

SunRidge School
Charter Council Meeting
Minutes for 11/8/2021

Call to order: 6:00pm

Present: Deidra, Johann, Sasha, Theresa, Brian, Jamie, Jehanne

Absent: Curtis, Jehanne

Guests: Kalen, Sean Headley

Establishment of Quorum: yes

Approval of Agenda: Theresa/Sasha 5/0

Correspondence:

None.

Approval of minutes for August 30, 2021: Johann/Sasha 6/0/0

Approval of minutes for October 4, 2021: Deidra/Brian 4/0/2

Open Session & Announcements:

None.

A) Review Action Items/Old Business

None.

B) Admin Report

Enrollment

Currently at 211, stabilized in terms of attrition, some interest in children joining. Attendance is taking a hit because of covid symptom list and associated quarantines.

Hiring/Staffing

Dora Ballard has been hired to help assess students who might need special education services. Special education personnel are hard to find throughout the district.

Tina Dawe has been hired as a Fifth-Grade aide, but her background check has not yet been returned.

Abi Porter has resigned as a middle school aide.

COVID

Kalen reported several incidents of students having to quarantine for exposure as well as a handful of Covid cases have drastically impacted our attendance over the last several weeks.

Kalen has spoken to SunRidge's angel donor about the issues for SunRidge student body associated with the current vaccination requirements. The angel donor donated \$100,000 to help cover the budget gap caused by lower enrollment.

Kalen is asking for help from CC to make a new appeal to the parent body regarding pledge.

Kalen reported going to the district budget committee with Curtis. Kalen's perspective was that there is a movement towards consolidation. This presents challenges unique to SunRidge as a Waldorf school. Kalen is inviting interested persons in joining the next meeting.

Action Item:

C) FEAT Report

No report.

Action Item:

D) Parent Council Report

Kalen reported a lack of interest in parents stepping forward to participate in Parent Council. Brandy Rucker is creating a list of class parents to organize monthly teacher appreciation.

Action Item:

E) Review Enrollment Policy

Kalen shared the current policy. Some things that have changed in the last year are the homeschool program has been terminated.

Deidra and Johann will begin working on updating the parent contract SunRidge has been using. Deidra will create a google document.

Theresa asked if we might make an enrollment policy for families that would like to return after having left because of vaccination requirements. Kalen reported her initial conversations with legal counsel suggest this cannot be a consideration in terms of setting priority.

Action Item:

F) Annual Policy Review

Looping policy – faculty has approved a looping policy for teachers which would have teachers follow the grade from 1st through 4th grade as a block and 5th to 8th grade as another block instead of 1st through 8th. This will be set to next month for vote by CC.

Action Item:

G) Budget 2020/2021 Discussion/Update

Kalen shared the budget as of today. We are still getting some COVID funding but the drop in enrollment is impacting the budget.

Action Item:

Break

H) Coordinating Committee Update

Deidra reported the meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Action Item:

I) Attrition Review

This agenda item is being tabled until next month at Theresa's request.

Action Item:

J) Charter Council Self Evaluation Follow-Up

Deidra has reached out to the Superintendent to get this process started and is waiting to hear back.

Action Item: Deidra to update CC next meeting.

K) Collaboration with SICS Exploration

Kalen reports SunRidge is trying to deal with increased administrative requirements and decreased funding. In that context, Kalen is wondering if CC would like to consider collaboration with SICS and a Charter Management Organization to help the schools collaborate. If CC is interested in having additional conversations with Chris from SICS, Kalen could arrange that. There is interest in having the discussion and Kalen has agreed to reach out to Chris and Caleb and see what might be arranged. Kalen believes we need to consider this for the long-term health of SunRidge. Kalen, Jamie and Johann will work on the message.

Action Item: Kalen will reach out to Chris and Caleb to ask if they are willing to have this discussion with CC. Kalen, Jamie, and Johann will work together on creating a message to the staff.

L) Update on Charter Council Committees

Food Committee:

Kalen reported that the District would like to go through Revolution Foods. There are definitely difficulties, including not spending more money than will be reimbursed, which has been a real issue.

Pre-kinder Committee:

The committee has met and discussed the possibility of adding another kindergarten consisting of just the TK children.

Action Item:

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Johann Hall