

Natomas Charter School
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes
February 19, 2008

Board Members (Bold Type=Absent)

- 1.) Charlie Leo – NCS Executive Director
 - 2.) Tammy Lee – PFAA Coordinator
 - 3.) Kit Rich – LE Coordinator
 - 4.) **Lynda Malka – PACT Coordinator**
 - 5.) Laura Bariel – ILP Coordinator
 - 6.) Jennifer Baker – NUSD Board of Trustees Representative
 - 7.) Holly Dallas – Community Representative
 - 8.) Tina Chiginsky – Community Representative
 - 9.) Edward Aguilar – LE Parent Representative
 - 10.) Rick Stewart – PACT Parent Representative
 - 11.) Joan Finch-Allen -- PFAA Parent Representative
 - 12.) Nicolas Murphy – PFAA Student Representative
 - 13.) **Sunil Singh – LE Student Representative**
- I. Ed Aguilar called meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.
- II. Roll call was taken. Jennifer Baker and Tina Chiginsky arrived late.
- III. Announcement of Items to Be Discussed in Closed Session: None.
- IV. Public Comments Regarding Closed Session Items: None.
- V. Closed Session: None.
- VI. Public Comments: None.
- VII. Consent Items
- A. Review and approve Board of Directors minutes from December 18, 2007.
 - B. Approve Personnel Changes: None
(Stewart/Dallas) Motion passed by unanimous vote to approve all consent items.
- VIII. Program Reports
- A. Leading Edge: Kit Rich reported that 300 visitors attended the Leading Edge Visitation Days. The second Job Fair/Job Shadow Day for 8th graders takes place February 20th. Science Fair occurred February 13th. Ms. Darwazeh did a great job. 18 of the 21 LE students won in the District Science Fair last year. This year's students were encouraged to enter the CA regionals as well as the District Fair. 6th graders held their Chinese New Year celebration. LE teachers will be attending the CA Middle School Conference Feb 28th thru March 1st. Girls Basketball and

Boys Wrestling seasons end this month. 6th graders sold 480 Valentine Grams.

- B. PACT: Laura Bariel reported for Lynda Malka. The third annual Poetry Jam was held with PACT and ILP students on January 29th. The winners were: K-2: Erica Cruz – PACT; 3-5: Julia Lindner, PACT; 6-8: McKenzie Chapman, PACT. The ATS (Academic Talent Search) test was held in the MPR on Feb 1st, with 44 students from LE, PFAA and PACT programs participating. PACT's Parent group will meet Feb. 21st. The main agenda item is how to transition middle schoolers into high school. April La Torre, a PFAA Senior and former PACT student, will be doing her Senior Project with PACT Middle School students. She will be teaching a six-week class that integrates two forms of art: writing and drawing. Students will draw pictures and then write about them.
- January Field Trips/Events: Whole Foods Market, Exploratorium, Mondavi Arts Center and Tour.
- February Field Trips/Events: The Adventures of Tom Sawyer; The California Museum for History, Women and the Arts; Sarah, Plain and Tall; Hobbyist/Collector's Fair on Feb. 27th, 12:30-2:30 p.m. in VIP Center.
- March Field Trips/Events: Westminster Woods Environmental Education; Wizard of Oz.
- C. PFAA: Tammy Lee reported the Winter Dance Celebration was well attended. Little Shop of Horrors won the gold medal in the Lenaea Festival. All three female singers also won gold medals. Family Visitation Day was held February 14th. Attendance was restricted to 300 due to MPR capacity restrictions; 280 people attended. Will be holding additional visitations for another 100 people. Word has spread about our program. A family in Buffalo, NY wants to relocate so their student can attend PFAA. Macbeth opens March 13th. A "trailer" clip of Macbeth created as a senior project was shown. Crab Feed fundraiser is March 15th at 5:30 p.m. Contact Tammy Lee for tickets.

Nicolas Murphy reported there will be an art show in the Benvenuti lobby during Macbeth. ASB approved the Sign Spinners Club and the Astronomy Club. A Valentine's Day dance was held, with a small attendance. A Luau Dance is scheduled in the spring and Prom is scheduled April 12th. The cafeteria has been making vegetarian lunches, with a great response. There will be a Fashion and Art Show at byuti Salon on March 8th.

- D. Laura Bariel handed out "ILP Data Analysis of Policy Change" comparing the difference in enrollment, grades and attendance since the implementation of the 90% work completion requirement. The results indicate students have met the new challenges and attendance and grades are improving. ILP and PACT have raised \$180.15 in their Pennies for Patients fundraiser that helps Lymphoma patients. First Place Poetry Jam winner Jillian Wilson is going on to County competition. Reviewing ESLRs for the WASC visiting team. Preparing for STAR testing by having a STAR word of the week. ILP gave out Honor Roll, Perfect Attendance, and All Star awards at semester.

- E. Enrollment Report: Charlie Leo stated there has been less than 1% change in enrollment. Most of the students leaving are ILP graduates.
- F. Facilities Update: The gym final walk through is scheduled for February 25th. Students will begin using the facility March 1st.
- G. Benvenuti Update: Charlie Leo distributed a schedule of upcoming events, and requested that anyone wanting tickets to give him advance notice.

IX. Discussion/Informational Items

- A. Board Meeting Dates: It was agreed by all to leave future board meeting dates to the third Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m.
- B. Board Dinner Date, Location and Time: Charlie Leo and all Board members will meet for dinner downtown some time in April after the first week. Board members are to let Charlie know dates they are available.
- C. WASC Update: Ting Sun distributed the schedule for the WASC Visiting Team's visit February 24-27, and asked members who can attend the Meet and Greet on February 24 and the meeting on February 26.

X: Action Items

- A. Approval of PACT Relocation and PFAA Expansion. Charlie Leo stated that two locations are being considered as new sites for PACT. Both sites are less than two miles from NCS. Additionally, either location will require substantial improvements, which would be negotiated into the lease. The relocation of PACT would allow the expansion of PFAA and ILP. Campus modifications for the expansions are projected at \$600,000. Charlie stated NCS would see a positive cash flow in the sixth year after the changes, due to increased enrollment. Nicolas Murphy voiced concern that students will enroll in PFAA because it's a safe school, not because they are serious about pursuing art. He suggested the audition process be changed to prevent this. Tammy Lee and Charlie Leo stated that is an ongoing concern. The audition process for middle school was recently revised for that reason. Jennifer Baker asked if high school students would have the opportunity to enroll if they have not had the opportunity to develop their skills. Tammy Lee stated freshmen would be eligible if they demonstrate they have a strong desire to develop their skills. (Dallas/Bariel) Motion was passed with an opposing vote by Nicolas Murphy.
- B. Employee Paid Leave for New Child: Charlie Leo stated that NCS employees have requested the use of up to five days of sick leave for bonding time with a newborn or adopted child. (Stewart/Chiginsky) Motion passed with unanimous vote.
- C. Free or Reduced Bus Fees: Charlie Leo requested the Board to approved granting free bus passes to students who receive free or reduced lunches starting in the 2008-2009 school year. (Murphy/Stewart) Motion passed with unanimous vote.
- D. Approve "Bright Schools Program" Resolution: Charlie Leo explained that NCS is looking at ways to increase energy efficiency and to become environmentally aware. After receiving the Resolution, the Bright Schools

Program will perform an onsite audit and offer recommendations on ways NCS can improve in this area. (Allen/Dallas) Unanimous vote.

- XI. Board Reports and Comments: Laura Bariel announced that electronic waste recycling will take place March 1st at NCS.
- XII. Future Board Agenda Items: Tina Chiginsky asked if NCS could assist with NCS high school students obtaining acceptance into summer school.
- XIII. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:11 p.m.