

**MINUTES
NORTH STAR CHARTER SCHOOL
GOVERNING BOARD
January 14, 2010**

I. REGULAR MEETING

- A. Meeting called to order: by Chairperson Herrold at 6:41 p.m.
- B. Roll Call: Chairperson Herrold, Trustee Pipal, Trustee Reeve, Trustee McCarthy, Trustee Carroll and Trustee Waniata and were present.

II. MEETING PRELIMINARIES

Approval of Agenda: Trustee Waniata motioned to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Trustee Carroll. Trustee Pipal requested to add under new business Election of Officer and to add approval of the final requisition payment for Kreizenbeck under continuing business. Trustee Pipal motioned to approve the amended agenda. Trustee Carroll seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0.

Persons wishing to speak to an Agenda Item: None.

III. CONSENT AGENDA

The Governing Board reviewed the enclosures under the consent agenda. A motion to approve the consent agenda for accounts payable for the month of December, 2009 in the amount of \$134,987.42, to approve the financial reports and to approve the minutes for 12-01-09 and 12-10-09 was made by Trustee Pipal and seconded by Trustee McCarthy. Motion passed 6-0.

IV. REPORTS & DISCUSSION

- A. Robert's Rules of Order: Trustee Carroll reminded the board of some of the language in Robert's Rules of Order, that everything is made under a motion and that the Chairperson is recognized as Madam Chair.
- B. Principal's Report: Principal Smith stated that since before Christmas there have been weekly meetings with high school and middle school teachers. Bonnie Drick has trained all of the staff on Love and Logic. Spring sports and the athletic department are a little over budget, gate sales have not been strong this year, but basketball season is still going on. The PTO is planning things to try and get more people to attend the games. Charging fees for sports next year is something that needs to be looked into in order to fund the athletic program. Golf, tennis and baseball will not be offered this year due to lack of funding. Students can go to the school that is closest to their home school to participate in

sports as well. There was a free H1N1 clinic today. Next Monday is Charter School Day at the Capital and board members, families and teachers are encouraged to attend. Semester is a week from tomorrow. A few students will be leaving North Star, but there are as many new students coming as are leaving. Vice-Principal Wold mentioned that there is a student that has had problems at previous schools, but told the parents that they love North Star and that there is no bullying. The first middle school dance is also next week.

C. Treasurer's Report: Chairperson Herrold presented the Treasurer's Report. \$73000 will need to be transferred into the Revenue Stabilization account in order to be in compliance with the bonds. Once all of the final construction costs are paid, the construction account will be closed and the funds will be transferred into the general account. Trustee Waniata asked about debit card charges. Principal Smith explained that sometimes textbooks can be found at half the price on line, but you must pay online. There is a form that Mindi fills out and Principal Smith signs and approves. Upon reconciliation, the debit card charges are compared to the approval forms and charged accordingly on the budget report. The year to date figure reflects the balance as of December. Chairperson Herrold stated that the clerk is not at the meeting because she has a sick friend and went out of town to be with her, so Chairperson Herrold is giving the Treasurer's Report.

D. CPE Committee: Trustee Pipal motioned to add to new business to dissolve the CPE Committee. The motion was seconded by Trustee Waniata. Motion passed 6-0.

E. PTO Report: Brenda Taylor gave the update for the PTO. The PTO has started the process of incorporating and applying for their own 501 (c) (3) status for non profit organizations. Sales tax payment is due on the 20th. There is Tai Kwon Do that will be offered twice a week and they are asking for a \$20 donation. Snack attacks will be starting on Fridays. Every Friday in January, there will be a spirit gear inventory sale. The art show is scheduled for May 14. Teacher appreciation week is the first full week in May. The carnival will be the first week of June. Emails will be sent out for the carnival. They are still working on the playground. They are trying to finalize the last fundraising programs for the year. February 9th at 7:00 p.m. in the library is the next PTO meeting.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. New Board Application Approval: Trustee Carroll motioned to approve the governing board application with the following changes: add on question #7, describe any prior relationships with the board members or management, Trustee Pipal suggested rephrasing to "employees, board members or management." Trustee Carroll stated that it would then read "How, if at all, are you affiliated with North Star Public Charter School? Describe any prior relationships with the employees, board members or management." The motion was seconded by

Trustee Waniata. Chairperson Herrold stated that once the application is approved, it needs to be posted on the website as soon as possible. Motion passed 6-0.

B. 2010-2011 School Year Calendar Approval: Principal Smith presented the proposed calendar and gave notice to the families. There are two possible calendars and she would like to approve the calendar next month so families have a chance to review and comment. The first calendar aligns with the start date for the Meridian School District and starts August 30, 2010. It has a week off in October, a week off for Thanksgiving, two weeks off for Christmas, a week and a day off for spring break. The second calendar takes the suggested changes by parents and it was presented to the staff and the staff was very enthusiastic about it. Traditionally from January to March, there are very few days off. In the fall, there is more time off. The suggestion was to have a winter break in February. It could be coupled with President's Day which is a scheduled day off anyway. The proposal would be to have school the Monday and Tuesday of Thanksgiving week and then starting school two days early, August 26th and 27th. The calendar needs to be to the state in May. Trustee Carroll asked if this new calendar would propose a conflict for parents who have children going to different schools. He also stated that it was great that this idea had parental involvement. Trustee Reeve asked if it would be more efficient to end school before Memorial Day. Trustee McCarthy stated that with the testing schedule for high school has to be considered at the end of the year. The graduation day is also picked with the consideration of all of the other schools. Trustee Carroll motioned to table the vote for the calendar. The motion was seconded by Trustee Pipal. Motion passed 6-0.

C. C=Credit Amendment to Handbook: Principal Smith stated that something that has come out of the high school meetings is to raise the standard of our high school for gaining credit. This is from the handbook of the Meridian Tech Charter. It requires that high school students receive a "C" in order to get credit. The scale would remain the same: 90-100 = A; 80-89 = B; 70-79 = C. Principal Smith and Vice-Principal Smith would like the board's approval to start the research so North Star can have this standard. The policy would be general and procedure would be written up and brought back to the board for approval. Trustee McCarthy really likes the idea, but has some concern about starting it this semester. Trustee Pipal suggests letting the parents give some feedback on this policy. The Tech Charter has been doing this for years and it is working well and forces the students to be accountable.

D. Emmett Busing Proposal: Principal Smith stated that the Emmett Busing proposal cannot be considered at this time due to finances. The cost would be \$250 a day for each day from now until the end of the year. It will be further researched further for next school year.

E. I-20 School Certification Proposal: Principal Smith stated that the I-20 School Certification proposal cannot be considered at this time. It pertains to foreign exchange students. With this type of certification, North Star could charge tuition for foreign exchange students. In talking to the Meridian School District, North Star may not have to go this route and if the school chose to, it could take up to 6 months and costs \$2500. Principal Smith and Vice Principal will continue to research this.

G. Dissolution of CPE Committee: Trustee Pipal stated that for personal reasons, he is stepping down as vice-chair. Trustee Pipal motioned to nominate Trustee Carroll to be Vice-Chair for the Board of Directors for North Star. The motion was seconded by Trustee Waniata. Motion passed 6-0. Chairperson Herrold congratulated Trustee Carroll. Trustee Pipal motioned to dissolve the CPE Committee based on conversations with other board members, the administration and the committee themselves. The motion was seconded by Trustee Waniata. Trustee Pipal stated that committee wasn't working well and it needs more involvement from the board and the administration and it was not making progress like it should. Motion passed 5-1, with Trustee Reeve voting nay.

VI. CONTINUING BUSINESS

A. Revised By-Laws: Chairperson Herrold presented past by-law changes that need to be reviewed and approved. Trustee Pipal motioned to approve the revised by-laws. The motion was seconded by Trustee Carroll. Trustee Carroll suggested that in the seat position, seat 1 and 4 be assigned to the parent position, so that at every election, there will be a parent on the board who has been there for at least one year. Trustee Pipal asked under section 4.9 voting, why the section that reads: "Tie votes will be broken by the Chairman of the Board." Chairperson Herrold stated that there is nothing in the documents that says that the Chairman does not vote. To state that is redundant because there are an odd number of members on the board. Trustee Carroll addressed the stakeholder question that the board has discussed in previous meetings, section 4.3 (f). A stakeholder is defined as the parents and legal guardians of pupils then attending North Star Charter School, and the faculty and employees of North Star Charter School. Each stakeholder shall be allowed one vote. Motion tied 2-2, with Trustee Carroll and Chairperson Herrold abstaining. Trustee Carroll would like to take a few minutes to review it more closely before voting. Trustee McCarthy stated that the board needs to get this right and make it very clear so that future board members and administrators are not confused with the wording. Trustee Waniata motioned to approve the changes in the by-laws with the exception of Section 4.3 (f). The motion was seconded by Trustee Pipal. Motion passed 6-0.

B. Policy 2300-2800: Trustee McCarthy presented the third and final reading of policy 2300-2800 on curriculum. Almost all of the changes reflect changes that the state has made over the last several years and the fact that North Star is

now a K-12 school. The only change from the second reading to the third reading was substituting the word "controversial" for "certain" or another similar word on the policy dealing with controversial issues. Trustee Pipal motioned to approve the policy changes. The motion was seconded by Trustee Reeve. Motion passed 6-0.

C. Policy 3000-3400: Principal Smith went through about half of the policy because of the size. The policy changes can be accessed on North Star's website. There were some additional changes that will be posted on the website and will be discussed again at the second reading.

D. Approval of final Requisition Payment: Chairperson Herrold stated that this was tabled at the last meeting. North Star cannot withhold payment unless the school has a specific problem with the electrician that is listed to be paid. Trustee Pipal motioned to approve the final requisition payment. The motion was seconded by Trustee Reeve. There are still some issues with drainage, there is a problem getting hot water in the nurse area and office restrooms, the air conditioner unit in the gym needs to be replaced because it was damaged, there are carpet issues, door issues. Most everything needs to be taken up with the subcontractors. Concrete issues need to be taken up with Kreizenbeck. Trustee McCarthy motioned to amend the prior motion approving the payment pending confirmation by North Star's legal advisor and construction advisor that contractual agreements make payment necessary. The motion was seconded by Trustee Carroll. Motion passed 6-0.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Herrold asked for a motion for adjournment. After a full and complete discussion, a motion was made by Trustee Carroll and seconded by Trustee Wanaita. Trustee Pipal stated that for personal reasons, his last day on the board will be February 1, 2010. The meeting adjourned at 8:47 p.m. with all members voting aye.

The above minutes represent a true and accurate summary of this meeting.

Chairman

Clerk