

Cottonwood Valley Charter School Governing Council Regular Meeting August 13, 2008 – 7:00 pm

- I. Call Meeting to Order John
- II. Pledge of Allegiance All
- III. Ascertain Quorum
John Benson, Kim King-Wrenn, Harry Straley, Amy Cooley, Peter Mozley, Boyd Waters, Karin Williams, Mary Cox
- IV. Reading and Approval of Agenda
Added “Volunteer Coordinator Update” under Old Business – all ayes
- V. Reading and Approval of July 9 minutes
Replace “the guy didn’t need anymore information” with “the Legislative Finance Committee Staffer didn’t need any more information.”
Minutes of July 9 approved, all-ayes
- VI. Public Forum
Stasia Kerkmans present – no presentation.
- VII. Teacher Representative Report 10 min.
Kim Schaffer was elected GC teacher representative during a staff meeting this afternoon. The council thanks Kim for volunteering and informed her that the teacher rep’s input is very valuable to the council.
- VIII. Student Council Representative Report 5 min.
No Student Council member present. The Student Council has not yet been started.
- IX. Department Reports
- A. Administrator’s Report 10 min. Karin
The school is at full enrollment, 170 students. There are 46 applicants on the waiting list. Most of the classes are nearly identical groups from last year. Very few students left the school. Karin is working on her Level III Administrator certification. Her mentors are Barb Trujillo and Cheryl Wilson. Candy Lindquist has received her SPED certification. We met AYP. Eventually it will be impossible to meet AYP because of the “improvement” curve. But most other schools will fail before we do. Facilities – we received a \$1 million grant to build a multi-purpose building. We need to provide matching funds of \$138000. We have that in school bond fund. The NMCCS is assembling a group of schools that are planning on using the Lease-to-Purchase funding to build facilities. The group will pool funds for legal expenses and information about the process. The GC will vote on whether to join the Lease-to-Purchase group at the September GC Meeting.
- B. Business Manager’s Report 10 min. Mary
Generally we're in good shape; only big expense in July was our annual insurance payment - it was \$500 less this year than last year. We did get our lease-reimbursement award letter for \$95,810. We have a commitment from the district for Title I funds - \$20,000 this year. Mr. Gaitens’ fine-arts program was very successful; \$505 from that summer camp. Some misc. income - an AeroJet donation - \$79 - also LifeTouch school photos check \$276. Motion to accept budget adjustment requests, approved all-ayes
- X. Correspondence and Announcements
none

- XI. Committee Updates 30 min
- A. Committee Membership John
John: now is the time to recruit! Kim: get people at next Tuesday's potluck
 - B. Gifted John
Kim Berlat is the new teacher for the Gifted Program. Gifted Comm. will meet in early Sept.
 - C. Fundraising Peter
Did not meet. Volunteer Coordinator update : Peter will meet with Lisa Ackley in a few days. She is enthusiastic about getting started.
 - D. Parent Association Kim
Did not meet.
 - E. Facilities Karin
Karin Bowman (teacher) will join the committee.
 - F. Computing /Technology Boyd
Don Gaitens (teacher) will join the committee.
Boyd reports : The 18 laptops and 10 new desktop computers are here.
Matt is working really hard (perhaps too hard) to get things up and running ASAP.
Karin warned the teachers at today's staff meeting that the computers won't be ready for another week.
 - G. Accountability Kim/Karin
Amy Cooley volunteers to chair the committee. Karin requests that the committee work on producing a new EPSS for the State.

XII. Old Business

- A. GC Retreat Priorities 10 min. Karin
(see attached Action Plan). Scott-Foresman is the Science curriculum for K-5, aligned to NM standards. Using "electronic gradebooks" for family communication - implementing parent-teacher communication electronically (aside from email) is not workable.
Kim : Let's do the PLP training at the September PA meeting.
- B. Leave of Absence Policy 10 min Mary
We need to upgrade our current very simple Leave of Absence Policy. NMPSIA (our health insurance provider) has asked us for our policy. NMPSIA will allow an employee on Leave of Absence to stay on the insurance for a year with the employee paying the premium. The school would be billed for the coverage and would collect payment from the employee. We looked at the SCS policy. A district employee must have worked for the district for four years (full time). And SCS pledges to make a best faith effort to provide the employee with their old job when they return. The Council favors a leave of Absence Policy. LOA's give teachers the opportunity for professional development.

XIII. New Business

- A. Potluck/Presentations 10 min. Kim
Four presentations are scheduled 6:30 – 7:30pm. Everyone's prepared.
- B. Coalition MOU – Lease Purchase 10 min Karin
See attached MOU. Ruth Milner has reviewed it.

XIV. Items for Next Month's Agenda

XV. Scheduling Next Meeting:

September 10

XVI. Executive Session

Motion to enter Executive Session – all ayes.

Motion to leave Executive Session – all ayes.

Motion to hire Rheda Brown as part-time Music Teacher, bump Omar’s salary in consideration of CEUs, Kim Schaffer to Level III salary. Approved all ayes.

XVII. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned