

Mattole Valley Charter School
Charter Council Minutes
November 20, 2009

Members Present: Brenda Sutter, Gwen Neu, Cathy Wright, Barbara Giacomelli, Pam Lane, Linda Lyons, Debbie Marshall, Kathleen Kasperon, Lance Blodgett, Tammy Lindley, Lynda Speck and Richard Graey

Members Absent: Claire Trower, Laura Montagna, Mary Dabel

Guests: Josh Nikolauson, Carroll Hopkins

- 1.0 **Call to Order** – Richard Graey called the meeting to order at 1:08pm
- 2.0 **Recognitions**- There were none
- 3.0 **Adjustments to the Agenda** – Item 5.2: Learning Record Policy Revision was tabled.
- 4.0 **Consent Agenda**: Minutes from October 30th Charter Council meeting and LEA plan. Lynda Speck made a motion to approve the consent agenda and the motion was seconded by Brenda Sutter. Discussion was held on where the signature page of the LEA plan was so the document could be sent to the State. Motion carried unanimously.

5.0 Information/Action Items

5.1 Pay Schedule Policy (2nd Reading)

Motion to approve the Pay Schedule Policy (2nd Reading) as written made by Lance Blodgett and was seconded by Linda Lyons. No discussion was held and the motion carried unanimously

5.2 Learning Record Policy Revision

This item was tabled

5.3 Paperwork Reduction Update

A discussion was held on the new paperwork reductions that will be in place for LP 3. Carroll Hopkins expressed concern that there was not an ES representative at the reduction meeting and that she is very upset with the “new reductions.” Costs for making all the copies required was discussed and ways to bring those costs down. Bottom Line: Pam has questions for the auditor that she will get answers to and report back to the council. Pam will also put together a conference call with Shari and Carroll to go over why so many learning records were sent back to Carroll. Another discussion was held on the AIP paperwork and the necessity of yet another form. AIP documentation is needed for both WASC and in the case of the state coming in and looking at us: we will need documentation to prove we have moved these students forward to proficiency.

5.4 Change of Venue for Charter Council Meetings

Richard Graey headed this discussion of changing the locations of the meetings so that it would be easier for people to attend. Cathy Wright brought up video conferencing and that it would be a cheaper alternative. Kathleen Kasperson suggested looking into skype and that might work better than the teleconferencing. Richard will talk with Tim Mueller and get back to the council.

5.5 Electronic Agenda Posting

Richard informed the council of a complaint from a parent and that to keep the parents more informed we will now post the charter council agendas and minutes on the web page. A discussion was held on what should be on our web page.

5.6 Business Service Report

Corey Weber gave the council a budget update: in one word: DISMAL. Looking at the budget and what is coming for next year and the rest of this year, it is looking like we will lose around another \$900,000 from the budget and whatever midyear cuts the state passes on to us. So it looks like next year we will lose about 1/6 of our budget. He is already looking at how we will need to reconfigure the charter school. District will have to take out a loan of around \$300,000 to cover the charter school deferrals and says we need to scale back and be able to operate within the budget.

5.7 Directors/Staff Reports

Kathleen Kasperson (Three Rivers LC, Mendocino) reported that their parents have banded together to fundraise to start a band program. They have a band teacher and two groups: Beginning Band and a Jazz Band. She also reported that her students' came to the teachers and they want to help in the community with the local house helping: providing food and lodging to the needing in the Fort Bragg/Mendocino area. Kathleen spoke to their new middle school teacher beginning to revamp their middle school program targeting the math because of the grade/academic span that need to be taught all at once. Her high school students are doing a local cost of living project where they are pricing how much it costs to live in the Mendocino area and then they will compare it to other regions and concentrate on the historically hard economic times like the 30's, the 40's, and the 80's. They are conducting interviews of what it was like to be a high school graduate in these times with old timers in the area. Good project for the students.

Barbara Giacomelli (Diamond View LC, Siskiyou) reported that they took 11 students up to Ashland to see Macbeth. She said the students really enjoy being able to leave Yreka to go somewhere. She also reported that they are offering math, science, and Language classes to their 8th

graders and that the attendance in these classes is outstanding. The Yreka Sophomorphs has invited Mattole girls to join their 8th grade conference. She said that all but 2 made it and that it was really good for the girls. They have started a kindergarten group on Wednesdays when they have elementary day at Diamond View and that their stories, art classes and sign language classes being offered to them. Barbara and Linda are looking into the food bank in the area to see about having food on hand to feed some of their students.

Debbie Marshall (Siskiyou Resource Teacher) talked about the H1N1 clinic in the Yreka area and that parents are not sure how they feel about getting their students vaccinated. She attended the Crisis Prevention workshop over in Humboldt with Kirk and she is trying to pull something together to have a training for the staff over there. She is raising money for Multiple Sclerosis so she is in jail until she raises \$1600.

Carroll Hopkins (Siskiyou I.S. ES) reported that she had just gotten her test results back from the October administration of the CAHSEE and that four of her students passed one or both parts of the test, so she thinks the labs are working and she is very pleased with those results. She is collecting cans and turning them in for a fundraiser to donate the money that her students raise to Toys for Tots. She will be turning the money in after Thanksgiving.

Lynda Speck (Test Coordinator) reported that she had just gotten the October CAHSEE test results back and that we had more students pass this administration than in previous October administrations. She reported that she is being trained in CAL-PADS the new state reporting system and that she is starting to organize the STAR testing for the spring.

Tammy Lindley (NCLA) reported that with the budget restraints she is checking in with Americorps and seeing how we can use our workers. The match to get Americorps workers could go up \$2-\$3000 for next year. She informed the council that the "I Can Learn" math program is a very powerful program and she is very happy with it.

Lance Blodgett (Campus House) reported that there is nothing new to report, he is complying with the reporting process. He has 17/40 AIPs to do and he believes that this process is a worthwhile endeavor. He wanted to say that Cathy and Gwen did a great job with the Lang. Arts assessment packets/binders. He reported that six of his students are working with Jake (last years Americorps worker) in Physics at College of the Redwoods and that they are all currently working at grade level.

Brenda Sutter (Laurel Tree) reported that they are putting together a whole school feast on December 11th and that the Chambers Readers will

be there. She reported that her center's staff is meeting every Friday and that it is working very well.

Josh Nikolauson (Laurel Tree) reported that working with Humboldt State to get their students come and help at the center has been working very well and he recommends this to other centers.

Pam Lane (Director) reported that she just got back from Siskiyou then went down to Fort Bragg to see what is happening out at our different locations. She wanted to report on the Mt. Shasta Learning Center having a four day program going for elementary students and a five day program for their high school students. Caspar Creek in Mendocino is going nicely and the Fort Bragg Montessori is putting on a workshop on the Wetlands/Waves. It's a great workshop for 3-12th grade teachers. Workshop is on December 3rd.

Gwen Neu (Resource Center Director) reported that the center has been busy. She has been busy teaching her blackboard classes to the middle school students. Enrollment dropped in these classes but the students who are left love the classes. She has students in both McKinleyville and Fortuna taking the class. She attended the National Council for Social Studies Annual conference in Atlanta, Georgia. Topics addressed were the Library of Congress and Google Earth.

Cathy Wright (Special Ed. Director) reported that she has been catching up with paperwork and working on the William Act Report that goes to County with Lynda Speck.

Richard Graey (Our Superintendent) Talked about the H1N1 vaccine clinics that are being held within all our counties.

6.0 PUBLIC COMMENTS

Carroll Hopkins wanted clarification on the wording in the newly passed Mileage/Service Area Policy.

7.0 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Next meeting on 12/18/2009
Paperwork Reduction
Learning Record Policy Revision

8.0 ADJOURNMENT

Richard Graey adjourned the meeting at 2:55pm.