

West Houston Charter Alliance, Inc
Regular meeting of the Board of directors
July Meeting
July 27,2009

The meeting was called to order by David Dwyer at 6:33 PM. In addition to David Dwyer Thom Polvogt, Edna Green, Lucina Botand and Judith Paul were in attendance. Although not on the Board, Administrator Jean Pickering and Board Attorney Maureen Singleton were also in attendance. A quorum was established and Michelle Tzannis was absent.

The required statement was read regarding the Hearing of Citizens was completed by David. The regular three (3) minute limit was emphasized and Judith was the time keeper.

- First Tom Haymes spoke in support of current administration and expressed criticism of some decisions that the Board has made. He felt some of the decisions were a clear indication of the Board's Motives to micro-manage and claimed his young son had more sense than the amateurs on the Board..
- Victoria Crawford wanted to give Jean Pickering credit for all the good results of the school while also expressing criticism of the Board's decision regarding the Dress code. She said that her concerns centered on her own children and their welfare.
- Joel Paul was supportive of the Board. He recognized the Board's responsibility to the State. He was critical of current administration especially regarding one student's possession of a "Death List" with no action by Administration, and allowing a teacher's "boy friend" in class with the children for an extended period of time with no background/criminal history check or notice in advance to parents.
- Beth Hansen thanked the Board for the time put into the work. She addressed the rumor mill and wants to get clear on what was true and what was not. Felt the Board has a tendency to "Micro-manage" the administration. She has heard "negative stories and wanted to support the administrator. Requested that the Board look at the "Big Picture." The overriding illustration was that "If the staff is not happy, the kids are not happy and if the kids are not happy then the parents are not happy."
- Terry Hellwig addressed the issue about back packs. She wants Board to allow wheeled backpacks for the kids, especially Jr. High students as the large number of books they carry can be heavy and detrimental to their backs.

No action or the approval of the June 17 regular meeting of the Board (Secretary Tzannis absent)

No action or the approval of the July 1 Emergency meeting of the Board (Secretary Tzannis absent)

No action or the approval of the June 17 Special meeting of the Board (Secretary Tzannis absent)

Motion by Polvogt, second by Paul to approve amendment to May 20, 2009 meeting minutes. Motion carried

The Board discussed and considered filling the Board opening. Then Paul moved, Green second that we appoint Regina Argueta-Misra to the Board effective immediately. Motion carried.

No budget amendments presented for action.

No revisions to dress code presented for action.

Board discussed a motion to constrain relatives of Board Members from serving as officers on the PTO.

Motioned that the Board adopt a policy prohibiting immediate family members of Board Members from

serving as a regular member on any Board-formed committee or as an officer of the PTO of WHSC effective September 1, 2009. Second by Green. Motion Carried.

Board discussed moving the regular meetings from Wednesday. Motion by Polvogt to move the meeting to the third Thursday of the month beginning with the September Meeting. Second by Green. Motion carried
Committee reports:

- Audit – nothing to report
- Budget & Finance – nothing till August 3, 2009 Meeting
- Fundraising – nothing to report
- Community Relations – nothing to report
- Admissions & Enrollment – nothing to report
- Curriculum Enrichment – nothing to report

Board adjourned at 7:04 PM to closed session pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071 & 551.074 , the Open Meeting Act for the purposes of deliberating the duties of the School Administrator, deliberating the appointment and employment of the recommended individual as 5th grade teacher, and deliberating the appointment, employment and reassignment of the recommended individual as special education teacher. Also the Board consulted with legal counsel concerning matters on which the attorney's duty to the WHSC under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct .

Board reconvened to Open Meeting at 9:44 PM

Motion to accept and hire recommended 5th grade teacher was made by Argueta-Misra, second by Green. Motion defeated.

Motion to accept and hire recommended Special Education Teacher made by Paul, second by Botrand. Motion defeated.

Board discussed the reorganization of central administration and delegations of authority effecting the organization. Board members requested the Administrator assist in defining an assistant principal or campus coordinator role to complement the role of Administrator. The Administrator would offer no assistance. Board member Paul asked the Administrator how the expansion of her independent business (a classical school) to include 2nd – 12th grade would affect the Administrator's ability to perform her responsibilities at WHCS, especially if she was not willing to assist in defining an assistant principal's role, and the Administrator said she saw no conflict. The Administrator stated the Board saw no conflict when first presented with the facts that the Administrator was opening another school, and Board Member Paul challenged that the original presentation was that the new school would offer a high school only, and was presented to the Board as an option to graduating WHCS 8th graders who wanted an alternative to public school. After some discussion and with no progress being made, the discussion was tabled.

Discussion of items to be placed on the August 19, 2009 meeting.

- Campus Implementation Plan
- Handbooks
- Budget for the 2009 – 2010 School year
- Reorganization of central administration of WHCS and delegations of authority.
- Approval of the June 17 regular meeting of the Board
- Approval of the July 1 Emergency meeting of the Board

- Approval of the June 17 Special meeting of the Board

Motion to Adjourn by Polvogt, Second by Paul. Motion Carried. 10:39 PM

Respectfully Submitted
Thomas Polvogt, III,