

# Charter School of Morgan Hill



## Board of Director Minutes: Dec. 3, 2002

Closed sessions began at 7 PM

Open sessions began at: 7:30 PM

Board Members Present: John Varela, Marcy Tomscheck,  
Sharon Sousa, Paige Cisewski, and Lynn Mitoma

Also in attendance: Mary Smathers, Elaine Feeny, Noreen Bergin, and Debbie Hargadon

Absent: Myles Taketa, Cinda Meister, Claudette Beatty,

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Roll was taken of members present, as reflected above.

No action was taken in closed session.

Tomscheck motioned for Nov. minutes to be approved. Cisewski seconded.

Cisewski motions for Oct. minutes to be approved. Tomscheck seconded.

### **Members of the Public:**

Mr. David Cross with Doug and Diana Evans were present regarding the 7<sup>th</sup> grade Science field trip. They presented a follow up to last month's report. A Camp Trip Status handout is attached.

Bus fair to Los Angeles was quoted to around \$3,000, which they felt was too much money to make the trip to Santa Catalina. They are looking for additional camps with the YMCA camp in the Santa Cruz Mountains being first in the running. A camp at Sonora is more team building focused than Science oriented. The Headlands institute in the Golden Gate area of San Francisco is a possibility also.

Mr. Cross would like to get approval to fund the trip. Several fundraisers are being considered to help offset the costs. They are attempting to raise an uncertain amount of money, as they do not know where they are going. A survey amongst parents showed that most would be willing to pay up to \$300, but they would need to be able to offer scholarships to a few. Fundraising options presented were to sell heart shaped topiaries in advance of delivery for \$20 at a cost of \$13. Another option is to sell candy; Skittles, M & M's, etc. Profit here is 49% provided they sell 27 cases or one case per student. The time frame for the fundraising would be from Jan. through Feb. 14, 2003. Smathers asked who would take responsibility for managing the fundraising money. Mrs. Katrina McCollum and Diana Evans have been involved to this point, so they would report back as to who had direct responsibility.

No actions taken.

### **Comments/questions from board members on board packet . . .**

Cisewski questioned the MHUSD oversight charges noted in the Director's report. Smathers stated we are hoping to establish a precedent through other Charter Schools where the charge should be on 1% of State revenue. MHUSD has charged us on our total income amount, including fundraising amounts. This direction was left out of our MOU, which seems odd, as there were so many attorneys involved on both sides. Once agreement is made, we should have an amendment made to the MOU for next year. Smathers is still negotiating for this year's final amount to be paid.

Special Education services status was questioned. Sousa stated that MHUSD wants us to share part time resources with other schools. The service is yet to begin regarding RSP, with the exception of an aide, and the future is still not clear as to who will be here as an RSP specialist.. Varela suggested we elevate the situation by writing a letter to MHUSD stating our concerns with a copy and appraisal of the situation going to our attorneys.

Notice was given regarding the hiring of a Middle School Language Arts teacher. Sousa will exit the classroom on Dec. 4, 2002.

Mitoma questioned the order of Staff Observations. Sousa indicated she begins with new hires, and then moves to experienced staff, then enrichment teachers. She looks to do two evaluations each year, fall and spring, with the spring being the cumulative evaluation.

Sousa indicated school wide surveys would be distributed in December and be returned before Holiday break. Data summaries will be available in January.

Feeny handed out copies of the Balance Sheet. We now have 160K on the line of credit. Per our budget, we are where we thought we would be. We can't begin to pay any back against the line of credit until catch up funds arrive in February. Bergin suggested we take the credit card charges for a fundraising event against the proceeds of the event itself. The Clos La Chance credit card charges were \$900, for example.

**Action Items:**

*Approve teacher contract for 6/7 Language Arts Position.* Mitoma motioned we approve. Sousa seconded. Approved 5 – 0.

**Discussion Items:**

*Update on Enrichment/School Schedule:* Sousa presented the new enrichment schedule; copy attached. Goals were:

1. Have enrichment teachers teach fewer classes.
2. Increase chunks of time that each class received enrichment.

Schedule is not perfect but goals were met. A small change was made to adjust salaries for time changes. Total amount of enrichment salaries now through the end of the year will be under 62K. We budgeted 65K.

A final agreement was reached with the enrichment teachers so they no longer have to come to all staff meetings. It is optional for them to attend weekly staff meetings, but they must come to all exhibitions, make staff meetings at least 3 times per year and attend the end of year Staff Development day that focuses on the year in review and plans for the coming year.

The community connection presentation was postponed until the next meeting.

Adjourned at 9:45 PM. Next Board meeting is scheduled for Jan. 14 at 7 PM. For 2003, it was suggested the Board should consider changing Board meetings to the second Tuesday of the month.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Hargadon