

Cottonwood Valley Charter School

Governing Council Regular Meeting

December 9, 2009

Minutes

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| I. | Call meeting to order
<i>Moved by Jeanne, seconded by Jon</i> | 5 minutes | Frances |
| II. | Pledge of Allegiance | 5 minutes | All |
| III. | Ascertain quorum
<i>Present: Frances Deters, Jeanne Gacanich, Jon Morrison, Britta Herweg, Dennis Walsh</i> | 5 minutes | Frances |
| IV. | Reading and Approval of Agenda
<i>Agenda amended to include appointment of new GC member to fill position vacated by Paul Malone. Moved by Britta, seconded by Jon. All ayes.</i> | 5 minutes | Frances |
| V. | Reading and Approval of Nov 11, 2009 minutes
<i>All ayes.</i> | 5 minutes | Frances |
| VI. | Public Forum
<i>Dushan Gacanich, CVCS student, presents computer modeling project that the GUTS group (Growing Up Thinking Scientifically) has been experimenting with. He demonstrates a model to show spread of epidemic disease among a school of fish. GUTS is sponsored by Kim Berlat, and meets regularly as after school program. Seven students are participating at the moment, and two students from NMT are involved as mentors.</i>
<i>Donna Lassey, CVCS parent, voiced concerns about issues relating to the area of communication between CVCS and parents. Parents should receive progress reports. The CVCS "Report Card" should be published (it is available in print in the office, and on the web through http://www.cottonwoodvalley.org/admin/testing.php; and http://webapp.ped.state.nm.us/aypd/docs/2009/074_003_SOCORRO_CONSOLIDATED_SCHOOLS_COTTONWOOD_VALL_AYP0910_20091016_2035.pdf.) Parents should be informed better regarding qualifications of teachers (a folder containing this information is now available upon request in the office, the CVCS website also contains information about teacher qualifications).</i> | | Open |
| Move into Executive Session: <i>Moved by Britta, seconded by Jon. All ayes.</i> | | | |
| Leave Executive Session: <i>Moved by Jeanne, seconded by Jon. All ayes.</i> | | | |
| VII. | Teacher Representative report
<i>Scarves for mosquito nets are selling</i> | 15 minutes | teacher rep. |
| VII. | Student Council Representative report
<i>Olivia Deters reported that of the \$ 400.00 they raised, \$ 200.00 were given to DAV to pay for packages to be sent to the troops. \$ 125.00 were donated to support Socorro's homeless. \$ 75.00 were invested in a microwave (to give all students the possibility to heat their lunches).</i> | 10 minutes | |
| Jeanne leaves | | | |
| VIII. | Department Reports | | |
| | A. Administrator's report
<i>See attached report by Karin.</i>
<i>Karin is in the middle of her classroom observation round.</i> | 20 minutes | Karin |

The teachers have been given Midyear PDP (Professional Development Plan) Reflections

Middle School Student of the Month appreciation rolling on, students are recommended by teachers, based on "good citizenship" criteria, and effort. Honored students get to spend lunch with community members/leaders.

B. Business managers report 10 minutes Mary Cox
See attached report.

IX. Executive session

Administrator evaluation process

This item will be moved to January GC meeting. Moved by Britta, seconded by Dennis. All ayes.

IX. Correspondence and announcements

Open

X. Committee updates

1. Facilities 10 min Jon M.
Final draft is being finished, bid will go out before holidays. Concerns, that final contractor might not necessarily be somebody who shares philosophy on sustainable architecture.
2. Accountability 10 min Frances D
Frances will forward parent classroom volunteer offers through Karin to teachers
3. Fundraising 10 min
no report
4. Discipline/Safety 10 min Karin W
*Safety plan needs to be written! Volunteers are going to be needed
Fire inspection passed last week, showing only minor issues to be addressed*
5. Gifted 10 min Britta
Committee Gifted and Special Education will meet end of January, Britta and Kim B. organize, announcement will go out.
6. Parent Association 10 min
No meeting this month

XI. Old Business

- A. Charter renewal 10 min Karin
*New Charter approved by School Board.
New manuals should be distributed to GC members in summer.*
- B. GC Retreat 10 Min Karin
*Date: January 16th, 2010, Shelley Roberts will be asked to serve as facilitator again, Important to prioritize goals better, try to achieve more measurable goals!
Necessary outcomes of retreat: EPSS, administrator evaluation proto-type, GC goals (short and long term), plus, what are the details we should pay attention to (e.g. progress reports)?
EPSS discussed with teachers, Evaluation and GC goals without teachers, need for separate sessions.*
- C. Technology Plan
approved, no money yet.

XII. New Business

- A. Student achievement
*Frances suggests it should be regular item on agenda.
How to measure reliable? New standards based report cards, once established and fine tuned, might provide good tool to demonstrate achievement on quarterly basis. New report cards are forcing teachers to re-evaluate their measuring tools.
How to define and grow a culture of achievement at CVCS?*

B. Appointment of new GC member

Brandon Barber was the only CVCS parent who submitted a letter of intent by December 8th. Appoint Brandon Barber as GC member, moved by Jon, seconded by Dennis, all ayes.

Britta and Brandon are informed of basic GC member duties according to Charter Appendix A, Britta and Brandon accept these duties.

XIII. Items for next month's agenda

Executive session: Administrator evaluation procedure

XIV. Scheduling next meeting

5 minutes

Frances

XVI. Adjourn

Moved by Dennis, seconded by Jon, all ayes.