to be featured in DPI video and magazine
- Grant for Pop-d for \$ 1,600 for science programs
- Each month, new student art work will be selected to go in the front office.
- Technology update- still investigating how to increase school bandwidth from 6 to 10 mg.
- CIS received \$7,000 in Erate funding. Mystica Nelmes expressed thanks to Abby Bottoms and Barry Pace from DPI.

Scott Elliott also offered kudos to Abby Bottoms for her hard work on this initiative.

- Lottery numbers at 290, with 66 spaces in kindergarten and 4 remaining open houses
- Exploring character education program using Sean Covey's book 7 habits of highly effective teens, happy kids, and families to coincide with 4 core values.
- Recent visit from Weimin Yuan and plans to develop student and teacher exchange opportunities with sister city in China.
- Mystica Nelmes thanked middle and high school parents for exam picking up schedule and support.
- Teachers are completing their Professional development plans for the mid-year.
- BT/ILT audit is Feb 16<sup>th</sup>

Discussion on upcoming article in paper regarding Hindi classes at CIS being first in the state.

Donna Harkey had the following updates:

Donna Harkey, Assistant Principal

- ESL/ELL testing complete for growing number of students – 23 currently
- Affective teaching as professional development topic went well.
- PLAN test was given to 10<sup>th</sup> grade students and Donna Harkey attended state conference on how to interpret the test results and present to students.
- Discussion of schedule changes and addition of 15 minutes at the end of each day.
- 10 UNC Charlotte teaching fellows to visit.
- Recent Eagle Scout presentation with Board and administration in attendance.

Discussion of pros and cons of being affiliated with the Raleigh-based NC Charter Alliance and the Charlotte-based NC Charter School Association. Scott Elliot concluded the discussion with his statement that he was confident in CIS decision to join with the Charlotte-based NC Charter School Association. Tom Anderson made a motion to join the NC Charter School Association. Terri Clay Meadows seconded. **Motion passed.**

### PTSO Report:

Suzanne Guimmond

Suzanne Guimmond shared the following updates on behalf of PTSO:

- Commented that the service projects are amazing to hear.
- Junior Achievement kits to go out to parent volunteers
- CIS did not win Clorox grant but plans in the works for similar future applications with additional focus on professional development
- Update on staff lunches (once every 6 weeks)

**Teachers' Report:****Pam Batra**

Pam Batra shared updates on behalf of the staff. Details found in Staff Update attachment to minutes.

Maureen White inquired for the record on a question included in the Teacher's Report from a staff member regarding bleachers for athletic fields. Scott Elliott requested that Pam Batra pass message to the inquiring staff member that the Board is happy to hear proposals for purchase at an open Board meeting.

**Open Comments:**

Suzanne Guimmond wanted to go on record as thanking the construction committee for their hard work in the land acquisition process.

7:55 Tom Anderson motioned to go into closed session. Maureen White seconded. **Motion passed.**

**Closed Session:** Contract matters: personnel. Open Session: 8:35 pm

Maureen White motioned to adjourn the meeting. Tom Anderson seconded. Motion passed. **Adjournment:** 8:37 pm.

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

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*Signature*

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*Date*

## **BOD Meeting February 9, 2012**

### **Staff Report**

#### **Ms. Valentino – Kindergarten**

- 100th day of school is a very special event for our kindergartners
- We celebrated being 100 days smarter using math and language arts activities
- We started out the celebration by having a parade
- Students showcased their specially made t-shirts and hats
- Wonderful turnout from our parents and school mates

#### **Ms. Kim Hoyle**

##### **Personal Finance Class**

- Had to make a Super Bowl Commercial
- Used technology and Movie Maker
- Acted out commercials
- Off the cuff truly fun, silly commercials
- Worked with a 3.2 million dollar budget
- Had to break down how they were spending their money
- Found out using celebrities cost more than their budget if they were doing a REAL commercial for the Super Bowl

##### **Math Classes**

- Studying angles and angle relationships
- Had to draw a map from CIS to home showing and naming angles, complimentary and supplementary angles, horizontal and vertical angles
- Had to draw houses and businesses showing angles of their position on the roads

#### **Ms. Niederer**

- 6<sup>th</sup> Grade is doing a Book Drive for their service project
- Collecting books for schools in China who are teaching English, but don't have books to read or teach from
- February 6-24

#### **Ms. Potts – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade**

- 3<sup>rd</sup> grade is excited about upcoming in-school science workshop on February 21<sup>st</sup>
- "Rocket Ryan" will bring his "Cosmic Capers" space program to our classrooms
- Students will travel through space to explore our solar system, make craters, and learn about planets, moons, and eclipses
- Students will even shoot off rockets and enjoy astronaut ice cream!

**Ms. Deiwert – 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade**

- 2<sup>nd</sup> graders LOVE Rocket Ryan!
- He is coming back for our weather unit at the end of February

**Ms. Honan – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade**

- Working on individual National Park Projects this spring
- Will use our Social Studies, Science, Math, Language Arts, Art and Music skills and knowledge to make sense of our world through multiple lenses

**Ms. Ruff – 4<sup>th</sup> Grade**

- Using Investigations Math to learn about Fractions
- Conducting science investigations with electricity and magnetism
- Just finished learning about the Civil War
- Will learn about how NC's recovery and the impact of the Industrial Revolution affected our state

**Mr. Eaton – P.E.**

- Is it possible to get bleachers down on the soccer field next year?
- Bleachers could be used at our new school on the athletic field
- I'm sure the students and parents would appreciate sitting down to watch our games rather than stand up the whole time.