

Fronteras Spanish Immersion Charter School

2315 N. Seward Meridian Pkwy Wasilla, AK 99654
(907) 376-2223

APC Governing Board Meeting August 9, 2016 Meeting Minutes



- I. Call to Order
Quorum called to order 6:06pm

- II. Pledge of Allegiance

- III. Roll Call/Determine Quorum
Heather Charton, Misty Adams, Jody Soeder, Becky Murphy, Jennifer Hutchins, Solveig Eidsness, Lilliana Taner, Sandra Page-Carranza

- IV. Approval of the agenda
S. Eidsness motions to approve the agenda, S. Page-Carranza seconds motion

- V. Persons to be Heard
Mary Wargo stated the school looks fabulous. Proposed making changes for future meetings regarding persons to be heard.

H. Charton states persons to be heard be kept to 30 min for efficiency. Parents are encouraged to communicate with board members before meeting concerning new issues, then if needed the issues can be added to the agenda for the next board meeting. J. Hutchins agrees. S. Eidsness would like all board members involved in this process. H Charton points out having discussions with parents as issues arise can keep issues from ending up at board meeting. She states board meetings are a place to voice concerns. M. Adams refers to policy giving parents 72 hours prior to meeting to add new issues to agenda.

- VII. Standing Agenda

- A. J. Hutchins approves minutes from May 10, 2016, B. Murphy seconds meeting minutes.

- B. Principal Report

J. Hutchins states that Alaska state statute trumps all things and that signs must be posted that lockers are school district property. This includes lockers for grades 4-5, 6-8 and restroom lockers.

J. Hutchins states that today, 8/9/16 the Professional day with staff was very productive. Staff is working on new policy and procedure for taking the best care of walls and gym floors, including student and parent education.

Open house will be at 5pm on 8/15/16, parents will start in gym and then tour school to find their homerooms.

Every 2 years there is an immersion conference, this year in Minneapolis. Staff desires to go again October 19-22. B. Murphy can arrange to have credits for staff. This will affect school calendar and will be out for PD days. J. Hutchins recommended families taking breaks when school is not in session and stressed importance of attendance when in session.

H. Charton mentioned importance of having clear communication with teachers and parents regarding classroom and homework requirements when school will be out of session. J. Hutchins said students will be encouraged to do journals and homework would be held. School days missed would be the same for each student.

M. Adams asked if board members could go to conference and answer is yes. J. Hutchins can get information for them if requested.

C. Treasurer Report

M. Adams stated she switched over to Quicken automatically without difficulty for documentation of finances.

Discussed scholarship for \$500 grant class community based projects. These projects are geared toward cultural learning activities and team building for our middle school students. H. Charton asked if there is track record for those activities and grant rewards. No-one able to say, S. Eidsness mentioned Sonya Cook only person requested previous funds. B. Murphy asked if we have money to continue this project. H. Charton will look previous meeting minutes to find other information previously agreed upon for this program.

D. Hiring Committee Report

New staff includes an art teacher with 24 years experience in art. She will teach K-8. New 2-3 teacher Omaira Rivera. We are looking for 2nd english tutor help grades 4-8 intermediate.

E Board calendar/Timeline Review

Secretary J. Soeder will be responsible for keeping a calendar and timeline related to board activities, monitoring due dates, planning term goal dates.

Board would like to discuss facility committee report at September meeting and to add to timeline.

VIII. Unfinished business

A. Bylaw review plan

H. Charton would consider making a committee to update and review bylaws in our school charter. M. Adams states she has already gone through some inconsistencies and should not be open to interpretation, charter cannot be rewritten. We have not had an official review in last 5 years. Should we use meeting time to discuss, review by topic or section in binder?

S. Eidsness states not sure if committee is necessary to break it down. J. Soeder suggests reviewing as a group so that a committee of individuals is not interpreting bylaws again. B. Murphy agrees more efficient and reviewing in sections might work. H. Charton confirms academic policy will be first section to review. Board members should review page 5-59 by September meeting. Murphy asks is charter online? Yes, S. Eidsness will give B. Murphy a copy.

B. Board training

H. Charton reads from academic policy definition p. 5 of charter, states the Board has a partnership with J. Hutchins. The Board's role is less about operations, more about academics. Foraker training has been done twice for previous boards. H. Charton suggests if we go, we take specifics or challenges to them to discuss. Committee members can research other options for board training.

J. Hutchins states previous Foraker review found makeup of board as challenging and saw greater conflict of interest.

S. Eidsness asks how to get more community members on our board. B. Murphy states hard to find people who can objectively review academics.

M. Adams states we should use Roberts Rule Books. S. Page-Carranza states we make new start by determining roles and responsibility of our board members.

B. Murphy suggests adding to timeline contacting Foraker Group.

H. Charton would like members to spend a couple of hours focusing on charter before next meeting.

B. Murphy asks will we do a sub committee or work session, each member bringing something to table.

C. Board Recruitment

H. Charton asks how to get more parents involved in the APC Board. She states P. Onfray and C. Whittington-Evans are working on advertising. P. Onfray's dad was reviewing pamphlet.

The Board has 2 community seats available. S. Eidsness states don't have to be on board to be on committee, and M. Adams states it helps to have outside point of view for our board.

S. Eidsness states elections committee needs non-board member.

IX. New Business

A. Committee Review

Elections committee members include S. Eidsness, M. Adams, G. Schneider, E. Hirschman, L. Denny.

Reviewed p45 of charter “Election of Members to the Governing Board”.

Curriculum Committee members include S. Page-Carranza, L. Taner, J. Hutchins, A. Rinella (as a backup).

H. Charton motions for B. Murphy to serve on Curriculum Committee, M. Adams seconds motion, B. Murphy now on committee.

Finance Committee members include S. Eidsness, M. Adams, J. Hutchins, E. Hirschman.

Facilities Committee members include J. Hutchins, C. Whittington-Evans, H. Neilson, L. Denny, B. Lopez, G. Thompson.

Email all members and see if interested in staying in committee’s listed.

Partnership committee and Transition committee done.

Fundraising is not a committee.

Charter School Coalition will be represented by C. Whittington-Evans at their monthly meetings and report back to the board.

B. New facility user policy

C. Whittington-Evans asked for it on agenda. What are the guidelines? Facility committee will work on that using a facility use form. Plan for update at October meeting.

C. Fundraising

J Hutchins would like to fundraise for 2 items to purchase

1. Need portable stage for Christmas Concert and other activities.

2. Sound system to take outside for field day and outside events.

S. Eidsness states middle school fundraising contributions come from Believe Kids and Believe Kids now offers a spirit gear.

H. Charton states goal from pizza fundraiser evenly split between grades.

S. Page-Carranza promotes motivating kids to take Spanish ownership when participating in fund raisers.

Overall consensus is to use Believe Kids Fundraiser profits to fund a stage.

XI. Future Items/Future Business

September 13 next board meeting at 6pm B. Pierce's classroom.

S. Eidsness motions to adjourn meeting, S. Carranza-Page seconds motion.

APC Governing Board Members

Heather Charton, Chair

Philippe Onfray, Vice Chair

Misty Adams, Treasurer

Jody Soeder, Secretary

Solveig Eidsness

Sandra Page-Carranza

Lilliana Taner

Chris Whittington-Evans

Jennifer Hutchins (ex-officio), Principal

Beckie Murphy-CML