

MINUTES
of the meeting of the
BOARD OF DIRECTORS of SOMERSET ACADEMY OF LAS VEGAS
September 19, 2013

The Board of Directors of Somerset Academy of Las Vegas held a public meeting on September 19, 2013 at 6:00 pm at 2525 Emerson Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada.

1. Call to order, roll call

Present were Board Members Amy Malone, Scott Hammond, Cody Noble and Crystal Thiriot.

Absent were Board Members Dana Dingee, Eric Elison and Brian Smith.

2. Public Comment

A parent of an Emerson Campus student addressed the Board and requested that considerations be made in future facilities for transgender students.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the July 29, 2013 Meeting.

Mrs. Thiriot requested that a name correction be made in the public comment section of the minutes.

Mr. Noble motioned to approve the minutes of the July 29, 2013 Board meeting subject to the requested correction by Mrs. Thiriot. Mrs. Malone seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved.

4. Approval of Term Sheet with Canyon-Agassi-Charter School Facilities Fund for Proposed Campus at Losee Road and Lone Mountain Road in North Las Vegas, Nevada.

Arthur Ziev addressed the Board. Mr. Ziev stated that the North Las Vegas city council unanimously approved all of the zoning changes and special use permits for the proposed campus at Losee Road and Lone Mountain Road. Mr. Ziev stated that he was seeking the approval of the presented term sheet. Mr. Ziev introduced representatives from the Canyon-Agassi-Charter School Facilities Fund to the Board.

Mr. Ziev presented to the Board drawings of the school site. Mr. Noble asked Mr. Ziev if any additional traffic lights would need to be installed on Losee Road. Mr. Ziev stated that the addition of traffic lights was not requested by the city council.

Mr. Noble expressed a concern that the presented term sheet did not contain enough information regarding the purchase option. Mr. Ziev and Aarthi Sowrirajan from Canyon Agassi-Charter School Facilities Fund explained how a purchase price would be reached. Mr.

Noble asked if the window for the purchase option could be extended. Ms. Sowrirajan stated that for Canyon Agassi-Charter School Facilities Fund to meet the expectations of their investors the purchase option window could not be extended.

Mrs. Malone motioned to approve the term sheet from Canyon-Agassi-Charter School Facilities Fund for the proposed campus at Losee Road and Lone Mountain Road. Mr. Hammond seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved.

5. Consideration of Proposed Resolution to approve the development of a new school facility at or near Stephanie Street and Wigwam Avenue in Henderson, Nevada as a relocation site for the Emerson Campus.

Mr. Reeves addressed the Board. Mr. Reeves proposed that the Somerset Emerson campus relocate to a new facility near Stephanie Street and Wigwam Avenue in Henderson. Mr. Hammond asked what the projected enrollment for the first year of operation would be. Mr. Howell responded that the projected enrollment for the first year of operation would be 750 students.

Mr. Ziev stated that the term sheet contained the same terms and conditions as the Losee Road and Lone Mountain Road term sheet. Mr. Noble asked Mr. Reeves if the Emerson Elementary and Emerson Middle School had lease obligations with their current facilities for the 2014-2015 school year. Mr. Reeves confirmed that the Emerson Elementary and Emerson Middle School were in the final year of their lease terms at their current facilities.

Mr. Hammond motioned to approve the development of a new school facility at or near Stephanie Street and Wigwam Avenue in Henderson. Mrs. Malone seconded the motion. The Board unanimously approved.

6. Discussion of Somerset Academy of Las Vegas' possible participation in research study regarding educational success.

Dr. LeAnn Putney from UNLV addressed the Board. Dr. Putney introduced her research study regarding educational success. Dr. Putney stated that participation in her research would allow Somerset Academy to identify areas of necessary improvement for school improvement plans.

Mr. Hammond stated that he appreciated the work Dr. Putney was doing. Mr. Hammond stated that he felt participation in Dr. Putney's research could benefit Somerset Academy but that participation in the study should be left up to the Principals.

7. Report regarding Playground work at North Las Vegas Campus.

Mr. Reeves addressed the Board. Mr. Reeves stated that the planning commission and the city council had approved the proposed playground design for the North Las Vegas campus. Mr. Reeves stated all neighbor approval had been received except for one adjacent property owner.

Mr. Reeves stated that himself and Mr. Ziev had reached out to the property owner multiple times for approval but still had not heard back.

Mr. Noble asked if there were any concerns with constructing the playground while school was in session. Principal Lea stated that her staff would be willing to work around any construction issues that came up in order to get a larger playground for the school.

8. Report on Staffing and Proposed Budget Revisions based on student enrollment for the 2013-2014 school year.

Mr. Reeves reviewed the enrollment projections that were made before the school year started. Mr. Reeves stated that revised budgets would be produced for the Board after the school had undergone Count Day. Mr. Reeves stated that once Count Day had been completed he would have hard numbers to produce the revised budgets. Mr. Reeves stated that Count Day was scheduled for the following week and that revised budgets would follow immediately after.

9. Approval of Energy Services Agreement with Nevada Solar Solutions V, LLC (a partner of Bombard Renewable Energy) for the development of a solar generating installation at Somerset Academy campus(es)..

Mr. Reeves reviewed with the Board their options in procuring a 200 kW solar system using their Solar Generations rebate. Mr. Noble asked if the school would be able to finance the difference between the Solar Generations rebate and the purchase price of the solar system. Mr. Reeves stated that he would inquire of Vectra bank to see if they would be willing to loan Somerset Academy the difference.

10. Discussion of Student Health and Safety Issues during physical education classes, and School Disciplinary Issues and the Enforcement of the School's Progressive Discipline Policy.

Mr. Reeves stated that student health and safety issues during physical education classes had been requested by parents in previous Board Meetings to be addressed by the Board. The Board asked Kelsey Strickland, the North Las Vegas campus physical education teacher if student health and safety during physical education was a wide spread problem. Mrs. Strickland responded that there was not a widespread problem of health and safety issues during physical education classes.

11. Discussion and Action regarding Selling of Advertising by School Campuses.

Mr. Hammond stated that he was in support of the school using advertising to increase their funding. Mrs. Thiriot asked the Principals in attendance if they had any ideas for the selling of advertising. Principal Barlow stated that allowing advertising on the school's website could generate significant funds for the school. Principal Famer stated that he was interested in finding a sponsor for advertising in the new gym at the Stephanie campus.

Mr. Hammond stated that he would like the Board to have a policy governing who could advertise with the school and how the money would be dispersed among the campuses equally. Mr. Reeves stated that he would draft a policy for the Board to review regarding the selling of advertising by school campuses.

12. Discussion and Action regarding evaluation of performance of School Administrators.

Mr. Reeves stated that the administrators being evaluated were the returning administrators Principal Farmer and Principal Jefferson. Mr. Reeves stated that the Board could form committees to review the administrators. The Board chose Mr. Noble and Mr. Hammond to evaluate Principal Jefferson and Mrs. Thiriot and Mr. Ellison to evaluate Principal Farmer.

13. Review of School Financial Performance and Funding.

The Board motioned to table item #13.

14. Principals Report

Principal Farmer addressed the Board. Principal Farmer reviewed with the Board the successes and difficulties that the Emerson Campus had experienced in the 2013-2014 school year. Mr. Hammond asked Principal Farmer what the biggest challenge was that he was facing managing two campuses. Principal Farmer replied that the biggest challenge was not being able to physically be at each location every day.

Principal Lea addressed the Board. Principal Lea stated that the biggest challenge she was facing was regarding technology difficulties. Principal Lea reported on the new programs that were being instituted at the North Las Vegas campus.

Principal Jefferson and Principal Barlow addressed the Board. Principal Jefferson stated that the Sky Pointe campus had similar challenges to the other campuses with technology issues at the beginning of the year. Principal Barlow reported to the Board that he was meeting with the Nevada Interscholastic Activities Association regarding Somerset Academy's participation.

Mr. Hammond asked Mr. Barlow if he would send him a teacher workload report showing how many students were in each class. Mr. Barlow reported that he would send Mr. Hammond those numbers after Count Day.

15. Public comments and discussion.

There were no public comments.

16. Adjournment.

Upon motion and second, the Board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 p.m.

Approved on: 10/28/13

Board
Chair

Cystal Shinn
Secretary of the Board of Directors
Somerset Academy of Las Vegas

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