



Natomas Charter School  
Board of Directors Meeting  
**Minutes**  
March 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 Machschefes – PFAA Student Representative
  - 13.) **Yash Farooqui – LE Student Representative**
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- I. Ed Aguilar called meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.
  - II. Roll call was taken. JuliAnn Machschefes arrived at 5:50 p.m.; Bruce Roberts left at 6:20 p.m.; Yash Farooqui arrived at 7:00 p.m.
  - III. Announcement of Items to Be Discussed in Closed Session: None
  - IV. Public Comments Regarding Closed Session Items:
  - V. Closed Session: None
  - VI. Public Comments:
  - VII. Consent Items
    - A. Approve the minutes from the March 3, 2010 Board of Directors meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved as written (Roberts/Schaaf).
    - B. Approve personnel changes. All personnel changes were unanimously approved (Schaaf/Finch-Allen).
  - VIII. Reports
    - A. PACT. Lynda Malka reported that the Collector/Hobbyists Fair and All PACT Family Photo were held last week. Next week students in grades 2-8 will be attending Westminster Woods. The students have been fundraising for it all year. PACT students raised \$1,333 for St. Jude's Hospital during this year's Math-a-thon. Teen Fun Night will be Friday, March 5<sup>th</sup>. The theme is Sock Hop. The Academic Talent Search test for 4<sup>th</sup> through 9<sup>th</sup> grades will be held on March 15<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. in the MPR. The test scores determine which classes students are eligible to take at Sacramento State during the summer. The test is like a precursor to the PSAT and is really good experience for students.

- B. PFAA. Tammy Lee reported that the PFAA Family Visitation Day on February 11<sup>th</sup> was very successful. PFAA students presented several skits. There were over 300 attendees and a lot of positive feedback. Class meetings were held on February 17<sup>th</sup> and Ed Aguilar spoke to the sophomore class. On February 18<sup>th</sup> ILP and PFAA had a climate meeting. On February 25<sup>th</sup>, the four programs held an outreach meeting in South Natomas. There was very few attendees. Several PACT students performed. Tammy has been in contact with all of the PTA presidents in South Natomas. Charlie stated that it has been very hard to get people contacted in South Natomas to call back. Laura has been working with someone in South Natomas who says it is very hard to get people to come out for events.
- C. ILP. Laura Bariel reported that ILP is having a shred day on Saturday, March 6<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Ruedas, counselor from American River College, recently spoke to ILP seniors. On March 23<sup>rd</sup>, ILP is having a parent support workshop "How to Support Your Students." The Pennies for Patients" fundraiser raised \$495.69. PFAA students helped with the fundraiser. The quarter ends on March 12<sup>th</sup>. Julie Ash presented at the CCSA conference about an online text book that is working very well.
- D. Leading Edge. Kit Rich reported that the Leading Edge Science Fair just finished. All Leading Edge students are required to participate. Many Leading Edge students will participate in the District Science Fair on March 4th. The 6th graders recently went on a field trip to China Town. Second trimester report cards went home on March 4th. There are 5 students on Academic Probation. The Parent Probation letters were mailed home March 5th. Leading Edge teachers, students and parents recently attended the opera. Students voluntarily held several fundraisers and raised over \$1,000 for Haiti. 6th grader, Justin Chan is representing the LE at the Northern California regional Spelling Bee.
- E. Enrollment Report. Charlie Leo reported no change in the total enrollment.
- F. Duck Pluck Festival Update. Charlie Leo reported that a large number of volunteers are needed for a lot of different things for the festival. There is a lot to do and only 60 days before the festival. One hundred ducks have been sold and 225 ducks are ducks are out there. Charlie showed a sample of the Duck Pluck poster and post card that show the Festival sponsors. They were printed for the cost of printing only. Several food vendors are signed up. Other NUSD schools are coming on board. The goal is to have half of the NUSD schools participating in the Festival. It is hoped the joint participation will help to bridge the gap between NUSD and the charter schools.
- IX. Discussion/Informational Items
- A. Former Student Request for Alum Preference. The Board is receptive to giving children of NCS alumni an enrollment preference, so Charlie will discuss details with the Admin. Team. Kit Rich would also like the Board to consider extending the three-year restriction alumni preference.
- X. Action Items
- A. Bus Transportation Update for 2010/11. Charlie Leo stated that NCS is recommending to the Board discontinuing bus transportation for the 2010/11 school year to reduce an additional \$75,000 from the budget, for a total savings of \$150,000. Charlie stated that 85% of parents of bus riders responded to the bus survey. Out of the 100 bus riders, less than 20 families stated their students would no longer attend NCS if the bus transportation was eliminated. The bus transportation update was unanimously approved as presented (Stewart/Schaaf).
- B. Approve Second Interim Budget Update. Charlie Leo reported NCS has to make another half million dollar in cuts to meet reasonable budget projections for the next five years. The first priority is to impact students as little as possible. It was mentioned that the student to teacher ratio in PFAA is 18 to 1 and Leading Edge is 25 to 1. Ed Aguilar

stated that NCS could afford larger class sizes. Charlie stated that the NCS Admin. Team will present a list of proposed budget cuts at the May 2010 Board Meeting. Charlie stated he is willing to offer consulting services to the NUSD. Georgia stated she is against cutting classes or increasing class sizes. Charlie stated the following cuts have already been made: teacher wages are frozen, administrative support staff have furlough days, added several students to classes. The PFAA arts teachers are being proactive and looking to see if classes can be combined. Senior projects could be used to assist students. JuliAnn stated that the student council is always willing to help out. PACT is going to start a kindergarten program, which would increase NCS revenue by \$120,000 per student. Westlake Charter has 300 applicants for their 80 kindergarten openings. Perhaps some of these families will be interested in a PACT hybrid kindergarten program.

The 2010-11 budget includes salary freezes. The Second Interim Budget was unanimously approved as presented (Finch-Allen/Schaaf).

- XI. Board Reports and Comments
  - A. School Closures Update. Bruce Roberts reported that the latest information on the NUSD school closures is the possible closure of Leroy Greene and to change enrollments at the K-5 grade schools to K-6 grades.
- XII. Future Board Agenda Items
- XII. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.