

Na Wai Ola PCS

Minutes of the Governing Board Meeting

Sept 25, 2015

Call to order at 3:37PM. Acknowledgement of quorum present, but not a voting quorum.

Members present: Sandy Carvalho, Mary Quijano, Lore Lin Makaiwi, Charles Mapa, Kiara Bianchi, Daniel Caluya, Maurice Messina. Absent: Melissa Costa and Serena Fujikawa

Also present: Classroom teachers from Na Wai Ola as well as some parent candidates for board.

Directors Report: Current enrollment 211 students. Have 30K from Pre-K grant that can be used for repairs to the classroom to make it able to pass inspections for licensing. Director then had Lore introduce parents who were nominated as parent reps, and then went into New Business.

Update on Modular: Hiriyama Electric company completed drawing up plans for bringing electricity to the building and sent them to HELCO for approval: Hope to be approved and hooked up to pole by end of October. Board was told that, according to charter school commission, all charter schools that got modulars are in the same boat, and that the commission will help push permits through faster, hopefully by end of fall break, including the pre K building permits.

Kindergarten teacher Julie Murcia asked for a timeline on when the new K-1 hybrid would be voted on and established, as it is holding up educational progress of both K and Grade 1 students.

Board chair responded that the new board treasurer has been reviewing the budget and looking into where to make cuts: so far we have suspended all travel and emergency loans to employees. Several teachers and board members weighed in on this. Chair said budget committee meeting was needed to review the budget before a vote could be taken re establishing the K-1 hybrid class. Murcia said that if no timeline could be given her on this she **will** fire a grievance. Quijano stated that since we have determined beyond all doubt that we are violating the HSTA contract as well as state law with these class sizes, we should not have to wait for a budget meeting as it is clear we need to address establishing the K-1 class as a separate issue and then go through the budget and figure out how to afford it after. Lore added that we have enough money in the budget at present to hire this new teacher, we just have to make sure we have enough left to get through the year, which we won't know for certain until count day in mid October.

Julie volunteered to take the K-1 hybrid class if that meant we could hire a non HQT teacher for kindergarten, thus lowering the cost of hiring a new teacher.

Board chair then agreed that the board would vote on establishing the K-1 hybrid next Tuesday, Sept 29, via email, and then set a budget committee meeting for Oct 2, followed by another full board meeting on October 6th. The ads for a teacher could be placed by October 9, with deadline

for responses Oct 16th, and hiring committee to meet and interview candidates by Oct 22. The new class should be established and operational no later than Nov 2, 2015.

Next, teacher rep Sandy Carvalho asked to speak to board about some items of concern that were not on the agenda. Lore Lin Makaiwi excused herself at this time as she needed to be elsewhere.

Sandy asked questions about the commission report she'd read regarding a potential school closure last July 2, 2015 due to insufficient funds: this was explained by the chair as being the result of FICO funds that were not given to the school in a timely manner. Sandy then questioned the accuracy of reports in the minutes of last year regarding establishment of the 7th grade class, and comments that the director made to the commission about his plans to expand to 8th grade next year (without consulting the board.) Other issues brought up included the commission report that the school had given out over \$62K in personal loans to employees. The business manager said that amount was in error, and that they were not "personal loans" they were "payroll advances". She said that all such advances were paid back within the school year. Quijano said she had been told by Ms. Makaiwi that she herself had had such an advance the previous year and it was not all paid back yet. The business manager said that was the only loan not repaid. Mr. Caluya then said that he had taken a salary advance in order to help families of our children that had been devastated by the hurricanes.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:28pm