



A **FREE**
Personalized
Learning Public
Charter School

Kent Kern, Superintendent
Brent Givens, Director

**Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
San Juan Choices Charter School
Wednesday October 26, 2022
3:00pm Room 2**

Members present:

Brent Givens, Director
Marybeth Oddo, Teacher
Jonathon Elfstrom, Teacher
Bonnie Bjorgum, Administrative Assistant
Linda Rios-Sota – Parent
Nick Kamilos, Student
Shakila Ahmach, Student
Absent: Brian Ginter, Bob Erickson
Visitors: David Rios, Gricelda Carrillo

Welcome

This is the first of three meetings of 2022-2023. Introductions of the council were made. Brent gave an overview of why the council meets. 1. An opportunity to present information regarding Choices. 2. An opportunity to hear what students, parents and community want of our school. 3. To discuss school's directions, progress, budget, LCAPP and make suggestions for WASC accreditation.

Social emotional wellbeing of our school where students get to interact with each other

Approval of Minutes of previous meeting – April 27, 2022

No changes to last meetings minutes. Approval of the minutes: Unanimous. Marybeth makes a motion to approve the minutes. Linda seconds the motion.

Enrollment and budget Update

Current enrollment 222. Projected enrollment is 245. Choices is under enrolled and are looking for new enrollments. Currently, we hold weekly information sessions on Mondays facilitated by Russel Brown and Andrew Drennon. Choices is not a seat-based school but a work-based school.

Our school can hold 300 students with current staffing. Choices is looking to grow. Growth equals more programs and more social economical programs. If we don't meet this target, we will have to dip into our savings account next year.

At the last meeting it was stated there was a 1.4 million balance in our savings account plus projected state funding. However, the projected state funding did not happen. In addition, there was an accounting issue with San Juan Unified in which our annual oversight fees were mistakenly not charged. Therefore, our savings dropped by 75%.

We lease the building, and we pay oversight to San Juan Unified. (IT HR, payroll, maintenance, and operations, etc.) Oversight is \$400,000 to \$500,000. During Covid the oversight fees were not charged.

To conserve funds, we did not fill a couple of open positions. This school year we had a teaching position we did not fill, and we did not add another counselor. We hired one new special ed teacher.

In the months of November and December we typically see an uptick in enrollment.

WASC & LCAP Update – School Wide Action Plan 2022-23

We are working on communicating with all students who are not completing their work. Our Self-study coordinator is Kristin O'Brien. She helps us write our accreditation reports and collects data. Our Schoolwide action plan will be completed this year. We are already talking about our mission and our vision. We have focus groups to look at what our needs are regarding programs, professional development, and state testing data and will update the Schoolwide action plan. The LCAP plan is on our website. A survey will be sent out to seniors asking about an end of the year senior event.

CAASPP & ELPAC Testing Update

The California state assessment happens in May. The results from last year just got released. Math score really took a hit.

ELPAC – English language proficiency exam – students take the test when they enter the school district and if they have been in the country less than five years. Our goal is to reclassify them, so they are proficient in English. The results will be discussed at the January meeting.

Looking ahead: some priorities for 2022-2023

We are in the process of evaluating web developers to revamp our website. We are looking at companies that can provide a content management system, so we have control of the website. We are looking to improve our social media presence and marketing in all areas of social media.

Looking to increasing the value of coming onto campus and increasing the activities on campus. There is value in relationships.

It is a goal to increase social and emotional learning and connections.

Intramurals are back starting the first Wednesday in November.

School safety is a focus. The school Safety plan has been revised. We will hold regularly scheduled fire drills, lock down drills and shelter in place drills. Next Thursday is an all-campus safety meeting. Catapult is our online app that the campus uses for communication and is connected to the San Juan safety team.

Building maintenance. – The gutters are being replaced. The outside of the building will be painted, and the blacktop will be restriped.

CTE creating events.

Walk-ins and Visitor Comments

Shakila suggests a Tik Tok account and if Choices can host one. Brent explains there should be very clear guidelines about content

Nick would like to advocate for a confidential workspace for the school counselor so students can feel they have a safe space to go for counseling. Brent explains that is already a work in progress and that we are working with a furniture vendor to revamp the counselor space.

Shakila suggests that students should be aware they can play sports for their home school.

Next Advisory Meeting – January 26, 2023

Meeting Adjourned 4:05 pm

Brent adjourned

Bonnie 2nd.

Meetings are open to the public