



SANTA ROSA  
FRENCH-AMERICAN  
CHARTER SCHOOL

1350 Sonoma Ave  
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

---

## **SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD Meeting Minutes**

Meeting Date: February 10, 2015

Meeting Location: SRFACS Library

Recorded By: Jennifer Jimenez, Jason Davis. and Nas Salamati

### **ATTENDANCE**

Pascal Stricher

Cindy Beurtheret

Sarah L'Hoste

Sheila Moore

Jason Davis

Nas Salamati

R. Miller

### **MEETING START**

Meeting Schedule Start: 5:00 p.m.

Meeting Scribes: Jennifer Jimenez/Jason Davis/N.  
Salamati

Meeting Actual Start: 5:00 p.m.

Meeting Timekeeper: C. Beurtheret

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

C. Beurtheret requested a wording change to Paragraph Two of the Principal's report. With that change, Cindy moved to approve the January minutes and J. Davis seconded. Unanimous approval.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

J. Davis proposed adding a discussion of P. Stricher's plans to revise the SRFACS Charter, and N. Salamati proposed adding an item on inventorying books. With these changes Nas moved to approve and S. Moore seconded. Unanimous approval.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

E. Benefield: Volunteer Hours Tracking System and office binder.

A. Gospe: Student Behavior/Discipline

Parent: Parking Safety: Drop off and Pick up

## **Principal's Report**

P. Stricher reported that re-enrollment was going well, with TK and K numbers significantly higher than last year. The School Board approved a final version of "Element H" that gave a sibling preference for students who already have a sibling enrolled at SRFACS. All other new students at the K and TK level will need to participate in a lottery that, in each round, would first select 4 "free and reduced-price lunch-eligible" children, then one from in-District, then one who was the child of a school employee, and finally one whose parents are self-declared native French speakers. Applicants from out of the Santa Rosa City School District would only be eligible to have their names drawn once all of the applicants from categories 1 and 4 above had been accepted.

P. Stricher announced that the plan to carry out extensive renovations and paving at the school entrance has been finalized and presented to the District official responsible for maintenance, in order to determine how much funding the District will provide. The balance will be paid for by the SRFACS Foundation. In response to a question about whether parents would be given a chance to comment on the plan, it was explained that this opportunity had already been provided at the Beaujolais Nouveau fundraising event.

The school budget has discretionary funds remaining for the current school year. There are specific plans for spending at least half of this amount, including purchase of a new steam cleaner for the floors, additional projectors for classrooms, new curtains for the cafeteria, and 14 large umbrellas to shade outdoor tables. P. Stricher stated that any funds left unspent will automatically carry over into next year's budget. There was additional discussion about how funding is being used to serve EL students, which led to clarification about the current numbers of classified EL students at the school P. Stricher shared that there are currently 68 students classified as EL, but 28 will be reclassified by the end of this school year.

P. Stricher will be meeting February 20 with a group of directors at the School District to brief them on plans for a SRFACS middle school. The plan will then be presented to the School Board on March 11, and discussed and possibly approved by the Board on March 25.

Teachers for grades 3 and higher had a workshop on February 10th, hosted by the District, at which time they were trained in helping students with practice tests. Several teachers have already taken their students to the new computer lab, and kids were "up and running" on the new computers in a matter of minutes. Students are beginning to take the practice tests for

Smarter Balanced/CAASPP as well. N. Salamati shared some of the process that has taken place to set up and secure the lab as well as make it user friendly for the teachers.

No one has responded to the call for someone to head up the committee, but P. Stricher emphasized the importance of convening a committee to refine the school's uniform policy this year, so that an updated policy could be put in effect before the start of the next school year.

P. Stricher said he had already started working on revisions to the charter, and that he was required to get it to the Director of Charter Schools at the District by March 4th. He said he would email a copy of his final draft to SAB members as soon as it was complete. Most of the changes would be administrative in nature such as deletions of obsolete text and text referring to the old California State Standards. There was a discussion about the introduction of a third language portion of the charter. P. Stricher shared that introducing a new language at the 4th grade level would have to come at the expense of an hour per day of some other subject, but at the 6th grade level, a seventh period could be added to each day. Some questions were posed about when this might take effect. Several parents present shared that there is still a strong desire to add a third language into the curriculum and many would still like to see it in 4th grade.

There was some discussion regarding where things stand with the teachers' visa status and clarification was provided about the differences between the J1 and H1 visa as well as costs with respect to each. P. Stricher made the point that the District does not sponsor the visas. He also shared that the teachers were recently given information about state and district credentialing requirements based on their length of stay/contract.

At a recent meeting, two teachers agreed to work with S. Moore to inventory French books. Textbooks and teacher reference materials would be inventoried but remain in the classroom, but all of the library-type books purchased by the Foundation would be inventoried and then returned to the school library at the end of the year. (Currently they are being kept in a "library corner" in each classroom). These books would form the basis of the school's first French Library, and at the beginning of the next school year, teachers would choose 60-70 books to bring back to their classrooms for a month or two, after which they would be returned to the library in exchange for 60-70 new books. It was also suggested that each teacher be provided with a clear plastic box containing a set or kit of critical computer lab equipment, with a checklist attached so that it would be clear if anything was missing.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Progress Toward Goals as Outlined in the Charter: Homework Club**

The new homework club assistant has been identified and is undergoing fingerprinting prior to being formally hired. Pascal said he would be announcing in his communique' on Friday,

February 13th that anyone interested in having their child/ren join the after-school Homework Club could now apply. A parent suggested that homework assignments be more regular and systematic, and the teacher representatives to SAB agreed to discuss this proposal with the other teachers.

### **Additional Comments**

#### **Meeting End**

Meeting scheduled end: 7 PM

Meeting actual end: 8 PM

#### **Next Meeting**

Next Meeting Location: SRFACS library

Next Meeting Date: Tuesday, March 10, 2015

Next Meeting Time: 5 PM