

CLC Board Meeting 11/16/05
Call to Order 6:45 PM

Present: Heidi Fletcher, Andrea Ryan, Lori McTavish, Tonya Daher, Morgan, Donna Fisher (for Linda Bergeman)

Absent: Morgan Ilgen, Leslie Aderhold, Darlene Fink, and Linda Bergeman

Attendees: Kosta Dussias, Pat Hunt, Mark Toci, Tanya Pakutz-Greenland

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m.

The October minutes were presented for review. Andrea Ryan Fink moved to accept the minutes and Morgan Ilgen seconded the motion. The revised minutes were accepted unanimously.

Business Manager Report

Kosta reported that current enrollment is at 97 students. He passed out updated financials.

Andrea suggested having open house functions to increase enrollment in the next few months, along with additional advertising. Due to the upcoming holidays, Pat wanted to discuss this with staff. She felt that staff would not be interested in staffing open houses at this time as they are also preparing for the holidays. Most Board members agreed that the open houses during November and December would not be effective. Mark mentioned that CLC currently had advertising with the Premier Cinemas for the Harry Potter movie release. Heidi recommended an increase in advertising. Pat asked Andrea to continue efforts at “word of mouth” advertising as this has been the most effective method in increasing the number of students who have enrolled at CLC.

Kosta informed the Board that in addition to the computers ordered, he was able to negotiate delivery of additional equipment (3 digital cameras, one digital video camera, and one digital keyboard) at a cost of less than the \$3,000 expense allotment previously approved by the Board. Heidi commended Kosta on the negotiated items.

The Board was informed that the annual audit was completed. No items of concern were found. Management recommendations would be forthcoming and will be provided in the future.

Kosta mentioned that the amount allocated in the budget for heating oil would probably not be sufficient due to the increase in oil prices.

The eighth grade account was opened at Omega as discussed at the last meeting. The staff is currently reviewing the emergency plan for disaster preparedness and will be developing/revising the current plan.

ECO Report

She is currently working on gathering data for administrative reports.

Pat informed the Board that teachers were sending home assessments. They are also having students perform public presentations. Pat praised the staff on their efforts and stated that the students are showing a good grasp on technology and excelling in creativity.

“Friends of CLC” Update

Andrea requested clarification of Kosta’s request for Friends of CLC to set aside funds for a new boiler. Neither Kosta nor anyone else knew about any such request. A new boiler was purchased last year.

Andrea asked about circulating the article she had sent to Kosta about bullying to parents. Kosta said that the article was an academic article that might be difficult for parents to understand. Also, he thought the article implied that teachers can sometimes be at fault. He felt this was probably not an article that should be distributed from the school. He noted that Kim was currently working with some kids and doing needs assessments regarding this topic.

Andrea informed the Board that Kathy Morrow would be supervising child care for the Friends of CLC meetings until it is determined whether the provision of childcare was being utilized to increase the meeting attendance.

Old Business

Donna Fisher indicated that the teachers had not elected an additional representative, but she would let us know who the representative is at the next Board meeting.

No other old business was discussed.

New Business

Mark discussed the Addendum to the Charter that was being submitted to the State College Area School Board. The intent of the Addendum was to describe changes to curriculum and organizational changes that have been made since the original charter school was founded. The Board discussed the Addendum. Tonya Daher moved to accept the Addendum as presented and Lori McTavish seconded the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

Heidi brought up the topic of fundraising for the school. She asked the Board to think about this topic as it will be discussed at the next meeting as it is a complex issue and she did not want to rush the issue. She expressed concerns about fundraisers that result in

individual monetary gain (party fundraisers such as Pampered Chef, Tupperware, Mary Kay, etc.) that are not known school fundraisers. Topics to consider are endorsement, liability issues, and whether allowing some party-type fundraisers warrants having to allow all who want to provide that type of fundraiser be permitted to sell via this method.

Tonya Daher expressed concern the CLC offers not language program. She stated that she felt that not offering language education made CLC less competitive than other middle school options for prospective families and also causes students to be less prepared than other students for high school language courses. Kosta mentioned that due to budget constraints this has been offered in the specials block in the past and this requires a certified teacher to conduct the class in order for credit for the language to be given. There has been very little interest in the language specials that have been offered in the past.

Mark stated that the focus of CLC was on technology and project based learning. In addition, the high school language training starts from scratch so offering a language at this stage would not really prepare students for the high school courses. There was much discussion. Some Board members felt that as long as language instruction was optional, rather than required, there would not be enough interest to include in the specials block. Tonya was encouraged to ask Jean to offer an optional language “special” after the winter break and make it available if the student response warrants.

There was no additional business presented to the Board. Andrea Ryan motioned to adjourn, and Morgan Ilgen seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 PM