

**Minutes of Regular Meeting of the Finance & Budget Committee**  
**West Houston Charter Alliance, Inc.**  
**August 3, 2009**

1. Call to order and establishment of a quorum – 6:04 p.m. In attendance were Judith Paul (JPP), Regina Argueta-Misra (RM), Jean Pickering (JP), and Becky Strothers (RSS).
2. Presentation of resignation of David Dwyer from Committee – Judith Paul advised Committee that in keeping with its charter to limit members to 2 Board members, with the addition of Regina Argueta-Misra to the West Houston Charter Alliance, Inc. Board of Directors, David Dwyer tendered his resignation to the Committee. **RM made a motion to accept his resignation; RSS seconded it. Motion passed.**
3. Approve minutes of the July 27, 2009 Regular Meeting of the Finance & Budget Committee – **JP made a motion to approve minutes as drafted by Amy Tisdale and revised by JPP; RM seconded it. Motion passed.**
4. Presentation of any proposed current year budget amendments by Administrator –Becky Strothers presented a Budget Amendment Form dated 08/03/09 for approval. Amendments were explained to be from additional Federal funding in function codes 211, 262, 255. **RSS made a motion to accept the amendment for presentation to the Board at the next Regular Board Meeting; RM seconded it. Motion passed.**
5. Presentation & Discussion of new laws regarding Charter School Finance by Administration - Becky Strothers presented a chart titled 2009 Legislative Session (attached), summarizing laws affecting charter schools. Discussion of the areas in which WHCS might benefit from these occurred. **JPP requested RSS forward an electronic copy so it could be reviewed by WHCS legal counsel to ensure proper guidance given to school.**
6. Presentation & Discussion of government funded \$800 additional teacher pay by Administrator – Becky Strothers presented her finding that the payment must be made as part of salary, rather than as a bonus. This increase may not be used in lieu of any increase the teachers would expect based on the 2008/2009 salary schedule. No information was provided relative to how other districts (charter or ISD) were planning to manage the uncertainty around whether this would be an increase the State would continue to fund.
7. Presentation & discussion of proposed salary for Campus Coordinator – Based on the job description proposed by Jean Pickering at the July 27, 2009 Committee meeting and confirmed at this meeting (manage campus management & student discipline, textbooks, eMat, daily operations & maintenance supervision), the salary was proposed at \$40,600.

At 6:53 p.m., the Committee adjourned for a break.

At 7:01 p.m., the Committee reconvened.

8. Presentation of draft budget for 2009/2010 school year by Administrator and discussion of same - Jean Pickering presented the budget proposed by Administration for presentation to the Board. The priorities were presented as 1) technical default of the bond, 2) cash reserves, 3) academic rigor, 4) Recognized rating, and 5) teacher training. Changes within each function were discussed in preparation for review for approval by the Board. Committee members offered thoughts as to what areas required more clarity in the presentation and what questions they could envision the Board having, based on presentation materials. Extensive discussion occurred in the area of teacher training and emphasis was placed on having definitive answers

to present to the Board regarding the proposed “free, online” training in the areas of Imagine It! and EnvisionMath. Additionally, the Administrator was requested to confirm in-house teachers consent and dates for delivery of Lost Tools of Writing and AIMS training, if both were to be presented for delay until 2010/2011 school year.

9. Adjournment to closed or executive session – No need for closed session. Proceeded to # 14.
  - a. Pursuant to Section 551.074 of the Texas Government Code – Personnel Matters
    - i. To deliberate the employment including salary considerations of individual employees and personnel
10. Reconvene in Open Session - NA
11. Schedule the next Finance & Budget Committee meeting – Agreed this would coincide with the next Regular Meeting of the Board and take place earlier in the same day. Notice will be made as dates are confirmed.
12. Discuss items to be placed on the next Finance & Budget Committee meeting – any remaining amendments needing approval by the Board.
13. Adjourn – RM made motion to adjourn; seconded by RSS. Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.