



Fronteras Spanish Immersion Charter School

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APC Board Meeting

Location: Joe D's Portable
March 5th, 2013 - 6:00 P.M.



Meeting Minutes

I. Call to Order: Michelle called meeting to order at 6:03 pm

II. Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call/Determine Quorum Number required for a quorum: 5
Gwen, Jackie, Andrew, Reanne, Jill, Jennifer Schmidt, Erik, Nicole, Michelle N.,

Dominic Harper, Amber Rinella, Veronica Wolf, Tammy Heimerl

III. Approval of the agenda for today's meeting

There is a request to add an item to new business: High Trust Training;

Motion: Nicole moves to add "High Trust Training" as item B to New Business; Jill seconds

Motion Approved unanimously.

IV. Review meeting protocol

- Wait for recognition from the chair to speak
- Let people give their reports and ask questions after each report
- Keep non-productive comments to a minimum

V. Persons to be Heard – 30 minutes maximum

- Must sign up before meeting begins, each person will have up to two (2) minutes
- Minutes may not be shared with others
- Comments shall be civil
- No public comment past this time
- This is not a question and answer time- Comments will not be addressed by the Board at this time.

No persons wishing to speak;

VI. Standing Agenda

A. Approval of meeting minutes from February, 2013

Changes needed to February Minutes before final approval:

- Change title to "Minutes";
- Gwen changed the word "ask" to "asking" on Pg. 3. We will keep as "ask."
- Treasurer's report; changing general to "Total."
- Jackie's name in lower case.

Motion: Michelle moves we approve the meeting minutes; Andrew seconds.

Motion Unanimously Approved.

B. Chair Report *5-10 minutes*

- Very confident lease approval will happen. Question now regarding insurance coverage.
- Michelle and Chris Whittington-Evans met with Lynn Gattis re: Capsys requests (Capital systems); Jennifer wrote up rationale for money; Lynn is supportive of our needs, though new to legislature, and doesn't know how much weight she'll carry. E-mailing Lynn will be helpful to demonstrate support for needing new facility and support for school. It would be helpful for parents to also communicate their support of the school.
- Yesterday, Jennifer and Michelle met with John Moosey with the Borough. They are putting the loan application together. Property will be in Borough's name, and will be a Borough asset. Meeting went very well. Indicated that this loan request would happen. Will have another meeting with him to discuss some financial gaps between our figures and the Borough's figures.

C. Principal's Report *15 – 30 minutes*

- Budget for 2012-2013 school year
 - Student performance & curriculum-
 - Enrollment
 - Parent communications/concerns
 - Hiring
 - Other
- Fantastic spelling bee occurred today. Top 3 places went to Fronteras. One suggestion is to have our own Spanish spelling bees. It would be great to do a Fronteras Spanish spelling bee, and then have winners from Fronteras go to Palmer High competition.
 - Our grade levels teams are getting together and determining what skills will be focused on across the board that are grade appropriate throughout the year;
 - Data coordinator will come to Fronteras on Friday, a Professional Development Day, to work with teachers for a 4 hour training on MAP skills; Teacher Teams in the afternoon.
 - One Fronteras K-1 monitor left her position for personal reasons;
 - Quarter 3 Assembly awards 9 am in the Gym;
 - K-5 this Thursday Read-a-Thon ceremony at 12:45 pm;

D. Treasurer's Report - *5 minutes*

One check written: \$31.57 for Lynn Gattis lunch. Only check out from account. Otherwise account total is the same.

E. Committee/Team Requests- *Written reports should be submitted to the Secretary 1 week prior to Board meeting for all Committees so that they be reviewed by APC prior to meeting*
Please keep oral reports as brief as possible

- Facilities Committee Report- done above in Chair report;
- Elections Committee Update – Gwen, Chair: Update for elections committee; met February 28th and reviewed guidelines and procedures and talked about how to present candidates. Vacancies include: Two staff – Joe and Jill, Nicole s termed-out; 4 parent seats – Michelle, Nicole, Marcus and Andrew all up; Ballot ends at 3 pm on April 23rd. Ballot results will be counted.

We have 10 candidates for 6 seats (5 of these seats can be filled by parents; 1 staff); Amber Rinella, Chris Whittington-Evans, Dominic Harper, Jill Bang, Mandi Lund, Michelle N., Nina Shaw; Tania Rigdon; Marcus Reum; Stacey Koster; Developing the Ballot is next on the list. Do we need any measures on our ballot for votes? None mentioned.

- Board Development Committee discussion

Erik handed out suggestions regarding our web site. The idea was to take a look at these. If folks are supportive, then Erik can talk with Solveig about making some of these changes.

Also, articles on Finnish schools and the difference between our view of teachers and the view of Finnish teachers in society. Finnish schools seem to base their excellence on the experience and excellence of their teachers. There are ways that we can recognize our teachers. Neat processes and tools that schools use that have gotten involved in Baldrige Award – Alaska school was first to win it. This is about “quality management” of schools. Teachers do their own research and curriculum development. Thought it would be a good idea to get other ideas about how people run their schools and Administrators perform their jobs.

Two more articles – for ideas. Common Core curriculum and how that is working.

The Web site suggestions are valuable. Parents should be able to read information speaking to the question: “Why should I enroll my children in Fronteras?” – the more information we can have on the web site about this, the better. Most of the changes are not too significant, which is helpful. No opposition to Erik’s suggestions for updates to the web site.

VII. Unfinished Business- Action Items

- Curriculum development –

Jackie met with herself today. She has put together a skeleton of a framework. Now we need to get the teachers to work together as a team. We did have writing, talking to Common Core and dealing with Language Arts; Last Friday during Professional Development, we spent time looking at materials in Connex. Jackie found Social Studies in Spanish. I am working on writing efforts, and working with Solveig on purchasing. Jackie was asked why it is that we are having some things ordered, like K-1 Spanish curriculum resources, when they already have them. Jackie explained why and that there is no K-1 Representative. Some parents have expressed interest in participating. Jackie has wanted to work with teachers first, and then the plan is to present it to parents.

- Language Immersion conference – Working on getting a loan. Looking at World Language programs in U.S.. One school teaches: Spanish, Mandarin, Japanese, Russian and perhaps one other language. Jennifer and Michelle are thinking about visiting one of them to learn about their strategies.
- School security – We had some people fall at school. This agenda item may have been a post-East Coast school shooting outcome. Has Fronteras participated in recent drills? Fronteras has done lock-down drills.
- Administrator evaluation update – 11 Feedback forms were filled out and returned. Committee of 3 non-teacher board members met. We have a draft evaluation. Will discuss it in Exec. Session. Will also discuss process from here on out – whether we present evaluation at next meeting, or call a Special meeting to present evaluation.
- Middle school student retention – Suggestion is to form a committee to look at this issue. Sports/No Gym are issues. Review feedback regarding why kids are staying vs. going.
- Board fundraising

1. Raffle update – Fronteras parent volunteer; VFW did approve sponsoring our Raffle. Cost will be \$325.00 to have tickets made by a local company; 5 – 7 day timeframe to get tickets produced. Raffle will run 5 weeks. Dominic is working with parents. Any board members that want to work with committee? Dominic can front the money.

Motion: Michelle moves to approve \$400.00 to reimburse Dominic on printing and publishing tickets. Marcus seconds.

Discussion:

We are raffling money. Parent duties.

Motion carries unanimously.

2. Other ideas/suggestions

VIII. New Business

- A. High Trust Training – Non profit organization. There is a parent component. There is a trainer – 4 days of training. Cost is \$289.00 per person. Fronteras has done training before, and teachers really liked it, and there are options to progress with additional training. Achievement, Respect, Freedom and Fun. Willing to have teachers and parents come together for a training. This has not been discussed recently as a possible training for Fronteras. Jackie has gone through two sessions. Really liked it. Provides common language for teachers and at home. Thursday through Sunday. Constantly positive terminology. Very effective. Trainer reinforces the fact that our job, whether parent or teacher, is educating our children with safety and health in mind. Staff needs to decide if they want to do it. We need to discuss it as a staff. Principal Schmidt does not care to pursue it. No Action by board.

Motion: Michelle – moves that the board enter Executive Session consisting of only non-staff/teacher board members. Nicole seconds.

Motion Unanimously approved.

IX. Executive Session

Matters generally include those affecting finances and personnel, the public knowledge of which might prove adverse or prejudicial.

Administrator Draft Evaluation and process moving forward discussed – Non-teacher board members only

X. Future Items/Future Business

Next regular board meeting: April 9th, 6pm

XI. Final Actions and Adjournment

Motion: Michelle moved to end Executive Session. Andrew seconded.

Motion Unanimously approved.

Motion: Michelle moved to adjourn the meeting (9:55 pm). Unanimously seconded.
Motion Unanimously Approved.

APC Governing Board Members

Jill Bang
Jackie Cochran
Joseph Dinwiddie, Vice Chair
Erik Hierschmann
Michelle Niland, Chair
Marcus T. Reum
Andrew Reynolds
Gwen Schneider
Raeanne Stephens, Treasurer
Nicole Whittington-Evans, Secretary
Jennifer Schmidt, Principal

La Promesa de Lealtad a la Bandera

Juro lealtad
A la bandera
de los Estados Unidos de America
y a la republica
que representa una nacion
bajo Dios
indivisible
con libertad
y justicia
para todos.