

Charter School of Morgan Hill



Board of Director Minutes Sept 12, 2002

Open sessions began at 7:05 PM

Board Members Present: John Varela, Myles Taketa, Cinda Meister, Sharon Sousa, Paige Cisewski, Lynn Mitoma and Marcy Tomsheck
Arrived after previous mtg: Noreen Bergin
Absent: Claudette Beatty

Also in attendance: Mary Smathers, Joy Moody (staff rep alternate)

Open comments from the Public:

Vanessa Wray, a parent of a students at the Charter School, expressed concerns about the current patriotic expressions held in the AM assembly prior to the beginning of school. She personally does not endorse the current morning routine and would like to see a creative, non-traditional type of patriotic observance held in its place. Vanessa suggested several alternatives such as singing, student readings & guest speakers.

Comments regarding Board Packet

Cisewski brought up the lack of Special Education services at the start of last year, and again this year. There was discussion about the \$40,000 MHUSD is billing us for 8/10 of a year of services, as the amount is higher than we expected.

Varela opened discussion regarding changes to the MOU involving when Special Education Services payments are due – see Board Packet. Board discussed alternative payment schedules and would favor quarterly payments for school year 02-03, with perhaps moving to monthly payments in the school year 03-04.

Mitoma questioned Sousa for more details on the First Staff Development day when Stacy Emory from San Carlos Learning Center kicked off the beginning of our agreed Professional Development program with SCLC. Feedback from the staff was positive as Stacy, one of the few remaining original teachers from SCLS, is a good personal fit for our staff and has much information and experience to share.

Noted enrollment figure were up from 275 to 280 just this week.

There was a positive article in MH Times regarding CSMH and Varela questioned why there was no mention of STAR 9 test scores. Smathers indicated the reporter said Morgan Hill Times would be doing an article on all local test scores later.

Action Items

Hiring Recommendations:

Full time: Third grade, Melodie Geronimo; Fourth/Fifth Comb, Victoria Calderhead

Part time: Kinder, Michelle Kavanaugh; PE, Kathy Funke

Staff Handbook

A preliminary sample is attached. After discussion, it was agreed there would be an overlook now by the Board, feedback from staff, including enrichment teacher's, legal and a preliminary preview of an addendum by Sousa to cover day to day specifics all ready for Oct. 1 Board Meeting. Final approval hoped for in November Board Meeting.

Review and Approval of CBO Financial Project Plan for permanent site.

Discussion held. Approved 6-0

Review and Approval of Prop 39 facilities request to MHUSD – draft letter attached.

Discussion held with agreement that Smathers and Varela would be school-designated spokesmen to media regarding Prop 39. Smathers would make personal contacts with McKenna, Beatty and MHUSD Board Members regarding Prop 39 prior to Oct. 1 submission deadline. Agreed Smathers and Sousa could make minor edits to final submission.

Motioned moved and seconded to approved draft submission as attached. Approved 6 – 0.

Discussion items:

Mission / Vision discussion – Family Involvement presentation by Mitoma and Smathers.

Key points:

- 1 Not every family can participate in a traditional way. We continually pursue non-traditional paths.
- 2 Goal is to have every family involved in a meaningful and appropriate way.
- 3 Staff is important to family involvement piece, as staff needs to train / communicate to parents in how they can be of greatest help.
- 4 Contracts are individualized.
- 5 Bylaws include Board responsibility to adopt and implement individualized family plans.
- 6 Family membership in the corporation -- must be in good standing and fulfill their contracts.
- 7 Goal is collaborative leadership
- 8 Each family must have the basic commitment to their child to assist academically as well as emotionally

Next meeting October 1 at 7:00 PM. Adjourned at 9:15 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Joy Moody in Debbie Hargadon's absence
Administrative Assistant.

for Sharon Sousa
Board of Director's Secretary