

Ocean Grove Charter School
OGCS Charter Board of Directors Minutes
February 24th, 2015
7:00pm
Ocean Grove Charter School Resource Center
16900 Highway 9, Boulder Creek, CA 95006

1. CALL TO ORDER: 7:05 Julia Keller

2 PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Led by Julia Keller

3 INTRODUCTIONS/WELCOME/ROLL CALL Julia introduced IEM staff present. Parent Council members who have been affiliated with OGCS since its inception were also recognized. The following officers were present: Julia Keller (President), Kim Beaumont (Secretary), Kirstine Bowers (Treasurer). The following IEM and Ocean Grove staff were present: Jason Jones, Eric Schoffstall, Cynthia Rachel, Susie Clark, Brandy Anderson, Melissa Valdez, Shelley Ross. The following Parent Council members were present: Mira Betlej, Laura Bonn, Jenni Chalmers, Hillary Dixon, Desiree Edmund, Hilary Eriksen, Monique Freed, Sylvia(Yessenia) Gonzalez, Susan Greathouse, Holly King, Therese Labuguen, Tiffany Nagel, Jeff Randolph, Sue Sutherlin.

4 HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

No issues were brought forth during the Hearing of the Public.

5 REPORTS

A. Assessment Report - Melissa Valdez, Director of Assessment

- The iReady Pre-Test has been implemented for grades 2-11, optional for 12th grade students.
- iReady scores ranged from 97% proficiency to 23%
- The higher the grade level, the lower the proficiency score. (The adaptive nature of the test makes it increasingly difficult as proficiency is reached.)
- Post tests will be taken on March 27. This will yield comparative data and allow for specific follow up (prescriptive path/curriculum)
- Question was presented as to typical time it takes to complete the iReady assessment. Melissa explained that an atypical issue came up that has been resolved, decreasing the time it takes to take the test. In addition, parents can now sign a security agreement that allows them to proctor this test for their student(s). Melissa reported that the second round of tests should be shorter.

- Another question was posed as to the algorithm that determines right/wrong answers. Melissa explained that the iReady is made up of a web of questions and is adaptive to students answers. This is part of its checks and balances system which explains the length of the test as well.

B. Guidance and Curriculum Report - Dr. Brandy Anderson, Director of Curriculum and Guidance

- OGCS has implemented Schoology, a course management system designed to help support the online component of our model
- Schoology aids in communication with teachers and can create small virtual classrooms with teachers (Subject Matter Experts, Education Specialists, and specialized vendors)
- This has been an effective response to the increased need for students to interact with Subject Matter Experts for support.
- Brandy also reported that the Curriculum Team, led by Shelley Ross, has implemented Web Wise, through the use of LCAP funds, to assist students who are two or more grades levels behind academically. The resources do not impact instructional funding. This support is internet based.

C. WASC Report, Update of LCAP Process, and Advisory Committee Information - Lisa Voss, Accountability Coordinator

- OGCS is up for WASC renewal this year for another 5 years of accreditation. Parent focus groups are needed. WASC sub committee members will be contacted soon.
- Will need to compile a report for Spring visit.
- Lisa wrote LCAP Implementation Plan, met with school administration regarding sources, interventions, funded by LCAP.
- Will be sending out a survey and holding meetings for all stakeholders. Input needed from Parent Council. The survey will go out March 29 and the meeting will be via teleconference.
- Question was posed regarding opportunities for parents to serve on Advisory Committee for LCAP. Lisa answered “yes”.

D. IEM Report - Dr. Jason Jones, Chief Administrative Officer

- OGCS Charter Renewal
 - i. Thanked Parent Council. Looking forward to utilizing GoTo Webinar for future meetings as it's more technically reliable.
 - ii. The Director of Teacher Services position is open and IEM/OG actively recruiting. Qualified persons may apply via EdJoin at www.ogcs.org.
 - iii. Ocean Grove's charter is up for renewal, and a presentation will be made at the San Lorenzo Valley District Office on March 4. Date for charter renewal was moved up in order to allow for Parent Council to review updated charter document, per parent request.
- Eric Schoffstall gave an introduction to the charter petition and renewal process.
 - i. IEM remains a change agent in the charter school movement, offering flexibility and parent choice within the boundaries of charter law. IEM's educational model is in alignment with charter law.

- ii. Renewal process: IEM, as the charter petitioner, ensures that the charter is operating within and accountable to current legislation pertaining to charter schools. Protecting student opportunities is of utmost importance.
- iii. The Petition to Review Checklist, which the District references, was presented to the Parent Council.
- iv. Highlights of the new charter are the allocation of LCAP funding (based on 8 state priorities and subsequent OGCS goals and defined measurements). The other section that is new pertains to the Governance section of the charter. A clarification, per parent request, of the role of the Parent Council intersected with IEM's role follows:
 - 1. Component A: Defines the mission of IEM, educational development model and individual learning plan governed by parent.
 - 2. Component B: Role of IEM is to be responsible to govern school structure, as defined in the original charter.
 - 3. Component C: Parent Council. Changes to the name and function of Parent Council will change in accordance with Component D.
 - 4. Component D: Developed in response to regular lack of quorum which often delayed crucial votes to review/approve documents relating to accountability. In the past the Parent Council consisted of 29 parent members that acted as advisors to IEM. Future structure will maintain the 29 member board as an advisory council and a separate 5-member governing board will be established to submit votes pertinent to the Parent Council. The 29 member Parent Council Advisory Board remain informed of all action items and can make recommendations regarding how the Governing Board will vote. This structure will provide efficiency as it has been historically difficult to obtain a quorum of 29 members to vote. The role of the Parent Council has always been advisory and this will not change.
 - a. In response to parent question, Eric state that the school structure is and will remain the responsibility of IEM. IEM provides legal insulation to protect parents' decision making power in relation to the educational approaches for their students.
 - b. In response to parent comment, Eric stated that the language is the same in both the original and the proposed new charter. District office has faith in the reliability of IEM to effectively manage OGCS. OGCS is protected by IEM and law in order to implement vision for parent choice. IEM offers student record management, accounting, and much more to support parents within the charter school.
 - c. In response to parent comment, Eric stated that since IEM maintains the operation of the school, it creates the By-Laws in

accordance with the Brown Act and selects officers to serve the Parent Council.

- d. In response to parent question regarding the reason for the new charter to use clarifying message (i.e. which part of the old charter was out of compliance)? Eric responded, that the original By Laws and the proposed By Laws are the same. Sometime in the interim, the By Laws were changed.
- e. Cynthia Rachel added that the adjustment was made at a later date, resulting in a disconnect between the Charter and the By Laws.
- f. Eric reiterated that it is the Charter that is the controlling document.
- g. Cynthia Rachel added that the restructuring allows for continuing representation and diversity. Need for two different entities: 5 member governing board for votes, diverse parent council for advisement. Large parent council allows for adequate parent representation. Funding and educational options are at risk with out timely votes. The members of the governing board will be appointed by IEM and ratified by the 29 member Parent Council.
- h. Sue Greathouse expressed that it may be premature to pursue structural changes without first looking at technical issues that prevent quorum. Eric responded that aside from technical issues which are being handled are the challenges with Brown Act compliance when parents were required to post their address as a public meeting place and open that space up to the public and post agenda.
- i. Cynthia Rachel said that the school is actively researching options to prevent interruptions to meetings due to technical issues.
- j. members, the Parent Council is voting. IEM makes the recommendations for the Governing Board.
- k. Clarification was offered in response to Jeff Randolph's Laura Bonn asked why Parent Council would not be voting for the 5 member council. Arlie responded that by approving understanding that charter schools manage non profits vs. non profits managing charter schools. As the Petitioner of the Charter, IEM manages and supports the operation of OGCS.
- l. Jeff Randolph called for more discussion on new policies as they are drafted. He predicts more participation from parents if they helped to draft policy.
- m. Cynthia Rachel asked for parent feedback for issues that they feel should be discussed with administration with more detail. Cynthia reminded the board that policies have been reviewed

again and revised based on feedback from the Parent Council. She said the ability is present for each Council member to have a direct voice and bring ideas to the table. Going forward, the Parent Council will be asked at the end of each meeting if there are any issues that should be placed on the agenda for the next Parent Council meeting.

- n. Arlie Capps reinforced the operational definition of Parent Choice according to the charter: "Refers to parent's decision of how to educate the child."
- o. Items that Parent Council would like to address: The ability to be able to elect officers, to amend By-Laws, and more clear explanations of context before voting on something, ability to put something on the Agenda, access to independent legal counsel (Jeff).

6 ACTION ITEMS

NO VOTE WAS TAKEN ON ACTION ITEMS AS A QUORUM OF COUNCIL MEMBERS WAS NOT ESTABLISHED.

A. Nominations and Election of Board of Directors Officers

- a. Nominations for President: _____
 - i. Election by ballot- President: _____
- b. Nominations for Secretary: _____
 - i. Election by ballot- Secretary: _____
- c. Nominations for Treasurer: _____
 - i. Election by ballot- Treasurer: _____

B. Approval of November 18th, 2014 Minutes.

Motion to approve: _____
Seconded By: _____

C. Approval of disposal list pursuant to Education Code 60510-60511.

Motion to approve: _____
Seconded By: _____

7. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Brown Act Training:

- o Due to a recent letter that was dispersed to Parent Council members by another Parent Council member, Cynthia will be sending out pamphlets on the Brown Act to orient parents to the protocol we need to comply with.
- o Specifically, no member can have a private meeting or discussion of Parent Council issues outside of a formally established meeting.
- o Each meeting must be preceded with an agenda to be posted 72 hours ahead of time.

- Emergency meetings may be called by any member within 24 hours.
- Brown Act training will be continued next meeting due to the fact that this meeting has been lengthy.
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B. Teleconference Options for future meetings: Cynthia went over the requirements to teleconference:

- Location needs to be open to the public
 - Address of the teleconference location needs to be sent to the school secretary a week before the event, so that the Agenda may be posted within 72 hours of the meeting.
 - Location needs to be ADA compliant.
 - Agenda must be posted at the location, in view of the public, 72 hours prior to each meeting.
 - Kim Beaumont will send out a survey prior to each meeting for Council members to indicate preference of teleconference or in-person attendance.
- C. Julia Keller announced that she and the IT team have extensively researched options to make teleconferencing effective. The IT is hoping for approval of meeting kits which will allow in person and teleconference attendees to see each other and communicate in real time during meetings. Approval is based on budget concerns, each kit costs about \$3,000 and we would need three kits to cover the main meeting venue as well as satellite venues.

8. Future Meeting Dates and Agenda Items:

- In response to Parent Council request, a regular meeting was called for March 2, 2015 7:00 p.m to discuss further concerns about governance. (Agenda items TBA).
- Final Parent Council meeting of the year is scheduled for May 12, 2015 at 7:00 p.m.

ADJOURN

Minutes prepared for review by Kim Beaumont, Secretary for Ocean Grove Charter School.