

Seven Hills Charter Public School Board of Trustees
Minutes
June 5, 2007

Welcome

In attendance: Krista Piazza, Jim Diggins, Donna Lamoyne, Rebecca Blodgett, Carlton Watson, Dorothy Escribano and Cindy Krackovic. Beth Gillis taking meeting minutes.

Minutes

Minutes of the May 1, 2007 SHCPS Board of Trustees Meeting presented for approval.

Motion to approve: Jim Diggins

Second: Rebecca Blodgett

All members voted in favor of the motion.

Public Comments

The BOT has allotted 15 minutes to those individuals from the community or staff who has notified the Board in advance that they would like to speak on a topic that may or may not be on the agenda.

1) **Presentation: Student Achievement Update** – Presented by Krista Piazza.

- A. **Increase our ability to meet individual learning needs** (1) Enhance sources and methods (2) Cross train all staff in language development and SEI (3) Flexibility grouping (4) Increase Response to Intervention (RTI) (5) Increase usage of technology (6) Implement Scott Forsman modules (7) Follow Singapore lesson plan (8) Offer elective model to JA fine arts (9) Increase training, support and supervision for the six-models of co-teaching (10) Enhance opportunities for after-school tutoring (11) Teacher-designed study group and professional development opportunities.
- B. **Increase cohesiveness of Junior Academy Model** (1) Ensure that JA teams have common planning time (2) Schedule JA meetings (3) Offer cross grade level lunches, tutorials and electives.
- C. **Enhance training and support for new teachers** (1) Strengthen the new hire summer seminar (2) Create a new staff support group (3) New Staff participation in peer observations and team planning.
- D. **Build positive learning environments in all classrooms** (1) Increase time and support for morning meetings / advisory periods (2) Open Circle and Go Programs (3) Grade level and academy wide core value events (4) Encourage participation in school challenges (5) Enhance partnership with local mental health services (6) Counseling groups (7) FASST team.
- E. **Increase parent involvement** (1) Guiding Good Choices parenting classes (2) Student performance or participation component to family events (3) Move parent conferences to mid-trimester vs. end of trimester (4) Recognition for family involvement (5) Increase parent usage of technology (6) Increase awareness of and appreciation for cultural differences.

ELA Results

Readiness: All K and 1 class averages exceeded benchmark.

Decoding: Students at all grade levels demonstrated marked gains in accuracy.

Fluency: All class averages met or exceeded the targets and gain rates except grade three. Grade three exceeded the gain rate but did not meet target.

Comprehension & Vocabulary: All grade levels except seven showed an increase in the number of students meeting benchmark from last year. Grades 1 and 2 showed the biggest gains.

Math Results

Readiness: 75% of the students met benchmark in quantity discrimination and missing numbers, fewer students were on target with oral counting and number ID prerequisite skills.

Fact Fluency: PA students showed marked gains. 81% of the students met benchmark. EA and JA students showed little progress.

Skill Mastery: Students in all grade levels showed strengths in the areas of computation, number concepts, patterns and fractions. These have previously been noted as areas of weakness. All but one class continues to struggle with responding to multi-step open response questions related to information contained in charts, graphs and tables.

2) **Board Report:** Comments from the board on the year in review:

- Seven Hills is more oriented to the world of charter schools and more informed about what charter schools must accomplish and criteria to meet.
- The school has stayed involved and kept politically informed.
- Carlton Watson is constantly pleased with Seven Hills' teamwork, accomplishments and contributions. It's a great experience.
- The team consistently "gets the work done" but enjoys each other as well.
- The board recognized Krista Piazza for keeping the board well informed, enhancing programs, encouraging students; and for her ability to determine student's needs.
- Edison era is clearly over and Seven Hills has been able to maintain the same level of enthusiasm in a strategy-oriented way. The board has focused on teachers needs; students needs and should acknowledge that the transition went smoothly and effectively while maintaining financial stability.

Strategic Planning

- a) Role of Foundation – Refer to attached report.
- b) Priorities (in order of importance): Plan and Time-Line presentations.
 - **Math and Science Initiative:** (Rebecca Blodgett, Krista Piazza, Dorothy Escribano, Andrew Feland) The sub-committee has not met officially, however, two steps have already been taken: (1) Members have identified and applied for an actuarial grant, and (2) have pursued a new board member. See attached report.

- **Population Served:** (Jim Diggins, Darrell Gibbs, Krista Piazza, Principal). Three steps identified. Refer to attached report.
- **Facilities:** (Rebecca Blodgett, Lee Cordaro, Principal, Krista Piazza “development phase only”). Refer to attached report. The sub-committee will determine a means to measure success.
- **Funding Support:** (Donna Lemoyne, Carlton Watson, Cynthia Krackovic, Krista Piazza) Working in conjunction with the Foundation. Implementation of the new grant writer position in FY08, and other development activities in the following one to two years. Refer to attached Foundation committee meeting minutes.
- **Dissemination:** (Lee Cordaro, Krista Piazza) Process has been created. Refer to attached report.
- **Political Advocacy:** (TBD)

3) Old Business

- a) Principal Selection Update – The selection process has been completed and the position has been filled. Mr. Gerald Yung will take over as the new principal for the FY08 school year.
- b) FY08 Board Meeting Schedule for final approval. (see attached schedule presented)

Motion to approve: Rebecca Blodgett

Second: Donna Lemoyne

All members voted in favor of the motion.

- c) Coordinated Program Review Update -- Auditors will be on-site 6/11 to 6/14/07.

4) New Business

- a. Technology Acceptable Use Policy – Verbiage added to “Monitored Use” and “Liability” sections of the attached document. Discussion continues regarding the school’s liability concerning inappropriate use of electronic resources. The policy was approved with additional wording to the liability section to include “downloads” and the potential cost to staff and students as a result. It is also expected that follow up will continue with the Technology Team to determine tracking measures.

Motion to approve: Jim Duggin

Second: Rebecca Blodgett

All members voted in favor of the motion.

- b. Audit Schedule: Initial meeting with Tofias June 20, 2007, will draft schedule at that meeting.
- c. The Board agreed that Dorothy Escribano be recognized for her dedicated service.

- d. Recommendation for Scholarship – James Owens has been a student at SHCPS since Kindergarten. He is graduating this year and has never missed one day of school. Jim Diggins recommended a \$1,000 scholarship for books to be presented by Carlton Watson at the graduation ceremony.

Motion to approve: Rebecca Blodgett

Second: Dorothy Escibano

All members voted in favor of the motion.

5) Financial Report

- a) Personnel Update – Refer to attached report.
- b) Enrollment Report as of May 29, 2007: Enrolled 660, ADM 683, waitlist 297.
- c) Cash Balances: April 2007
- d) April 2007 Balance Sheet and P/L
- e) FY08 Budget Revision and Changes Report for approval

Motion to approve: Rebecca Blodgett

Second: Jim Diggins

All members voted in favor of the motion.

- f) Grant Allocation (waiting for entitlement grant funding confirmation, still not in will report in August)

Motion to adjourn: Donna Lemoyne

Second: Dorothy Escibano

Meeting adjourned at: 8:00 PM

Next meeting August 7, 2007. Location to be determined.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

Elizabeth Gillis

Administrative Assistant