

Charter School Board
Minutes
October 21, 2004
USOE, Board Room

Attending: Brian Allen, Barbara Killpack, David Moss, Anne Peterson, Eric Smith, Scott Smith, Sonia Zisumbo, Patricia Bradley, Ray Timothy, Jo Schmitt

Guests: Steve Winitzky, Lisa Putman, Royce VanTassell, Larissa Powell

Approve minutes of September Board Meeting – Scott Smith, Second by Anne Peterson

Brian Allen discussed Education Interim meeting he attended. Was asked for to three priorities. Requested board to look at list and prioritize issues.

Anne Peterson asked for clarification on issues discussed at the Education Interim.

Patricia Bradley discussed and explained spreadsheet of facilities grant awards

Contracted services used or will be used by the CS Board:

Evaluations that are necessary – RFP for \$100,000

Chris Was – his work will be completed by January 2005

Utah Foundation Study – concerns as to whether they can begin work before June 2005

AG Office – Charter Schools by laws

Motion made: More information needed before using Utah Foundation – wanting to know dollar amount needed.

Motion made: Put out an RFP for outside vendor for Financial Analysis – Dave Moss has questions on timeline.

Discussion of needing more information from Attorney General's office before making decision on using Utah Foundation.

Motion by Eric Smith: to use Utah Foundation and put out RFP for overall evaluation.

Second by Barbara Killpack.

Amendment – to separate the motions, (keeping Utah Foundation motion separate from putting out and RFP)

Motion to use Standard and Pores???? – financial study guidance on financial best practices.

Discussion:

Utah Foundation for bid to do follow-up study on funding sources

Anne Peterson suggested opening up the bid for the study.

Ray Timothy commented that Utah Foundation is viewed as non-political, non-bias group.

Concerns were raised with their report – misrepresentation with some issues – growing vs. declining enrollment.

Brian Allen raised the suggestion that putting out to other bidders will put them at a disadvantage because they don't have access to previous information.

Dave Moss: use existing study; also, other organizations would start without previous information.

Suggested to take broader look and concerns about time issues.

Board voted in favor of Utah Foundation doing study, Anne Peterson voted against.

Voted to put out RFP for performance goals evaluation.

CAO/Chair of Board – two separate people

Suggested that the director of the school is the person that deals with the day-to-day operations of the school. Director should not be Chair of Board.

Barbara Killpack suggested that with the Chair of Board being Director as well, give a great potential for misuse of funds.

Brian Allen asked if it appropriate for the day-to-day operator of the school to chair the board.

Also suggested that people need to be educated as to who and what the difference between CAO and director.

Brian Allen suggested an annual conference with school personnel, state office staff and CS board to educate on matters.

CS Applications were discussed as to which member of the Board would review which application. Only suggestion was that Eric Smith would prefer to review elementary school applications.

Conversions:

Ranches – serving K-8 grade, not K-12. Making no recommendations for expansion; baseline criteria not yet available; tests are just being administered now.

Motion to approve: Scott Smith

Second: Dave Moss

- Put on State Board agenda for Dec 3 meeting to dissolve charter
- Prepare agreement for Brian Allen to sign. Making it standardized.

Davinci –

Barbara Killpack had concerns about effectiveness goals, and number of volunteer hours.

Looking at options as to building....building from Timpanogos Academy possibility.

Motion by Barbara Killpack to move item to end of agenda to discuss personnel issues pending litigation.

Second by Sonia Zisumbo

Larissa Powel from Lincoln (new charter school application) wants to add founding members names to application before Dec 3rd meeting. Wants 14 families exempt from lottery.

Was informed that the percentage is not fixed in statute or rule. Will be addressed to individual school during interview process. Was informed can request waiver because of not knowing the answer of founding members.

DaVinci

Suggested by Brian Allen to place employee on paid administrative leave until allegations are satisfied. If allegations are true, fire the employee. If found guilty, Professional Practices to be notified.

CS Board directed Patricia to have school board take action, administrative leave for investigation and for board to handle the issue. Internal investigation by DaVinci Board, being aware of civil rights and discrimination issues.

Offered legal services through Carol Lear at USOE.

Brian Allen's commented on his concern to protect and preserve the reputation of all charter schools.

Recommended to take some action to restore confidence in DaVinci.

Suggested giving School Board executive committee "heads up" of situation. Conversion of DaVinci was put on hold.

Responsibility of finding replacement for Director, Patricia Bradley.

Dave Moss pointed out the route and process of posting and interviewing for Director.

Mentioned that John Broberg would be interested in considering the position.

Ray Timothy pointed out that in the law, the appointment of director would be made by State Superintendent with recommendations from CS Board. But that position does not need to be advertised or posted.

Anne Peterson stated she is uncomfortable with just appointing position and would rather go more public with the opening.

Brian Allen concurred that it is the CS Board's responsibility to find best available candidate.

Motion: Scott Smith to post position asap with recommendation to be open for 2 weeks.

Second: Sonia Zisumbo with possibility of extension, not mandatory to 14 days.

Recommending board being on hiring committee.

Motion: Barbara Killpack to come out of executive session
Second by Scott Smith

Motion: Eric Smith to close meeting.
Second by Brian Allen

Adjourn 1:00 pm