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**Minutes of the Pioneer Springs Community School
Board of Trustees Meeting
December 15, 2015 - 6:45-8:20 pm**

Location: Pioneer Springs Charter School Campus

In Attendance:

Board members present:

Abigail Jennings (Chairman)

Erik Giles (Vice Chairman)

Mark Barney

Mary Coppola

Kristin Clewell (Secretary)

Others in Attendance:

Erin McDonald (Founding Director)

Randolph Lewis (Founding Director)

Mary Mix (Nature Director)

Kristen Krabath

Brian Hicks (parent)

Maggie Pozoroski (parent)

Established a quorum, Abigail calls meeting to order at 6:45.

Erik made a made motion to approve 11/17/15 Closed and Regular Minutes, which were sent to board to review prior to this meeting, Mary seconds, all in favor.

Financial Report

Erik presented November 2015 Balance Sheet, P and L, and Cash Flow Report. Mark made a motion to approve the October 2015 Financials, Kristin seconds, all in favor.

Erik presented the 5 Year Budget; total expenses will go down after next year due to the high cost of upfits next year. A parent asked what falls into the technology category and Abigail responded items such as projector, laptops, and Internet expenses. The 5 Year Budget includes the high school expansion start-up expenses. Mark made a motion to approve the 5 Year Budget, Mary seconds, all in favor.

Facilities

Randolph reported that Davis Lake HOA did assist with planting the buffer between the school and the neighborhood; the cost was split 50/50. The process has been

started to fix the drainage by the barn and Croft; a small creek bed was created for nature play. Also grading the playing field.

Abigail noted that the rezoning application and floor plans are in the works for the new property.

Director Search Committee

Mark reported that he did have one good interview this week with an applicant from Raleigh with 10 years of experience. There have been several interviews scheduled last week and this week, but many last minute cancellations or no-shows. Still receiving resumes from the Instructional Coach resource. So far all interviewees could start in mid-January.

Academic Excellence Committee Report

Mary C reported that our Testing Coordinator is now Melissa Young, Melissa is the only one that will have access to the secure shell. Mary recommended that Melissa come into school the 1st week of January. All teachers were able to schedule a planning day. Mary also recommended that staff meeting occur on a weekly basis for now. Amy Fisher from CSD came to school to present about Words Their Way. It would be beneficial for teacher to have their own Words Their Way and Singapore Math manuals. Mary suggested new members of the Academic Excellence Committee: Kim Aichele (CSD science teacher, already said yes), Hattie Kissel, and Jack Piel.

PSCS now has more professional contacts including:

1. Kim Champion-a reading specialist that was contract at school but has been offered a position starting in January; she has been helping to level the books at school
2. Lynn Curley-math facilitator at Thunderbird Academy
3. Wayne Brazell-retiring SC superintendent who want to work specifically with charter schools (very interested in green schools) pro bono

The majority of 2015 BOG scores for 3rd grade were 1 and 2's. Still working to compile math data.

Each PSCS grade level team has been paired with a CSD partner and Mary recommended they be paid for their services, excluding herself:

4th-Diana Hosse

3rd-Libby Christian

2nd-Amy Fisher

1st-Mary Coppola

K- Mary Coppola

Erik made a motion to approve independent contractor contracts as recommended by the Academic Excellence Committee, Mark seconds, all in favor.

Maggie asked what is being done to track 1st and 2nd graders academically. Mary said that is what the running record is used for. Also Kim Champion will take data on each student, starting at 4th and moving down to kindergarten.

Interim Director's Report

Erin reported so far we have 141 registrations for open enrollment. Current parents are confused with enrolling a sibling; Erik explained that they still need to go in and enroll on the lottery webpage and click a sibling box; they are not enrolled in the general lottery. An email will be sent to parents to clarify. Staff does need to fill out applications for their kindergarteners.

The Lantern Walk will be postponed until January due to the predicted rain for this Thursday.

Pioneer Voices will be scheduled for January.

Erin expressed thanks to Mary C and Mary M for supporting and guiding staff.

The Run for the Trees fundraiser on Friday December 11th was a huge success, grossed over \$32,000, not including corporate sponsors. Also sold about \$800 in PSCS gear. Students want to use money to create a climbing wall. Also looking to set up a zipline in an area with natural grade.

Erin presented the 2016-2017 school calendar. Almost completely revised; will start on August 15th and end on June 14th with more ½ days for professional development. Need to have 9 teacher workdays. Will not have the 2 full weeks off for winter break. Mary C suggested surveying the staff. Need to provide afterschool for working parents. Mark questioned how ½ days might impact instructional time.

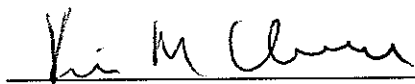
Strategic Planning Update

No due dates in December except National Green Network, will move to a future date.

Mary C complemented admin team, Randolph, Mary M and Erin. She posed what else could be delegated to parents.

Erik made a motion to adjourn, Mary seconds, all in favor. Adjournment at 8:20.

December 15, 2015 Minutes respectfully submitted by Kristin Clewell.



Kristin Clewell, Secretary