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**Minutes of the Pioneer Springs Community School
Board of Trustees Meeting
November 18th, 2014 – 6:30-8:59 pm**

Location: Pioneer Springs Charter School Campus

In Attendance:

Board members present:

Abigail Jennings (Chairman)

Erik Giles (Vice-chairman/Treasurer)

Kristin Clewell (Secretary)

Mary Coppola

Sandy Knox

Others in Attendance:

Laura Mock (Director)

Randolph Lewis (Founding Director)

Kristen Krabath (Registrar)

Mark Barney (parent)

Maggie Pozoroski (parent)

Jennifer Foley (parent)

Established a quorum, Abigail calls meeting to order at 6:39.

Kristin made a made motion to approve October 2014 minutes and October 10/28/14 closed session minutes, Erik seconds, all in favor.

Financials

Erik presented Balance sheet and Profit and Loss sheet (from Quickbooks), no questions from board.

Jennifer Foley asked why we rent versus own and was explained by Abigail.

Kristin made a motion to approve October financials, Mary seconds, all in favor.

Erik explained slight change with budget due to EC funding. Wendy Britt (EC Coordinator) had budgeted for 20 EC students but went down to 18 due to student movement. Then PSCS discovered some of the remaining students had been put into the system incorrectly by previous school and the numbers further decreased to 11 for state and 13 for federal funding, a total loss of \$45,000. This money had been budgeted to be collateral for turn lane.

A letter was sent to Senator Jeff Tarte in regards to state health benefits. Senator Tarte is willing to draft a bill stating a school can apply for state health care from year 2 and on (this is important as PSCS missed deadline last year). Senator Tarte is planning a visit to the school.

Facilities Update:

Davis House-now on track for anticipated completion date.

Red Barn grading is on track but possible weather concerns (can't pour asphalt in lower temperatures).

Turn lane: final plans had gone to NCDOT 2 weeks ago but have not heard back. Ameristeel not responding to right of way requests. Requested 4 construction bids, but no final bids received yet, which is needed for bond.

Red Barn: board looked at latest plans. Abigail presented answers to questions posed by board members last meeting:

1. connecting doors for classrooms-yes
2. sinks in classrooms-not on plans yet, still a possibility
3. can wash- this was already present in Red Barn, can be used by cleaning staff
4. drop zone=hallways
5. tin roof-enough insulation, will not be loud in rain

Plans need to be taken to county for approval. Erik made motion to approve Red Barn plans as is to send to county (with desire noted for sinks in classrooms), Sandy seconds, all in favor.

Jennifer Foley asked about how the barn space will be used, Laura explained how classrooms with change based on looping teachers.

Current facility issue: required a full lead inspection to minor chipping of paint. Regulations state need to send a letter informing families of children born after April 29, 2008 but sent letter to whole school to be more thorough. Next the remediation plan needs to be sent to the state, then school can fix it.

Site Selection:

1st meeting with the County (with Assistant County Manager and Landmarks Commission): discussed 3 important points: (1) financials (2) partnership with Town of Huntersville to use ball fields and parking (3) nature, who owns the wooded buffer

2nd meeting: (1) no financial answers yet, but sounds promising (2) verbal agreement with Town of Huntersville for fields and parking (3) 3 acres of the woods owned by county and 125 acres owned by an estate.

School directors and Abigail me today for another tour of Torrence Lytle. The 1935 building was in much better condition than previously thought. Board had positive reaction about this site.

Academic Excellence Committee Report:

Mary presented a slide show to board.

- role of committee is to support teachers and report back to board
- will report to the board 3 times a year including information about: curriculum, assessment, and instruction
- teachers have already participated in excellent continuing education opportunities this school year
- classrooms are well stocked and teachers have had a voice in the process
- classroom material inventory should be established
- assessment tools, each grade level has different ones and is a basis for parent conferences
- data collection, 3 types: quantitative, qualitative, portfolios
- reporting: report cards, trends (Admin team meets with each grade level to identify and discuss trends noted)
- presented chart with Support/Interventions by grade level to show how many students require additional supports per classroom
- line of communication: informal, conferences
- Student Discovery Team is a great resource at school to help identify needs of students and ways to support in class
- Committee's recommendations: (1) provide staff development to identify trends and modify instruction as needed (2) provide classroom support for teachers to assess and prepare for conferences (3) recruit additional committee members

Director's Report:

Results of parent survey (not many parents responded): 82.93% liked 185 day calendar and 10.25% liked hourly calendar. In regards to PSCS school day aligning with local calendar: 12.20% yes, 38.95% no, 51.22% good either way. Consider adding 10 more minutes to school day for more time in Connect Classes.

Laura showed draft of proposed calendar for next year, decided upon 4 snow make up days.

Creation of Parent Advisory Committee called Pioneer Parents, will begin to meet in January (parents have time to meet with Administration).

Creation of Pioneer Wings, an organization for parents helping with service at school. A parent, Ann Yampolsky, is the committee chair. Will encompass:

1. Outreach Communication
2. Events Committee
3. Pioneer Appreciation (for teachers)
4. Service Learning
5. Multicultural programming

6. Volunteer Coordination
7. Garden Committee

Strategic Planning:

Reviewed Strategic Plan timeline deadlines.

Abigail shared copy of Strategic Plan that will be given to parents for board to review.

December board meeting will be moved to December 16th due to holiday the following week.

Board looked at the new website on the projector screen and decided which section to post the meeting minutes.

Enrollment for lottery is 150 students so far.

Need to start planning for middle school educational structure.






Erik made a motion to adjourn, Mary seconds, all in favor.

Adjournment at 8:59 pm

November 18th, 2014 Minutes respectfully submitted by Kristin Clewell



Kristin Clewell, Secretary

-  First and Last day of school
-  Workday
-  Half day School
-  Holiday/No school
-  Testing(3rd and 4th only)

PSCS
185 day
Calendar
2015-2016

4 First day back from break

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

MLK Holiday 1-18-16

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16		18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27		29
30	31					

10-14 Workdays
17 First day
28 3rd grade BOG

11 ½ day/Workday
12 No school/Workday
~~15 No school/Holiday~~

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14		16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29					

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6		8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22		24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

7 No school/Holiday
18 ½ day/ Staff Retreat
23 No school/Holiday

25 ½ day/Holiday
March 28-April 1
No school/Spring Break

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
12	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24		26
27						

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

29 ½ day school/Workday
30 No School/Workday
(conferences)

29 No school/Workday

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
						2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10		12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23					28
29	30					

11 No school/Holiday
24 ½ day/Holiday
25-27 No school/holiday

17-18 EOG's (proposed)
26 ½ day/ Workday
(possible K screening)
27 No school/Workday
30 No school/Holiday

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16			19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20						26
27						

Dec. 21- Jan 1
No school/Winter Break

7 Last day of school
8-9 Workdays

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6		8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	