



Natomas Charter School
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes
November 4, 2011

Board Members (**Bold Type=Absent**)

- 1.) Edward Aguilar – Community Representative
- 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 and Chairperson
- 7.) Cliff Blakely – LE Parent Representative
- 8.) Rick Stewart – PACT Parent Representative

Advisor:

Jonathan Corr

- I. Phil Nanni called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m.
- II. Roll call was taken. All present, except Ismael Javed and Jonathan Corr.
NCS Administration Attendees: Kit Rich, Anita Tong, Ting Sun, Jared Austin, Laura Bariel , Robin Worley, Pat Broughton and Ana Barillas-Mendez.
- 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 October 6, 2011. The minutes were unanimously approved as written (Stewart/Blakely).
- VIII. Reports
 - A. Technology Report. Charlie introduced Robin Worley, Instructional Technology Coordinator. Robin reported that she has three main areas of responsibility at this time: 1) Create an online Academy for ILP, 2) Create a three-year plan outlining NCS's technology direction over the next three years and how it will be achieved, 3) Train staff on technology and identify problem areas. Charlie explained that it is in NCS's best interest to be as independent as possible from NUSD as it pertains to technology. Robin has found a consultant to help NCS in this process.

- B. Leading Edge. Kit Rich reported that Leadership had a very successful See's Candy fundraiser for two weeks in October. The 8th graders have been busy rehearsing for their play, which is being presented tonight. Boys' basketball and girls' soccer started recently. Girls' volleyball and boys' soccer teams took second place in the league tournaments. LE held 16 SST's during the first trimester which ends November 4th. Math support is in place for all levels of students.
- C. PFAA. Heather McDonald reported that Spirit Week and Red Ribbon Day were very successful. The Halloween Dance held on October 28 was a lot of fun and a lot of students attended. ASB is currently planning for the November 30th rally that will promote the current PFAA productions.

PFAA Administrators discussed student intervention strategies. Tammy Lee reported that PFAA held student intervention meetings on October 17th & 18th and will have intervention meetings every third Wednesday. Teachers hold office hours and frequently eat lunch in their classrooms to be available for students. Some students are required to turn in Weekly Progress Reports that are signed by the student's teachers and parents.

PFAA accepts 30-40 new students from other schools in 9th grade each year. Often, it is difficult for the new students to make grades because of the more rigorous curriculum. Tammy created a Mandatory Tutoring Program where she meets weekly with every struggling student individually. Additionally, the student has a form each week that must be filled out and signed by all teachers and the student's parents.

The PFAA Jazz Band and the Sacramento State Jazz Ensemble will perform on November 17th at 7:00 p.m.

Jared Austin reported that he created a document in Google Docs that allows all teachers to track and view interventions for all PFAA students. Teachers have reported it is very helpful to see interventions that other teachers have used.

Pat Broughton reported that often a student not only has difficulty meeting grades, but also has difficulty transitioning socially. Pat started a mentoring program two years ago. 7th & 8th grade students are assigned to 6th grade students and 9th grade students are assigned to new 9th grade students as mentors. The mentors are nominated by teachers as students who would be good role models. The program has been very successful in helping new students transition successfully.

November is Anti-Bullying Month. NCS is promoting it by hanging large banners on several buildings, hanging Anti-Bullying posters in each classroom, and distributing Anti-Bullying bracelets to all students and staff.

- D. ILP: Laura Bariel reported that Poetry Out Loud is being planned and that most programs will be participating. ILP is using the Ten Marks online math system for students requiring additional help with math. ILP students are the trial group of students using NCS Gmail accounts. Robin Worley taught the students how to use Google Apps. The students like Google Apps and Gmail and have been very responsible. ILP students will take a survey regarding their feelings on an online virtual academy. Each ILP teacher will have one class online next trimester. Robin Worley will be training the teachers.

PACT: Laura Bariel reported that PACT'S first Scholastic Book Fair sold \$2,650, which exceeded the goal of \$2,500. PACT recently held a family movie night which was well attended and a lot of fun. PACT now has a weekly newsletter instead of monthly and is working well. Students who are below level in math and reading receive additional tutoring. PACT is working with Robin Worley to create online class registration. It would eliminate a lot of paperwork.

- E. Star Academy: Anita Tong reported that she and the Star Academy teachers met in a half-day retreat recently with Ting and Charlie to discuss the focus and vision for the Star Academy. The staff confirmed many of the original program components envisioned for Star Academy. The staff decided the program focus will include: a heavy emphasis in literacy with exposure to languages other than English, the development of proficient readers by the end of second grade, and a strong focus in literacy in math and science. A meeting will be held in Spring 2012 to discuss how the vision and focuses will be met.
 - F. Enrollment Report. Charlie Leo reported that there is a small drop in enrollment, but that most of the spaces have been filled.
 - G. Facilities Update. Charlie Leo presented the arial map of the Natomas Meadows development as a means to provide the Board with a better idea of where the Star campus could be located. NCS would be allowed to purchase 2.26 acres adjacent to a park located in Natomas Meadows and able to utilize approximately 1.5 acres of the adjacent park for play space. Charlie is working with brokers to submit a letter of intent on the property. The owners have been very receptive and will sell the property to NCS at cost. All of the utilities will be installed on the property prior to NCS purchasing it. An architect is creating two designs for the property – a temporary campus first with portables and a permanent campus with permanent buildings when it becomes affordable. It would require funds from local and state bonds to replace portables with permanent buildings. There should be money specifically for charter schools at some point in the future.
- IX. Discussion/Informational Items
- A. New Dates for the NCS Board Meetings. Charlie Leo reported that the NCS Board meetings will be held the second Wednesday of the month starting in December, 2011. Moving the Board meetings will allow Ana Barillas-Mendez additional time to prepare budgets for Westlake Charter School's Board meetings and NCS Board meetings.
 - B. NCS Board Retreat (dates and general outline of event). Charlie Leo reported that the NCS Board Retreat/Workshop will take place Friday, January 20 and Saturday, January 21, 2012. A draft outline of the agenda was distributed. A strategic 2-3 year plan on the direction of NCS will be presented by Ting Sun, incoming NCS Executive Director. The NCS Administration Team may attend some of the retreat. Ting stated that if the NCS Board wants to have additional community Board member(s) they may want to consider doing so in time so that the new members can attend the Board retreat.
- X. Action Items. None
- XI. Board Reports and Comments
- A. Food Service Plan. Charlie Leo reported that NCS will hire a food consultant to create new recipes. Charlie would like the snack racks and junk food to be replaced with healthy

alternatives. The NUSD, NCS's food service provider, will still be utilized but they will have to serve foods that NCS determines to be more "palatable" and nutritious.

- B. NUSD Superintendent, Dr. Hanline. Charlie Leo reported that he and Ting Sun met with Dr. Hanline recently about renewing the NCS charter several years early. Dr. Hanline is the NUSD Superintendent until July, 2012 and is encouraging NCS to get as much done as possible while he is Superintendent. Special Education fees are still a sticky point in the discussions.
- XII. Future Board Agenda Items
- A. First Interim Update. The approval of the First Interim Update will be on the December 14, 2011 agenda.
- XIII. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 6:43 p.m. (Stewart/Finch-Allen).