



135 Joerschke Drive, Grass Valley, CA 95945 | 530-477-1235

Minutes
Bitney College Preparatory High School Charter Council
 Monthly Meeting

Date: Wednesday, November 9, 2016, 6:00 PM

Place: 135 Joerschke Drive, Grass Valley

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 6:03pm
2. **Roll Call**

Council Position	Member Name	Attending
Parent		
Parent	Lang Norris-Waters	x
Parent	Win Rogers	x
Faculty	Amy Pugel Secretary	x
Faculty	Beth Grebe	-
Academic Dean	Dave Peterson	-
Student	Annekin Ove	-
Student (alternate)	Tosh Roberts-Brockway	x
Community	Eric Robins	x
Community	Shana Stratton Chair	x
Community		
Director (non-voting)	Russ Jones	x

3. **Approval of Agenda:** Amy Pugel moved to approve the agenda as presented. Win Rogers seconded. Unanimously approved.
4. **Public Forum:** No public present.
5. **Approval of Minutes:** Eric Robins moved to approve the minutes as corrected. Lang Waters seconded. Unanimously approved.
6. **First Interim Budget:** Claudia Aguirre was present to present a summary of the first interim budget for this school year. It is based on an enrollment of 90 students at an ADA of 82.8. Enrollment has decreased since

then but not appreciably. LCFF funding is slightly higher but is earmarked for certificated salaries. There were some adjustments for Special Ed that resulted in an encroachment into our budget of ~\$67K. It was mentioned that Bitney might hire an aide at \$15/hour to help the Special Ed Resource Personnel and that our budget can support this. We may get extra funding from grant sources that support students intending to go to college. The budget shows a net decrease of ~34K due to Prop 39 improvements that are continuing. The monies were received in last year's budget and tallied in carry-over. The budget is fairly healthy and increases over three years in expectation of increased enrollment. There was a question as to whether the budget would allow for a Christmas bonus for staff. Lang Waters moved to approve the interim budget. Eric Robins seconded. Unanimously approved.

7. **Cellular Tower Declaration of Concern:** Richard Cristdahl was present to discuss his concerns regarding the construction of a cell tower in the Brunswick Basin. Bitney falls outside of the 300 foot radius wherein they notify the local residents/businesses. There was discussion regarding the nature of radiation from the cell tower. Dr. Cristdahl read a summary statement from Dr. Otis Brawley regarding the results of a rat study done with respect to cell tower radiation. This study showed a possible increase in cancer rates in male rats exposed to cell phone radiation. There was a question regarding whether the results of cell phones were applicable to cell towers. A question arose as to who in the community is responsible for approving cell tower installation. The planning department approves this. Is the jury still out on these results? Would a resolution of concern be appropriate? Could students work on this as part of an Advisory project: the science aspect as well as the community awareness aspect? Dr. Cristdahl will send links regarding the sources he quoted. Charter Council discussed this and will continue to consider it and keep current with the research.
8. **Consent Agenda:** Amy Pugel moved to approve the consent agenda. Lang Waters seconded. Unanimously approved.
 - 8.1. **Director's Report:** Information. The administrator's report covers administrative, facilities, and Nevada County Charter Cooperative issues.
 - 8.2 **Warrants:** Information. The Warrants present an accounting of routine budgetary items that require approval.
9. **Charter Council Member Recruitment Committee:** Eric Robins spoke to an acquaintance regarding a financial consultant as a possible Charter Council member. There has been no response as of yet. They have also sent requests to specific community members but there has been no response. Council discussed the need to attract someone who can act in the Treasurer position to provide fiduciary oversight.
10. **Charter Council Member Election:** Tabled until there is new member interest.
11. **Director's Update and Committee Reports:** Russ Jones reported that the Wine-Tasting Fundraiser was a success. Council appreciates greatly the efforts put forth by the Parent Council and Patti Glenn to put on such an amazing event. We are hoping to increase participation in years to come. Russ also presented that there was no resulting settlement in the mediation of the pending lawsuit. Russ discussed possible changes to our graduation requirements allowing students a more flexible range of graduation options to meet needs of various students. Council viewed documents showing current requirements as well as prospective changes. It also showed California minimum requirements and graduation requirements for other local schools. Ed code allows schools to add courses beyond the minimum. These courses include electives, technology, health, senior seminar, internships. Russ will bring back staff recommendations at the next Charter Council meeting for presentation and possible approval. He also mentioned that we are considering removing the community service 150-hour requirement because the internships provide much deeper and more valuable interactions within the community.
12. **Charter Renewal template:** Tabled until further action is needed.
13. **Bylaws & Policy Committee Update:** The committee is on hiatus until further notice.

14. **Parent Council Report:** Lang Waters shared brief observations regarding Big Night. It was bigger than last year but they do not yet have final numbers on how much was made. They will discuss more on at their next meeting.
15. **Dean's Report:** Dave Peterson was not present.
16. **Student Government Report:** Tosh Roberts Brockway brought up student concerns regarding Exhibitions next week. They would have preferred Exhibitions over two days instead of four days so they can have more days of regular teaching, and also so they are not "bored" having to sit through four days of Exhibitions. He suggested that staff might incorporate longer breaks after every 4th Exhibition to allow students to move around, get food, use the restroom. Win Rogers suggested that we might split it into two rooms and do it over two days rather than four days. Students could be randomized to view different student Exhibitions. Tosh also discussed that some students feel that it's harder to do the work without as much structure as the traditional program. He suggested that students and Advisors work together to create project plans and structures for Advisory projects. It was suggested that we might convene mixed grade-level House groups to discuss how students are handling the transition.
17. **Future Agenda Items:** Salary Schedule; Job Description; Graduation Requirements
18. **Next Meeting:** Eric Robins moved that we convene our next meeting at 6:00 PM on Tuesday, December 13, 2016. Lang Waters seconded. Unanimously approved.
19. **Adjournment:** Tosh Roberts Brockway moved to adjourn the meeting. Eric Robins seconded. Unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:52pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Pugel