

Utah State Charter School Board Meeting  
Minutes  
**May 15, 2008**  
North & South Board Rooms  
Utah State Office of Education

**APPROVED**

Members present: Julie Adamic, Barbara Killpack, John Pingree, Eric Smith, Joel Wright

Members excused: Brian Allen, Scott Smith

Staff present: Marlies Burns, Mark Long, Jeannie Rowland, John Taggart, Jo Schmitt

Others present: Mark Cluff, Jeanene Bowen, Monty Hardy

Call to Order

Chair Julie Adamic called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Member Joel Wright and seconded by Member John Pingree to approve the minutes from the April 21, 2008 State Charter School Board Meeting. The motion was carried unanimously.

Charter School Board Report

Chair Julie Adamic informed the SCSB the recommendations for approval for the new charter schools and the amendments presented to the USBE were given final approval and the anticipated appeal was withdrawn.

Ms. Adamic informed the SCSB that she and Kim Frank, Executive Director of the Utah Associate of Public Charter Schools (UAPCS), went to Washington D.C. to request continued support and funding for Charter Schools, specifically the Implementation and Facilities Grants. They met with the offices of Senators Hatch and Bennett and Representatives Bishop, Matheson, and Cannon. Ms. Adamic stated for the most part, they are very supportive of charter schools, but did make it clear that if the charter school portion of the funding was pulled into NCLB, they would not vote for supporting charter schools. She stated the task at hand is to keep the Charter School funding outside the NCLB funding.

Director Marlies Burns reported to the SCSB on her visit to virtual schools in the Phoenix, AZ area. She and other employees of USOE visited three different schools in a two day period. Because of her visit, Ms. Burns stated she feels she is better prepared to develop a virtual charter school application.

Board Standing Committee Reports

- Rule Review Committee-Director Burns informed the SCSB the Rule Review Committee met, but there were no voting members in attendance. Ms. Burns distributed a revised copy of R277-470 and discussed the recommended changes.

Motion was made by Member John Pingree and seconded by Member Eric Smith to approve the recommended changes to R277-470. The motion was carried unanimously.

- Annual Report Committee-Member Barbara Killpack informed the SCSB of the changed questionnaire regarding the annual report in terms of requested information. She also informed the SCSB of formatting changes to the document.

**Information Items:**

- Facilities Survey-Marlies Burns informed the SCSB John Taggart had conducted a facilities survey that asked specific questions as to whether the schools are leasing, owning, renting their building, if they plan to renovate, etc. John Taggart reported the results of the survey were: a number of schools are acquiring their own facilities; schools are grateful for the revolving loan fund and the finance authority; schools are concerned of the overall cost of bonding and acquiring a facility; schools are finding more of an option to buy their facilities as opposed to leasing.

Chair Julie Adamic suggested changing the order of the agenda to discuss compliance with facilities and Paradigm High Schools lease agreement to this portion of the meeting.

- Compliance with facilities loan/lease agreement checklist-John Taggart informed the SCSB of the status of the new schools facility status for the school year 2008-2009. Mr. Taggart discussed the handout that was sent to the SCSB in their monthly packet. After much discussion it was determined that charter schools would be required to submit to the SCSB a signed agreement, with the lease agreement checklist within two weeks after signing their lease or purchase agreement.
- Paradigm High School lease agreement-It was decided there was no need for a discussion regarding Paradigm High School lease agreement, because it was covered in the “compliance with facilities” section of the meeting.
- State Charter School Board nominations-Director Marlies Burns informed the SCSB of the individuals that were submitted as potential State Charter School Board nominees from the USOE. Ms. Burns stated there are other methods of submitting nominations: individuals can self-nominate, on the Governor’s website; individuals could have been nominated directly from a school to the Governor’s office; a nomination could come through the UAPCS. She stated the list of names she was presenting is the individuals that would be applying for the Charter Schools representative position.
- Charter School Report 2008-Director Marlies Burns discussed the Charter School Report that the USBE requested. Ms. Burns distributed a slide presentation handout.

**Discussion Items:**

- Charter school funding FY09-Mark Long distributed a spreadsheet showing “Local Replacement Funding” and a chart showing 2008 and 2009 Basic School Program Funds.

**Action Items:**

- Thomas Edison Charter School-Motion was made by Member John Pingree and seconded by Member Barbara Killpack to approve for recommendation Thomas Edison Charter School’s amendment request to revise their charter. The motion carried by positive votes by Members John Pingree, Barbara Killpack, Chair Julie Adamic, and Vice Chair Eric Smith. Member Joel Wright recused himself from the vote.
- Karl G. Maeser Preparatory Academy Amendment Request-Motion was made by Member Barbara Killpack and seconded by Member Eric Smith to approve Karl G. Maeser Preparatory Academy’s amendment request to add grades 7 & 8, with no additional students for the 2009-2010 school year. Chair Julie Adamic expressed her concerns of not having test scores to review and compare to other local high schools. After much discussion, the motion was withdrawn and a new motion was made by Member Eric Smith and seconded by Member John Pingree to approve for recommendation Karl G. Maeser Preparatory Academy’s amendment request pending test score results and having the recommendation pulled from the USBE agenda if the scores are not in line with the SCSB’s expectations with a comparable school. Ms. Adamic requested the scores disaggregated by sub groups as well as the overall school. The motion was carried unanimously.

Adjourn

Motion was made to adjourn at 12:05 p.m.by Member Eric Smith and seconded by Member Joel Wright.