

Cottonwood Valley Charter School

Governing Council Regular Meeting

March 14, 2007 7:00 PM

- | | | | |
|-------|--|----------|----------|
| I. | Call meeting to order | 2 mins. | John B. |
| II. | Pledge of Allegiance | 2 mins. | All |
| III. | Ascertain Quorum | 1 mins. | Jim S. |
| | Kim King-Wrenn, John Benson, Kate Burleigh, Richard Sonnenfeld, Jim Shepherd, Dorothy Guerro | | |
| IV. | Reading and Approval of Agenda | 5 mins. | Jim S. |
| | Approved as amended | | |
| V. | Reading and Approval of February 14 Minutes | 5 mins. | Jill U. |
| | Approved as amended. All ayes. | | |
| VI. | Public Forum | | Open |
| | No public input. | | |
| VII. | Teacher Representative Report | 10 mins. | |
| | Moved to end of meeting, for Nancy Engler is not yet present. | | |
| VIII. | Student Council Representative Report | 10 mins. | Nancy E. |
| | Spring Fling will be April 28, maybe at 3pm or 4pm. Jill U. came to the SC meeting to offer advice on planning the fling. The SC formed committees with Angelina S., Sam B., and Shayna D. as Chairpersons. Kim K-W suggested talking with some parents who own businesses and ask about donations. | | |
| IX. | Department Reports | | |
| | 1. Administrators Report | 20 mins. | Mary N. |
| | Enrollment is steady at 164. Enrollment lottery will be May 4. Nine or ten applications for kindergarten have been turned in. NMSBA testing is over and all make-ups are complete. CVCS had 100% participation. Stanford 9 tests will be administered during the week of May 7-11. Eighth graders will go on their trip the following week, May 14-19. The 8th grade would like to travel to Puerto Penasco in Mexico. A letter will go home tomorrow. If there are too many objections, the trip will be rescheduled for a wilderness trip to Colorado. The teachers had an inservice last week and the five staff members that traveled to DC for the Core Knowledge Conference reported on their trip. Nicole Beaudion keeps writing garden grants and receiving money. A Garden Club needs to be formed to keep the gardens going over the summer. Mary N. was asked to re-write the employee handbook. The original handbook was cut and pasted from the district. The handbook is not user-friendly and has lots of extraneous information. Michael Kaplan was hired last year to revise the manual. It still needs revising to fit CVCS, so Mary N. worked with Mary C. and revised some important sections, handing out copies of the existing text next to the proposed text. Mary N. handed copies to the | | |

board members to review and comment on next month. It was suggested that an attorney review the handbook before it is finalized.

2. Business Manager Report 10 mins. Mary C.

Mary C. briefly reviewed the handouts. Mary C. spent many hours discussing the status of the remaining Title money (that was left over from the past few years) with people in Santa Fe and was told to return the money, totaling approximately \$14,000, to the district, which was immediately done. In the future, Title money is only to come to CVCS on a reimbursement basis. Disability Insurance will be offered through NMPSIA to employees who want it after Mary C. sends a letter to the NMPSIA board requesting approval. The insurance could begin as early as May 1, 2007. CVCS received a very generous donation from Dr. Beth Kirkhart-\$750.00 earmarked for art/science/music, and \$2,000 for general funds.

X. Correspondence and Announcements Open

Jeanne Gacanich spoke to the board about the Science Olympiad Team. She read a prepared statement. See attached statement.

Xa. Teacher Rep. report was moved here.

Nancy asked how the new leave policy would affect the teachers. Mary N. discussed the proposed new leave policy.

XI. Committee Updates

1. Facilities 10 mins. Jim S.

Terry Byrne with Facility Build came to talk with the Facilities Committee. He discussed with the committee ways to proceed with the building project. At the next meeting Edge Architecture from Taos will come to talk. Edge have designed and built 28 straw-bale buildings. Three resumes have been received for the Development Director position. One person has been interviewed so far.

2. Parents Association 10 mins. Kim -W.

Richard attended the Parent Association and discussed the search. He presented a tentative schedule for interviewing the candidates. The group discussed this idea.

3. Administrator Search 10 mins. Richard S.

Richard discussed this at the same time as he discussed the Parent Association meeting. The group will meet tomorrow to decide how they will begin the interviews. The job opening has been published in the El Defensor Chieftain, the Albuquerque Journal, on the NM Charter School Coalition web page, and on REAP, the employment service provided by CES. The applicants will be pared down to three, and those three will meet with the staff and the parents.

XII. Old Business

1. Read Open Meetings Act 10 min. All

Nancy E. and Kate read the act orally to the council.

2. Home School Policy 10 min. Mary N.

Mary N. opened the discussion for the council to make a decision on the Home Schooling Policy. Richard read Mary N.'s proposal aloud to the council. Mary N. has recommended the council adopt the policy to enact next year. A motion was made to

adopt the policy for next year. Discussion ensued. John B. spoke for and against the policy by saying that he has thought about home schooling his son in math, but said he could home school him at home any time, not necessarily during the school day. Enrichment can happen at home any time. Kate B. talked for and against the policy, adding that parents should get some recourse for a teacher teaching a subject poorly. Nancy E. spoke for the policy, citing a case last year about a student who was supposed to be doing the "home schooling" in math and it was very unsuccessful. Kate B. said she felt there should be parental input before the policy is adopted. Kim K-W. said she tried to spread the word among the parents, but no parents came to tonight's meeting to discuss the issue. Richard made a new motion, The Governing Council has decided the Home Schooling Policy is that part time home-schooling of CVCS students is NOT allowed and the policy will become effective next year (2007-2008). All ayes, except one nay-Kate B.

XIII. New Business

1. Election Committee

John B. has volunteered for the Election Committee. Four positions will be up for election.

2. Administrator's Survey

Nancy E. made a motion to skip the Administrator's Survey this year since Mary N. is retiring. All ayes.

XIV. Items for next month's agenda

Election Committee report, Teacher Rep. candidate, nomination for the eighth grade scholarship recipient, calendar, parent grievance procedures,

XV. Scheduling next meeting: **April 11, 2007**

Jim S.

XVI. Executive session **Motion made. Roll call vote: John B.-aye, Dorothy G.-aye, Richard-aye, Nancy-aye, Kim-aye, Jim-aye. Executive session ended. No action taken.**

XVII. Adjourn