

Utah State Charter School Board Meeting
Minutes
February 10, 2011
North & South Board Rooms
Utah State Office of Education

APPROVED

Members present: Tim Beagley, Laura Belnap, Dean Brockbank, Yolanda Francisco-Nez, Tom Morgan, John Pingree, Scott Smith

Staff present: Marlies Burns, Paul Crawford, Cory Kanth, Jeannie Rowland, Georgia Loutensock, Jo Schmitt

Others present: Dave Crandall, John Tripp, Jason Stanger, Sonia Woodbury, Lincoln Fillmore, Jessie Kidd, Erin Preston, Joel Wright, Julie Adamic, Darren Beck, Jaime Christensen, Joe Heywood, Kenneth Surratt

Call to Order

Vice Chair Tim Beagley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting with CREDO

Director Marlies Burns introduced Ken Surratt from CREDO to the SCSB members and the Ad-Hoc Committee. Mr. Surratt presented a power point presentation outlining the history of Performance Management for Utah Public Charter Schools, roles of Utah Charter School community with Performance Management Framework and Proposed Performance Management Framework work plan. In addition, he stated the purpose of the presentation was to ensure the SCSB understood its role, the Charter School Staff's role and charter school's role with CREDO and the Performance Framework.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Chair Tom Morgan and seconded by Member Scott Smith to approve the minutes from the January 13, 2011 State Charter School Board Meeting. The motion was carried unanimously.

Charter School Board Chair's Report

Vice Chair Tim Beagley reported to the SCSB there have been a number of emails received from parents and board members from Vista at Entrada charter school. The issue appears to be whether or not the school is following their charter in terms of their governance structure of the school. Mr. Beagley requested the charter school staff to inquire of the school of those concerns and if found the school is not following their charter, he requested the staff prepare a letter asking/requiring them to follow their charter. Or if needed, the school should request an amendment to change the charter to the way their governance structure works.

Chair Tom Morgan stressed to the SCSB members they should not visit any school as an individual, in any capacity; to give counsel, direction or advice. Mr. Morgan stated that if there are issues with any charter school the school's governing board needs to be invited to a SCSB meeting, and as a board discuss the issues at hand, give direction, and create sanction if needed; but not to act as individuals.

Member Scott Smith stated that his wife is a founding member and on the governing board of Vista at Entrada charter school and there is no discussions between him and his wife regarding the school's governance, performance etc. in their home or personal life.

Financial performance of charter schools (FY10)

Cory Kanth referenced the materials that had been previously distributed regarding all charter schools financial status and addressed the schools which have developed current deficiencies.

Vice Chair Tim Beagley directed the charter school staff to contact the governing board of the two schools that are in the most immediate difficulties and invite them to attend the SCSB meeting in March to address the financial status of the school.

Performance framework compliance process

Director Burns presented a proposed change in board rule, R277-470-12, that addresses a process for school notification of non-compliance with performance framework targets and governing board timeframe for resolving a deficiency.

Motion was made by Member John Pingree and seconded by Member Scott Smith to incorporate the proposed changes to R277-470-12 and send it to the various stake holders: charter schools, charter association, etc. for comment; with a timeframe for the comments to be made and received by the SCSB March meeting. The motion was carried unanimously.

Charter Agreement and Application/Approval Timeline

Director Burns reminded the SCSB of the process for new school, satellite school, and school expansion presentations and requests. The discussion addressed reverting to the process previously followed where presentations were heard the same day and requests were ranked at that meeting.

Motion was made by Member John Pingree and seconded by Member Scott Smith to have one day for a final vote on the charter schools that would be forwarded to the USBE, but continue to hear the proposals throughout the year as staff determines they have reached a minimum set of standards. The motion also included the approval of the timeline as presented. The motion was carried unanimously.

Executive Session

Motion was made by Member Scott Smith to move into an executive session for the purpose of personnel. The Board was polled and by unanimous consent of those present the Board moved into an executive session at 11:30 a.m.

Motion was made by Member Scott Smith and seconded by Member Laura Belnap to reconvene into open meeting. The board reconvened at 11:40 a.m.

Motion was made by Member Scott Smith and seconded by Member Dean Brockbank to approve the nomination of David Hall for consideration on the Charter School Revolving Loan Committee to Superintendent Shumway. The motion was carried unanimously.

Meet with State Board of Education

The SCSB was invited by the USBE to attend its Legislative Committee session where invited legislators discussed proposed legislation specific to charter schools.

Meet with State Board of Education and WestEd

The SCSB was invited by Superintendent Shumway to attend the meeting with the USBE and WestEd regarding quality charter schools.

Adjourn