



Sonoma Charter School

Special Governing Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 21, 2021

5:30 p.m. Closed Session - 6:30 p.m. Open Session

AGENDA

Sonoma Charter School adheres to the Americans with Disabilities Act. Should you require special accommodations, or more information about accessibility, please contact us at (707) 935-4232. All efforts will be made for reasonable accommodations.

6:33 p.m. CALL TO ORDER

Board Members Present:

Greg Stubbs Barbara Brooks Mary Oats

Rob Church Megie Murray Marc Elin (Director) Jeffrey Erkelens (CFO)

Board Report Out: Greg Stubbs reported that the Governing Board during the closed session took no actions and had nothing to report out.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Marc Elin acknowledged Lissa Turnbull who resigned from the Governing Board after serving 3 years on the Board and that her contributions to the PTO (now referred to as the CCC) and the Board have been extraordinary and greatly appreciated.

-----AGENDA-----

I. GOVERNANCE

A) SCS Governing Board Meeting Calendar for 2021-22.....Action

The Governing Board discussed and approved on a vote of 5-0 to meet on the second Monday of each month with additional meetings to be scheduled as necessary. The scheduled meeting dates are the following:

August 30, 2021
September 13, 2021
October 11, 2021
November 8, 2021
December 13, 2021
January 10, 2022
February 14, 2022
March 7, 2022
April 11, 2022
May 9, 2022
June 6, 2022

B) Independent Study Policy (Resolution 8.12 2021).....Action

The State Legislature has approved a new law (AB/SB 130) which makes full-time and “in-person” instruction the norm for 2021-22. For those who are unable to return to campus due to their health being put at risk by in-person instruction, AB/SB 130 outlines the Board Policy and Administrative Regulations related to the new requirements for Independent Study under AB/SB130. (*see attached Resolution 8-12 2021*)

- The Board was asked to review and adopt a policy to provide independent study for students who might have health risks that prohibit them attending class on campus.
- Marc explained the results of a survey sent to all parents of students about the new independent study guidelines from the state mandate but described to the Board how the mandate did not necessarily apply to small schools such as the Sonoma Charter School. He further explained that SCS should consider adopting the policy and further that:
 - 1) The decision to adopt the policy had to be voted on prior to school opening – hence the special meeting called for August 12, 2021.
 - 2) He clarified the difference between instruction provided during past Distance Learning and the independent study policy that requires more support by parents and less direct instruction to students at home who opt for the independent study.
 - 3) A parent conference with all parents who choose this service option is required and a contract is signed by parents.
 - 4) Progress and success will be measured on-going and if a student appears to not be succeeding, he or she will be disenrolled and return to school where a space is open for them.
 - 5) Families may continue the entire school year if the student is succeeding. The service is also available for any students who require at-home quarantine or illness recovery from COVID.

- A question was raised by a Board member about how many students may be participating and who would be providing this service.
 - Marc responded that an estimate of three to twelve students may be participating at any given time and that a credentialed teacher hired as an Intervention Specialist will provide that service in conjunction with on-going communication with teachers of students involved.
- The Independent Study Program was approved by a 5-0 vote. It was noted that 2 voting Board members were not in attendance to vote.

II. FISCAL

2021-22 Budget Revision.....Action

Education Code 42127(h) requires states that no later than 45 days after the governor signs the annual Budget Act, Local Education Agencies who provide any revision to their budgets make those revised budgets public, hence no later than August 12. *(see attached MEMORANDUM and Revised Budget)*

- Jeffrey Erkelens presented the revised budget document as compared to the previously approved June 1 budget including a summary of additional funds provided by the state and changes in expenditures as noted on the attached document.
- The Board made a motion to approve the revised budget and voted 5-0 in favor of approving the revised budget as presented.

III. PROGRAMS AND OPERATIONS

- Marc shared information about the activities the staff had been involved with to help prepare for the opening of school.
- An update was provided about the requirement that all students would be mandated to wear masks in the classrooms and outdoors all the time.
- Designated outdoor food areas are provided for each class.
- SCS follows the state guidelines that all staff be vaccinated and wear masks and that any staff member who is not vaccinated would be required to be tested 2x/week at the school.
- The school will also provide free testing for any staff member or student who has been exposed to COVID whether or not they are symptomatic.
- Health temperature checks for every student each day will continue.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.