



**Natomas Charter School
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes
October 6, 2011**

Board Members (Bold Type=Absent)

- 1.) Edward Aguilar – Community Representative and Chairperson
- 2.) Joan Finch-Allen - PFAA Parent Representative
- 3.) Ismael Javed – LE Student Representative
- 4.) Charlie Leo – NCS Executive Director
- 5.) Heather McDonald – PFAA Student Representative
- 6.) Phillip Nanni – Community Representative
- 7.) Cliff Blakely – LE Parent Representative
- 8.) **Rick Stewart – PACT Parent Representative**

Advisor:

Jonathan Corr

- I. Charlie Leo, Vice-Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 5:36 p.m.
- II. Roll call was taken. All present, except Rick Stewart. Additional attendees: Kit Rich, Anita Tong, Ting Sun, Jared Austin, Laura Bariel and Ana Barillas-Mendez. Charlie Leo presented an award to Georgia Schaaf honoring her contribution to the NCS Board of Directors.
- 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 (regarding items not on current agenda): None
- VII. Consent Items
 - A. Approve Board Minutes from September 1, 2011.
 - B. Approve Personnel Changes.Both consent items were unanimously approved as presented (Aguilar/Nanni). Charlie Leo introduced Jared Austin, PFAA Middle School Coordinator, and Anita Tong, Star Academy Coordinator, to the Board of Directors.
- VIII. Reports
 - A. Leading Edge: Ismael Javed reported that NCS hosted the girls' volleyball tournament October 6th. Five schools visited NCS for the tournament. Upcoming events include a Treasure Island themed rally, a spirit week, Red Ribbon Week and a Halloween dance on October 31st. The second mentor meeting was held October 6th with the new 6th grade students. Kit Rich reported that the mentors are helping the 6th grade students and new 7th grade students make a smooth transition to Leading Edge. The new LEAP coordinator, Monica Anderson, is arranging guest/education speakers for LEAP meetings. The See's candy fundraiser runs October 14 through 27th. The fundraiser contributes to extra-curricular

activities for LE. The 8th grade annual performance, "Pirates of Penzance," takes place October 28th. It is the first time the students have performed a musical. The students and teachers are enjoying it.

- B. PFAA. Tammy Lee reported that P4A recently held the Second Annual Volunteer forum in the Benvenuti. Over 300 parents attended to learn ways to earn parent hours and support their students. The school received a lot of feedback saying the forum was very helpful. The first class meetings were held on September 28th. Honor Roll certificates were recently distributed. More students received a certificate than not. October 7 is the end of the first quarter. October 17 and 18 are minimum days for student intervention to develop plans for struggling students. Upcoming events: Ashland trip, Filmmaking trip, Alumni Show.

Tammy introduced the new PFAA Middle School Coordinator, Jared Austin. Jared works with BTSA and SCOE and handles the school's ELL program. He reported that NCS is 1 of 3 schools selected to be in a BTSA video, which is a great honor.

- C. ILP: Laura Bariel reported that ILP will have some online classes next semester and hopes to have a full-time virtual academy next year. Students love Edmodo and working online, and are much more enthusiastic about their lessons than when they do them on paper. The first quarter ends October 7. The new math applications class for students struggling in Algebra is very effective and students like it.

PACT: Laura Bariel reported that PACT students will have the following field trips: Skate Night, Aquatic Center, and an apple orchard. PACT has 65 onsite classes, and 98% of PACT students attend the onsite classes. PACT is utilizing the old Transitions site now too. Parent-led workshops are starting this year. Math tutoring and reading intervention are being held for low-level students.

- D. Star Academy: Anita Tong reported that last year's Transitions' Program containing two Kindergarten classes expanded this year to the Star Academy and five classes for grades Jr. K, Kindergarten, and first grade. The Star Academy receives a lot of positive parent feedback. The Star Academy will be providing Spanish lessons to all students through a private business -- Sombrero Time. The Star Academy staff is working on revising the Vision Statement to include Kindergarten through 5th grades. The Star Academy will be holding several fundraisers in the near future.
- E. Enrollment Report. Charlie Leo reported that there have been no drastic changes in NCS enrollment from last month, and that the current enrollment changes are typical. Overall, only one less student than the last report.

IX. Discussion/Informational Items

- A. Retreat and Oz Principle Training. Charlie Leo reported that the NCS Staff Retreat held September 1-2, 2011 was very successful. On the first day, Ting Sun presented information on the direction NCS wants to move toward as a school. The presentation explained how NCS wants to utilize technology for efficiency and maximize personal interaction on campus and do other work online off campus. Ting suggested holding the Board Retreat in November/December to discuss many of the principles that were discussed at the staff retreat.

- B. Update on NUSD Board Members on Charter Boards. Charlie Leo reported that the NUSD took action in September, 2011 to no longer have a representative on the NCS Board of Directors and all other charter Boards in the NUSD.
 - C. Additional NCS Community Board Members. Charlie Leo stated that the NCS Board of Directors only has six Board members currently and would like to discuss the option of adding another Community Board Representative. He suggested each Board member think about potential candidates. Ting Sun suggested that the new member be female, since the majority of the current Board members are male. The topic will be discussed further at the next Board meeting.
 - D. New Interim NUSD Superintendent – Dr. Hanline. Charlie Leo reported that Dr. Hanline is the interim NUSD Superintendent through June, 2012. Charlie Leo and Ting Sun met with Dr. Hanline three weeks ago. Charlie feels that Dr. Hanline will be reasonable to work with. Dr. Hanline has agreed to meet with the charter school directors quarterly. Dr. Hanline has offered to negotiate the special education fees charged to NCS at the time our charter is renewed (possibly in early 2012). Ting Sun stated that although Dr. Hanline is not necessarily supportive of charter school, he seems to be willing to work with charter schools in a collaborative manner.
 - E. Facilities Update. Charlie Leo stated that the new Star Academy facility is working out very well. The location will be very challenging next year because of an increased enrollment of 150 students between the two schools at this location. The location works well for NCS, but does not have enough space for Westlake Charter's older students. There are 19 months left on the lease at this facility. The Natomas Meadows school site continues to be promising. This option will be discussed in detail at the November Board meeting.
 - F. NCS Golf Tournaments. Charlie Leo reported that Westlake Charter School has held golf tournaments for the past six years. A new Westlake Charter parent approached NCS to have a joint golf tournament with Westlake Charter. Westlake Charter netted \$25,000 from last year's golf tournament; NCS netted half that amount at last year's Duck Pluck Festival and took a great deal more effort. The golf tournament would be held next spring or next fall.
 - G. Business Office – 2010/11 Unaudited Actuals. Ana Barillas-Mendez reported originally, when the budget was approved, it was projected that NCS would end with a deficit, but now appears that we will have a surplus for the 2010/11 school year. NCS budgeted conservatively. NCS's four-year trend shows that a \$2.5 million balance was maintained. The State is talking about possible mid-year cuts, so the school needs to understand the ending balance, which is at levels of 2007, may still change. The budget will be audited in November and will become Audited Actuals by December 16, 2011.
- X. Action Items
- A. Approve Amendment to NCS Bylaws re: Parent Reappointment by NCS Board. Charlie Leo stated that the amendment to the NCS Bylaws was discussed at the September 1, 2011 Board meeting. A motion was unanimously passed to approve the NCS Bylaws Amendment (Nanni/Aguilar).
 - B. NCS Board and Officer Election(s). Charlie Leo stated that Community Board members serve a one-year term. The Board voted unanimously and re-elected Edward Aguilar as a Community Board Representative for a one-year term (Leo/Finch-Allen), Joan Finch-Allen as the PFAA

Parent Representative for a two-year term (Nanni/Aguilar), Phil Nanni as a Community Board Representative for a one-year term (Leo/Blakely) and Jonathan Corr as an Advisor to the Board for a one-year term (Leo/Aguilar).

Charlie Leo stated that Edward Aguilar has done a diligent and very good job as Board Chairperson for the last several years. This is Ed's last year on the NCS Board. Ed stepped down as Board Chairperson for this year and nominated Phil Nanni as Chairperson. Phil Nanni accepted the nomination. Charlie stated that Phil would do a great job as the NCS Chairperson as he has served on the Westlake Charter Board for numerous years and was the Chairperson for several years. The Board unanimously elected Phil Nanni as the new NCS Chairperson (Finch-Allen/Aguilar).

- XI. Board Reports and Comments
 - A. Ed Aguilar commented on what a great job Lorena Ruedas, Academic Counselor, and the new PFAA teachers are doing.
 - B. Charlie Leo stated that NCS is offering flu vaccinations to NCS staff. Sutter Express will provide vaccinations on the NCS campus at \$25 per vaccination. NCS will pay \$10 and the NCS employee will pay \$15. Approximately 25 - 30 employees are expected to participate.
 - C. NCS is offering yoga class to all NCS teachers free of charge. The class will be taught by a 2006 PFAA graduate.

- XII. Future Board Agenda Items
 - A. Board Retreat – Charlie Leo/Ting Sun
 - B. Technology Report -- Robin Worley
 - C. Additional Community Board Reps - Charlie Leo/Ting Sun

- XIII. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m. (Nanni/Finch-Allen).