

**MINUTES
NORTH STAR CHARTER SCHOOL
GOVERNING BOARD
November 12, 2009**

I. REGULAR MEETING

- A. Meeting called to order: by Chairperson Herrold at 6:40 p.m.
- B. Roll Call: Chairperson Herrold, Trustee Pipal, Trustee Reeve, Trustee McCarthy and Trustee Carroll and were present.

Chairperson Herrold entertained a motion to recess into Executive Session at 6:40 p.m. for the purpose authorized in Section 67-2345 (1) (a) Idaho Code to consider hiring a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, wherein the respective qualities of individuals are to be evaluated in order to fill a particular vacancy or need. A motion was made by Trustee Pipal and seconded by Trustee Carroll. Trustee Pipal, Trustee Reeve, Trustee McCarthy and Trustee Carroll all voted aye.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 6:50 p.m. a motion was made by Trustee Carroll to recess in Public Session. The motion was seconded by Trustee Reeve. Motion passed 4-0.

II. MEETING PRELIMINARIES

Meeting was called to order: by Chairperson Herrold at 6:55 p.m.

Roll Call: Chairperson Herrold, Trustee Pipal, Trustee Reeve, Trustee McCarthy and Trustee Carroll were present.

Approval of Agenda: Trustee Pipal requested that lunch vendors be added to letter D under new business. Trustee Carroll requested that enrollment committee be added under new business and motioned to approve the amended agenda with those changes. The motion was seconded by Trustee McCarthy. Motion passed 4-0.

Persons wishing to speak to an Agenda Item: Lisa Szentes, John Hansen, Merlinda Haueter and Monica Stone on voting rights for spouses. Lisa Szentes on the PTO report.

Persons wishing to speak to a Non-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 October, 2009 in the amount of \$168,922.64, to approve the financial reports, to approve provisional contracts for four employees and to approve the minutes for 10-08-09 was made by Trustee Pipal and seconded by Trustee McCarthy. Motion passed 4-0.

III. REPORTS & DISCUSSION

A. 5th Grade Class Presentation with Casey Hawkins: Principal Smith stated that every month there are two teachers that present to the board. Casey Hawkins brought in the 5th grade class and they performed a long poem for the board. Chairperson Herrold stated that it was great and that the class did a wonderful job. The class also presented Principal Smith and Chairperson Herrold with a check for \$821.00 for a fundraiser for an orphanage called Light in Africa.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Financial Audit Approval: Jo Bolin with Gibbons, Scott and Dean presented the financial audit for FY 2008-2009. Jo stated that this was a very difficult audit due to the bond sale. It is important that the clerk receive the supplemental contracts on time so the contracts can be paid on time. Jo stated that everything went smoothly, the clerk did a very good job and that this is the best audit that the school has had so far. Trustee Carroll motioned to approve the 2008-2009 audit. The motion was seconded by Trustee Pipal. Motion passed 4-0.

REPORTS & DISCUSSION CONTINUED:

B. Principal's Report: Principal Smith stated that Kerri Pickett-Hoffman would be reporting on a block schedule survey that was given regarding the block schedule. See attached. Principal Smith stated that there were a couple of big events this past month, the fall festival and the band/choir concert. There was also a Veteran's Day assembly. Challenge Day was today for all 10th and 11th graders. Josh D., the 11th grade student council president spoke about the student council. They had their first dance and it went well. The Student Council is looking for ways to participate in the running of the school and how they can make a difference and make things better. Challenge Day was a complete success in the high school. Josh would like to see more events like Challenge Day happen.

C. Construction Update: The clerk gave the update on the construction project. The last bills still have not been received by Kreizenbeck. The final bill should be ready for the December meeting.

D. CPE Committee: Trustee Pipal met with the CPE Committee this week to talk about how the committee is going to work. They are going to be looking at

different surveys to obtain information on customer satisfaction. The goal is 72% for very satisfied customers. Trustee Carroll stated that something that needs to be considered is survey fatigue. Trustee Pipal stated that an idea would be to have the surveys around parent-teacher conferences, when the parents are already there and have already committed time to the school.

E. Treasurer's Report/Finance Committee: The clerk gave the update on the Treasurer's Report. The school is staying within the budget. Work has started on the budget for 2010-2011.

F. PTO Report: Trustee Carroll and the rest of the board discussed the PTO board member of the role and the importance that role plays on the board. Many board members see the PTO member as a valuable voice on the board, the question is to what extent should their involvement be on the board. To make the PTO member an Ex-Officio member of the board, a by-law change needs to be made. This discussion will continue in the next board meeting. Lisa Szentes gave the PTO report on what has been happening in the last few weeks. The fall festival was a great success and raised \$2000. The Sally Foster fundraiser raised \$3500. The box tops program has been going on for a couple of months ago and has raised \$620. There is a family game night scheduled. The PTO provided food for the teachers during the parent-teacher conferences as well. Stephanie Killiea is the PTO president.

V. CONTINUING BUSINESS

A. Policy 1000 and 2000: Trustee Carroll expressed his appreciation for the participation from everyone regarding Policy. Trustee McCarthy presented the changes to policy starting with section 2300. See attached. This is the first reading.

B. Approval of Requisition Payment: The clerk presented the requisition payment for the board to approve for construction costs. The motion to approve the requisition payment less \$1000 to Right! Systems to ensure that everything is in working order was made by Trustee Pipal and seconded by Trustee Carroll. Motion passed 4-0.

C. Spousal Voting Rights: Principal Smith presented information regarding how districts elect their board of trustees versus how charter schools elect their board of trustees. Districts vote in zones, anyone over the age of 18, basically taxpayers, can vote and they can only vote within their zone. Charter schools board of trustees represent the whole school, not a zone; and families from outside the Meridian School District zone are allowed to vote. The question is "who are the stakeholders?" And should the stakeholders be people directly tied to the students, or anyone affected by decisions of the board of trustees? John Hansen stated that he would like to see the spouses of teachers be allowed to vote. Lisa Szentes stated that the by-laws leave the door open to who a stakeholder is but she

does not see the spouses of teachers as stakeholders. Merlinda Haueter stated that she agrees with Lisa. Monica Stone stated that she has heard that the parents are worried about the teachers taking over and she is very offended by that. Joe Borton stated that the ballot that was used last board election needs to be redone prior to the next election. Chairperson Herrold stated that she checked with some other charter schools and they give one vote per family and one vote per teacher. North Star gives two votes per family and one vote per teacher. Trustee Pipal asked if this issue is about equity or about giving the spouses a say. Trustee Carroll stated that this is obviously an emotional issue motioned to table this issue. The motion was seconded by Trustee Pipal. Motion passed 4-0.

NEW BUSINESS CONTINUED

B. Flu Declaration Weeks: Principal Smith provided information regarding the lower attendance at the school because of the flu. The following weeks need to be declared as flu weeks: K: Oct 5, Oct. 12, Oct 19, Oct. 26 and Nov. 2, 2009; Grade 1-3 Oct. 19, Oct. 26, Nov. 2, 2009; Grade 4-6 Sept 21, Oct. 12, Oct. 19, Nov. 2, 2009; Grade 7-11 Sept 13, Sept. 21, Oct. 5, Oct 12, Oct. 19, Oct. 26, Nov. 2, 2009. A motion was made by Trustee McCarthy to submit the above flu weeks and it was seconded by Trustee Carroll. Motion passed 4-0.

C. Four Areas of Focus for NSCS: Trustee Carroll presented the four areas of focus first for the board to work on in board meeting. They are as follows: Bond Refinancing; Sustainable Budget for 2010-2011; Full Enrollment with a Waitlist; and a Productive Relationship with Customers and Partners. Trustee Pipal motioned to accept the four areas of focus first and the motion was seconded by Trustee McCarthy. Motion passed 4-0.

D. Use of Signature Stamp for Dept. of Ed/Lunch Vendors: The clerk asked the board for permission to use the signature for the Department of Education for fingerprints for background checks and to use the signature stamp for lunch vendors due to time constraints. Money is collected in advance of lunch orders being placed, so the funds to pay the vendors are in the checking account. Trustee Carroll motioned to give permission to use the signature stamp for lunch vendors. The motion was seconded by Trustee McCarthy. Motion passed 4-0.

E. Gym Use Policy: Principal Smith presented the gym use policy. See attached. Joe Borton stated that there needs to be a hold harmless waiver and a couple of other stipulations to protect the school legally. Trustee Pipal motioned to approve the gym use policy with the stipulation that the changes suggested by Joe Borton are included. The motion was seconded by Trustee Reeve. Motion passed 4-0.

F. Enrollment Committee: Trustee Carroll stated that with the approval of the Four Areas of Focus, he would like the board needs to create an enrollment and marketing committee for North Star. The motion was made by Trustee

Carroll to create the committee and the motion was seconded by Trustee Pipal.
Motion passed 4-0.

VII. QUESTION & ANSWER/CONCERN SESSION

None.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Herrold asked for a motion for adjournment. After a full and complete discussion upon a motion made by Trustee Carroll and seconded by Trustee Reeve, the meeting adjourned at 10:21 p.m. will all members voting aye.

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

Chairman

Clerk