

Natomas Charter School
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes
February 4, 2010

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.) Bruce Roberts – NUSD Board of Trustees Representative
 - 7.) Denisa Marquez – Community Representative
 - 8.) Edward Aguilar – Community Representative
 - 9.) Rick Stewart – PACT Parent Representative
 - 10.) Joan Finch-Allen -- PFAA Parent Representative
 - 11.) Georgia Schaaf – LE Parent Representative
 - 12.) **JuliAnn Machscheffes – PFAA Student Representative**
 - 13.) Yash Farooqui – LE Student Representative
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- I. Ed Aguilar called meeting to order at 5:40 p.m.
 - II. Roll call was taken.
 - 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. Approve the minutes from the December 3, 2009 Board of Directors meeting and December 23, 2009 Telephone Conference Board of Directors Meeting.
 - B. Approve personnel changes.
All consent items were unanimously approved as presented. (Stewart/Marquez).
 - VIII. Reports
 - A. PACT. Lynda Malka reported on some of the PACT current events: PACT students are participating in the “Six Flags Six Hour Reading” Club. Students can earn a free ticket to Six Flags just by reading. PACT has begun their pilot of “Compass Learning Odyssey” on-line curriculum. We are receiving a lot of positive feedback from our families. Upcoming PACT events include: Family Game Night (2/5), Sugar Bowl Ski Day (2/9), 8th Grade Bake Sale in front of H&R Block near Raleys (2/13) Tutankhamun & The Golden Age (2/23), and Collector’s/Hobbyists Fair (2/25). PACT’s Open House Extravaganza and Silent Auction is scheduled for Friday, May 21st, from 5:30-8:30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.
 - B. PFAA. Tammy Lee reported that PFAA recently started a new semester, there have been several winter concerts, with the Winter Dance Celebration performance tonight. Tammy

encouraged board members to attend the Spring Dance Celebration in which all PFAA dancers perform. The open application period for the next school year began January 5th and ends February 26th. PFAA's Family Visitation Day on February 11th from 9:00-11:00 a.m. will include PFAA's new recruitment video. Tammy stated that PFAA's WASC goal is for NCS to offer more honor classes to be more competitive with other high schools.

- C. ILP: Laura Bariel reported that there were many ILP students who received awards in the first quarter. The Helping Hands club clothing drive for the Philippines was a great success. Their current project is "Pennies for Patients." The Poetry Out Loud contest was a huge success. The first and second place winners went on to the county competition. ILP has a new Math Concepts class. Students appreciate the opportunity to master the basic concepts required to understand higher levels of math. Results show that students test scores have jumped 15% since starting the PASS study program implemented program wide in fall semester.
 - D. Leading Edge. Kit Rich reported that the Boys Basketball and Girls Soccer teams both finished in second place and there has been a tremendous amount of spirit for the teams. Half of the LE staff make the sports events happen. Our 6th grade Spelling Bee winner, Justin Chan, has made it all the way to the regionals. The 6th grade field trip to Marin Headlands went very well, despite the rainy weather. In an effort to keep costs down, we opted for a 4 day program and will be taking a field trip to China Town this month on their own. Visitation Day was well attended, especially the evening information meeting. LE is collecting tabs from cans for Ronald McDonald house and with the help of college students, made blankets for children staying at the hospital. They are also raising money for Haiti. Yash reported that Leadership is currently selling Valentine Grams.
 - E. Enrollment Report. Charlie reported there are five additional students from the previous report. It was reported that it is typical for PACT and ILP students to be migratory, and that both programs enroll students throughout the year.
 - F. Duck Pluck Festival Update. Charlie reported that the planning for the Duck Pluck Festival is going well, and the project is much larger than anticipated. The Duck Pluck committee is informing the public that the money raised from the festival will support all NUSD schools. The money from the raffle supports NCS only. The festival will have 40-50 booths and will require a lot of volunteers. There is a festival website DuckPluck.com where information on the festival and the raffle can be found. NUSD schools have the opportunity to run their own booths and keep the money earned. NAEF will keep 20% of the proceeds. NUSD schools also have the opportunity to sell raffle tickets and receive \$20 for each ticket sold.
- IX. Discussion/Informational Items
- A. Accountability Report. Ting Sun presented a PowerPoint update on NCS's standardized test results from 2009. This included the schools API, API Ranks, Growth API, the CAHSEE results and the school's AYP results. NCS grew +12 points on its overall API, but after a few years of phenomenal growth in all subgroups, did not make growth target in 3 subgroups this year. An analysis of CST data shows that NCS students are stronger in ELA, middle school science and in the social sciences, but weaker in math and in high school science. NCS math teachers have been working to address student performance in math for the past five years now and continue to try different teaching methods to raise student scores in this area. Kit Rich stated that several years ago NCS made significant gains in math scores by focusing on specific groups of students. However, there are still significant numbers of students who struggle because they have not mastered some basic, fundamental math concepts. Yash Farooqui stated that extra math support classes such as RAMP help those students who are struggling in math. It was discussed that there is a correlation between math and science, and that NCS needs to focus on raising math scores.
 - B. Bus Transportation Update for 2010/11. Charlie reported he has been working with NUSD's transportation Department to come up with a reduced route. The reduced route would cost

NCS \$75,000, which is half of the current amount. NCS has sent two letters and a survey home to NCS current bus riders requesting input on the proposed changes, with little response.

- C. Business Services Partnership with Gateway Community Charters. Charlie reported that NCS is evaluating combining NCS Business Services Department, which services two schools, with Gateway Community Charters Business Services Department, which services five schools. The county is favorable to the plan.

X. Action Items: None

XI. Board Reports and Comments

- A. Bruce Reports reported that he was reappointed to another term as the NUSD Representative, and that the NUSD is actively looking for a new superintendent.
- B. Georgia Schaaf inquired if charter schools would be affected if the NUSD goes bankrupt. Charlie explained that the County says the NUSD cannot tap into the funds of the charter schools.

XII. Future Board Agenda Items

- A. Second Interim Budget Update.

XII. Adjournment. Meeting adjourned at 7:25pm. (Schaaf/Finch-Allen). Next board meeting scheduled for March 4, 2010.