

Foster Elementary Charter School

Charter Board Meeting Minutes



Date: 9/10/24

Time: 06:00 PM

Location: Foster LMC & Zoom

Mission

Stephen Foster Elementary Charter School creates partnerships among students, staff, parents and community members to serve a diverse population of learners comprised of neighborhood and open enrolled students in grades 4K-5.

Vision

Stephen Foster Elementary Charter School develops independent learners who: honor diversity; show respect for themselves, others and the environment; and seek to use their unique strengths to lead efforts to improve the world around them.

To join the meeting via Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82871483643?pwd=RnFhdW8yVEIObGgvUnpJVWJOUFg0QT09>

Passcode: 290350

To request free childcare during an in person Board meeting, email FosCharter@gmail.com at least one day in advance.

Linked Documents & Media –

[August Minutes](#)

[Foster Charter Board Composition Matrix](#)

[AASD 2024-2025 Calendar](#)

[2024-2025 Board Member Contact Information](#)

[2024-2025 Charter Board Meeting Dates](#)

TOPIC		FACILITATOR
Attendance Present Cortney Dvorachek Jamie Johnston Jennifer Kary Brandi Andrews Tami Webb Kraig Knorr Carrie Willer (Virtual) Kelsi Van Fossen Julie Bargholtz (Virtual)	Absent (Note if excused) Susie Buche (Excused)	Cortney

Sarah Wylie		
Announcements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Susie, Cortney, and Jamie attend a back to school lunch with Foster staff. A brief presentation was shared with an overview of the charter. 		Jamie
Call to Order Approval of Minutes (see Linked Documents & Media) Changes/Additions? No Motion to approve by: Sarah Wylie Seconded by: Tami Webb Result of Vote: Carried		Susie
Administrator Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Celebrations - New Beginnings, teacher highlight, Wit&Wisdom <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Beginnings was a great success! Teachers had the opportunity to begin assessing their students, while students rotated through various stations where they learned about school expectations, participated in engaging read-alouds, and took part in team-building activities. Teacher Highlight: Katie Boegh <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Katie is fostering a positive classroom community while maintaining high academic expectations. She actively recognizes and celebrates students who are making a positive impact in her class. Wit and Wisdom has repeated exposures to books to build background knowledge and comprehension skills. General <ul style="list-style-type: none"> UFRS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Page Turners, per boys and girls club: “Page Turners Literacy Program is a reading tutoring program with the goal of increasing reading ability for students at the bottom 20% of reading proficiency in grades K-3. Students registered for the Page Turners program meet weekly with certified teachers and volunteer tutors for 30-minute sessions. For younger kids, they practice letter recognition and beginning words. Older kids work on reading aloud and reading comprehension. We usually start Page Turners around the end of September/beginning of October, and run it after school M-Th until May. My supervisor is the lead on the Page Turners program so she will reach out to get reading levels before we start. I also ask teachers if they have any recommendations for kids who could use the additional support.” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Julie Bargholtz and Carrie Willer joined the board to share insights about the UFRS 		Kelsi, Cortney

program, which originated in 1995 with an idea from the Mielke Family. The goal is to expand UFRS into all elementary schools within AASD as a before-school (7:45-8:45) and after-school (3:00-4:00) program. The program enlists volunteers to support kindergarten and 1st-grade students, focusing on reading development. UFRS targets students who are slightly behind their peers but do not qualify for formal interventions. Students will work one-on-one with a volunteer tutor for about 15 minutes. They will read a familiar decodable book to the volunteer, followed by the volunteer reading a book aligned with the Wit and Wisdom theme from class. Additionally, students will practice handwriting skills. UFRS is set to launch on October 21, and volunteers can sign up through an online application, followed by a training session.

- Carrie Willer has collaborated with the Boys and Girls Club to align the Page Turners program with the new ELA resources at Foster.
- Kelsi will move forward with implementing UFRS at Foster.
- Interested volunteers can [access information here](#).

- **Budget Update**

- No significant updates on the budget at this time. Kelsi has been informed that final budgets won't be set until the end of October.

- **Future Planning**

- [Charter Renewal Ideas](#)

- The charter will be rewritten next year, and the link above includes ideas from Kelsi to help guide the process. A next step could be to review the current charter and identify areas we want to modify.

- **Title 1**

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- **Charter Council**

- Charter Transportation Fund

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Charter Council has proposed establishing a collaborative transportation fund. To initiate the fund, the charter would need to make an initial contribution. The Charter Council would then seek additional funding from the community to significantly grow the transportation fund. • 	
<p>Programs & Services Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Website changes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The website has been updated. • Global Leadership resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next steps will be looked at to look into these curricular resources to support our charter. • Charter updates (take out 6th grade) • Global Readers Tabled until further notice • Family Communication & Recruitment Flyers • Technology (On hiatus) 	Cortney, Sarah
<p>Business Services Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charter Checking Account <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No updates, waiting to hear about school budget • Start of the year account balance will be updated at our next meeting 	Kraig/Jamie
<p>Policy Review Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updating Composition Matrix (see Linked Documents & Media) 	Kraig
<p>Old Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naming Proposal & Implications Table <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No updates • Global Leader T-shirts: more future funding source & vendor ideas; current T & hoodie sale via Instagram <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jamie will do an inventory of current tshirts. 	Susie, Jamie
<p>New Business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New members: Jennifer Kary and Brandi Andrews <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Motion to approve by: Sarah Wylie Seconded by: Kraig Knorr o Result of Vote: Carried • Alignment of B&GC & Foster student expectations, etc. Recruit B&GC representatives to the Charter Board? 	Jamie, Susie

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Progress is being made on aligning student expectations. • Neighborhood Outreach- canvassing in pairs for recruitment? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jamie suggested inviting community members or future families to the Fun Run. Kelsi proposed the idea of distributing information through mailbox flyers and offering open hours for tours at Foster. • Onboarding New Members <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • With several new members joining, we need to determine the best ways to support them moving forward. • Updating Elevator Speech card <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include information highlighting what a charter school is, as well as the unique aspects of being both a charter and neighborhood school, possibly under the name Foster Leadership Charter School. The Programs and Services team will collaborate with Kelsi to develop this, with Jennifer volunteering to assist. 	
<p>Adjournment Motion to adjourn by: Sarah Wylie Seconded by: Tami Webb Result of Vote: Carried</p>	<p>Minutes submitted by: Cortney Dvorachek</p>
<p>Topics for Future Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • XXXXXXXX 	

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, October 1, 2024, at 06:00, Foster LMC & Zoom

The Foster Charter Board generally meets on the 2nd Tuesday of each month except July, unless there are conflicts with the school calendar or activities, or when the Board’s work requires additional meeting time. An Important Dates document is published at the beginning of each school year; any deviations from this schedule are recorded in Board Agendas & Minutes. (Emergency schedule changes are communicated by the most efficient method available at the time.)

PLEASE NOTE:
Once editing for publication is completed by the Foster Charter Board Secretary & President, a .pdf version of this document must be 1) saved to the FosCharter Google account, 2) emailed to Foster Staff & all others requesting it, 3) published on the Foster School district website, & 4) emailed to Deb Barraza at AASD to be included in district records. 6/24