



SANTA ROSA
FRENCH-AMERICAN
CHARTER SCHOOL

1350 Sonoma Ave
Santa Rosa, CA 95405

SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: Tuesday, March 25 2014

Meeting Location: SRFACS Library

Recorded By: Jennifer Jimenez

ATTENDANCE □ □

Pascal Stricher □

Jennifer Jimenez □

Brian Benefield □

Jennifer Schwinn □

Gwenaelle Peyret □

Cindy Beurtheret □

Kathleen Helleskov □

Sheila Moore

Jason Davis □

Andrea Faivre

Natasha O'Keefe

Natasha Hansen

Teresa Giovannoni

MEETING START

Meeting Schedule Start: 5:00 p.m.

Meeting Scribe: Jennifer Jimenez

Meeting Actual Start: 4:30 p.m.

Meeting Timekeeper: C. Beurtheret

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There was some clarification regarding the accreditation of the upper grades mentioned in the

minutes. K. Helleskov moved to approve. C. Beurtheret seconded. Unanimous approval.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was noted that the meeting time was moved up to 4:30 in order to accommodate attendance at the special meeting with Santa Rosa Symphony's Bruno Ferrandis regarding the classical music program that the school will be involved in. Also public comment was moved to later in the agenda to allow for more members to be present. K. Helleskov moved to approve the agenda and B. Benefield seconded.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

Principal's Report

P. Stricher shared the positive feedback regarding the article about SRFACS in Le Point Magazine. Translation will be made available. After the article was published, a French senator, who represents French citizens living abroad, contacted P. Stricher to visit the school. Bill Carl, the current school board president, and this senator along with an official from the French ministry of Education visited the school March 25. Bill Carl will give a presentation about this visit at the next school board meeting.

C. Beurtheret shared some details about the state of Utah's language immersion programs in public schools.

The first ELAC meeting was held with a small group of parents and P. Stricher shared that parents will be involved in the LCAP process through the ELAC meetings.

LCFF District Level Parent Advisory Committee

Andrea Faivre as an ELAC member and Michelle Gervais from the SRFACS Foundation will participate in the LCFF Parent Advisory Committee that is to be formed at the district level. There was some discussion about the parent representative from SAB. Meetings will take place between representatives from each school and district officials to look at long term planning for LCFF. J. Jimenez will represent SAB for SRFACS with J. Davis serving as a secondary representative in the event that J. Jimenez can not attend.

Action Items

Progress Toward Goals as Outlined in the Charter: Future Growth of Upper

Grades at SRFACS

P. Stricher shared two documents that charted the numbers for two possible scenarios-3 Kindergarten classes and 4 Kindergarten classes moving into the 2014-2015 school year. P. Stricher shared the status of the current numbers for 7th graders moving to 8th grade. There will be no combination $\frac{7}{8}$ class offered in the 2014-2015 year. There will be a town hall meeting Thursday, March 27 with parents from the entire student body in order to address the issues of growth for the school. Doug Bower, R. Monarrez, and A. Guzman from the district will be present. P. Stricher shared that if next year there are only three kindergarten classes it gives the school a little room to grow for a few years. Next year 19 classrooms will be available to SRFACS, including the current class for the district Deaf and Hard of Hearing program and Bungalow C. There are some other classroom possibilities, but 22 is the total number available on this site. With four kindergarten classes, more classrooms will eventually be needed to allow for a full k-6 as well as a potential 7th and 8th grade. There was some discussion and concern expressed about how to also address age appropriate separation in open spaces, recess areas, the multipurpose room, and classroom areas as the school grows and if 7th and 8th grade remains on the current campus.

A bond proposal has been approved for the fall ballot in the local election that will address additional district funding that could have a long term impact on facilities funding for SRFACS. One idea has been proposed to develop a magnet middle school for all of the district charter schools that will have tracks that specifically address each elementary charter's focus: foreign language or international track, arts, accelerated, etc. A similar model exists in a private school program in Portland, Oregon. P. Stricher shared that this model allows for more flexibility in hiring staff, pooling resources to offer electives, and retaining a larger student body. A question was posed about how many kindergarten classes have been notified of admission and P. Stricher shared that three classes have been notified at this time. A question was posed about how limiting the school to three kindergarten classes will impact diversity. Another issue relevant to the discussion was the question of retention of students as they move toward the upper elementary grades and into the middle school grades when faced with other options for middle school.

There was some discussion about how to build an infrastructure (buildings, counselors, and additional administrators, etc.) appropriate for a middle school curriculum and setting as well as the costs of the range of course offerings and resources appropriate for middle school level classes. J. Schwinn shared her experience as the administrator of a K-8 school and some of the potential approaches to addressing the above issues.

Volunteer Hours Tracking System

J. Davis reported that the website manager for the system that is being considered is delayed in its update but that we should move ahead with using the current website. He will forward the link to Pascal in order to move forward.

Additional Comments

There was some discussion about when to schedule the next meeting and potential agenda items.

Meeting End

Meeting scheduled end: 6:15

Meeting actual end: 6:30

Next Meeting

Next Meeting Location: SRFACS library

Next Meeting Date: Monday April 14 , 2014

Next Meeting Time: 5 PM