

Journey School
A California Public Charter School

December 16, 2010

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES FINAL

Approved on 2/24/11

6:30-9:30 p.m.

At Journey School

27102 Foxborough

Aliso Viejo, Ca 92656

Journey School Office: (949) 448-7232

www.journeyschool.net

Marc Damikolas, Council President: Absent
Dr. Kris Powell, Council Vice President: Present
John Kaplan, Council Treasurer: Present
Jan Geisendorfer, Council Secretary: Present
Kimberly Brown, Council Member: Present
Diana Graber, Council Member: Present
Cheryl Moe, Council Member: Absent
Bettina Spretke, Parent Cabinet Member: Present-Arrived at 6:43
Bonnie River, Educational Trustee Member: Present
Julie Hatchel, CUSD Member (NV): Absent

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Shaheer Faltas

OTHER GUESTS PRESENT: None noted

AGENDA ITEM	
1	Call to Order, Roll Call and Review of Norms/Roles The meeting was called to order at 6:40pm
2	Inspirational Passage
3	Approval of Agenda* Changes to the agenda (moving items around)—if any: No changes to agenda. Motion to approve the agenda was made by Kris; seconded by Jan and approved unanimously.

4 **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Diana Graber was praised by Council members for producing the film, "Wheels for Life" dedicated to providing bicycles to needy families in the developing world. The JSC praised the 6th grade class and Mr. Keller for an outstanding fundraiser as they made pies together. Ms. River expressed joy memories from her Kindergarten and Kim Brown communicated how successful the study of the constitution is progressing in 8th grade.

Consent Agenda Items:

Items on Consent Agenda may be approved with one motion and vote for all but without discussion. If an item is to be discussed, it is removed from the Consent Agenda and moved to an Action Item.

A. Approval of Minutes:*

i. November 18, 2010

ii. Prior Minutes from 2009-10: June 30, 2009, July 31, 2009

B. Ratification of First Interim Financial Report* as submitted to CUSD prior to Dec 15 deadline

C. Administrative support job descriptions*

D. Board Policies for 990 Compliance* Approval of final draft of policies required for IRS 990 compliance for non-profits

MOTION TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS was made by Jon Kaplan seconded by Diana Graber and approved BY ROLL CALL VOTE; with the exception that Item D was pulled from the Agenda for discussion and was considered in a separate motion.

Ayes: ALL

No: None

Absentions: None

Kim Brown motioned to adopt the Board Policy for 990 compliance with the exception of the gift receiving policy which will be redacted and then reviewed for future action. Jon Kaplan seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

6 **INFORMATION ITEMS:**

A. Financial Report: Report from ExED on October financial information and P1*

- Larry reviewed the school's financial documents per his monthly financials
- The JSC would like to agendaize Proposition 39 for the next Council Meeting

*B. Development Report**

- Debra Lambrecht, by telephone, reviewed her written updates per the board packet.
- The team discussed the goal of becoming an accrediting training site.
- The team praised Debra for the wiki site she created for development work to build capacity
- Diana Graber wants the Council to recruit high level people to participate on development committees
- Kris Powell and Jon Kaplan described the success we can achieve by inspiring our parent body to believe they have the skills to participate
- Shaheer committed to asking Debra to establish and publish criteria for development committee searches; and, will report upon progress at the next board meeting. Diana Graber volunteered to publish in the newsletter a summary of our search criteria after connecting with Shaheer.

C. Administrative Update Including update on attendance, enrollment, student learning, Special Education restructuring, new law regarding non voting board members, School Festival life, Prop 39, etc.*

- Shaheer clarified that a new law will take effect in January 2011 disallowing any non profit corporation, including charter schools,,l to have non-voting members on the board.
- CUSD hired the special ed teacher, Suzanna Bortz, that JS recommended. This teacher will handle 5th- 8th grade; Terryll will be responsible for younger grades.

D. Faculty Update

- Bonnie River reported the faculty has completed schoolwide assessments for Math and ELA. She explained teachers are using this assessment data to improving

learning and teacher.

- Bonnie explained the staff has been engaging in conversation about effective governance and teacher leadership in Waldorf inspired school. The teachers are really asking questions about where they want to exert their energies and decision making. Teachers would like additional coaching and resources; and, Pedagogical Council has prioritized this. Faculty has also discussed the need to procure important resources.
- Bonnie also explained that ongoing discussions are occurring regarding RSC teacher training. The teachers and Bonnie identified January dates for training. The problem is we need to secure 9 members of the cohort in order to run the course.
- Diana Graber will publish an invitation for enrollees from the school community.
- Bonnie mentioned PEDCO met to tackle some big priorities over the weekend. Bonnie also mentioned that the faculty needs a leadership team mechanism.
- The need for an Educational Director was also reiterated in the conversation.
- Bonnie mentioned that faculty is very dedicated and incredible and hard working. On the weekends, faculty members are working hard and coming in the morning. There is a feeling of a deep trust within the faculty. Staff feels helped by each other. Teachers also want to go visit other sites to learn from experienced teachers.
- Bonnie explained that PEDCO is drafting suggested language for a Looping Plan to address the unique needs of elementary students and middle school students. For example, most teachers in the future might loop 1-5 and others 6-8—while still allowing teachers possibly to loop 1-8.
- Bonnie would like clarity too on when the faculty rep should be excused during closed session discussions.

E. *Parent Cabinet Update*

- Bettina is waiting to receive minutes from PC
- Jan was thanked for her efforts with Fairy Market

F. *Report on Follow-up for Previous Board Items*: What commitments were made and did we follow through?*

Shaheer will confirm date of training by attorney on governance and Brown Act.

7. **DISCUSSION & ACTION ITEMS: give BRIEF summary of discussion, key points only, and if action is taken describe the motion clearly and the results of the vote.**

A. *Council Development and Training:*

i. *Update on CCSA conference professional Board Training opportunities and costs*

- Jan researched conference costs and workshops
- We will decide at the January board meeting if we will go or not

ii. *Union negotiation and Brown Act training from legal counsel--Potential afternoons when staff and Council could attend: Wed, Jan 26 or Wed, Feb 23 from 2 to 4 pm.*

Discussion: The date will be confirmed by Shaheer

iii. *Other important Board Best Practices: Caterpillars to Butterflies* and discussion of board policy making, plus Carpenter's Board University as resource*

Discussion: Moved to next meeting

B. *Council President: Nomination and election of Council President for term through June, 2011*

Discussion: Postponed to January

8	<p>CLOSED SESSION: <i>The meeting convened into closed session to discuss the matters described below at 8:30 pm</i></p> <p>Motion to adjourn into closed session by Diana Graber</p> <p>Seconded by Jon Kaplan and approved unanimously.</p> <p>Bettina left closed session at 8:46 pm due to conflict of interest re: grievance and returned to closed session at 9:06 pm after conversation concluded.</p> <p><i>Pursuant to Government Code §54956.9: Anticipated Litigation; Number of Cases: 1</i></p> <p><i>Pursuant to Government Code §54957: Public Employee Performance Evaluation, Title: Administrator</i></p> <p><i>Pursuant to Government Code §54957: CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATOR:</i></p> <p><i>Agency designated representative: Shaheer Faltas.</i></p> <p><i>Employee Organization: Journey School Teachers Association</i></p>
9	<p>RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION: <i>The meeting was reconvened to open session at: 9:12 p.m.</i></p>
10	<p>PUBLIC REPORT ON ACTION TAKEN IN CLOSED SESSION <i>(includes the vote or abstention of every member present) NO ACTION TAKEN.</i></p>
11	<p>INFORMATION ITEM: <i>JSC meeting self-assessment</i></p> <p><i>1. What best practices did we implement in relation to Section IV of the school's charter, Governance?</i></p> <p>The team appreciates the list of follow-up actions that Jan created. The team did a good job on time.</p> <p><i>2. What needs to get better? How will this get done?</i></p> <p>We need to complete the Administrative Evaluation. Diana Graber will follow-up on this agenda item with Cheryl Moe.</p> <p><i>3. Council Communications: Council members announcements</i></p> <p>Everyone committed to reading the Caterpillar article; Kim Brown mentioned it</p>

would be nice to have the Winter Concert to allow all grades.

4. *Pending/continued agenda items:*

- A. *Fiscal Policies (January)*
- B. *Bylaw updates (ASAP)*
- C. *Enrollment Board-level Policy (January)*
- D. *MOU with RSC for Teacher training (January)*
- E. *MOU with Journey Teachers regarding RSC training (January)*

12 **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 9:20 pm

**Refers to agenda items which require supporting documentation in Council packet*