



Fronteras Spanish Immersion Charter School

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APC Board Meeting

Location: (Building B - 2nd floor Conf Room)

February 9, 2010 7:00 P.M.

Meeting Minutes

- I. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call/Determine Quorum
Nina Shaw, Nicole Whittington-Evans, Wendy Bowen, Lori Koutsky, Casey Bowen, Chris Cadieux, Ernie Hetrick, Robert Kalander, Sandra McMillian.

John Weatman, Maria Paoletti

- II. Approval of the meeting notes for January 12, 2010 and approval of the agenda for February 9, 2010. Approved as written.

Review meeting protocol:

- Try to keep meetings brief
- Let people give their reports and ask questions after each report
- Keep non-productive comments to a minimum

- III. **John Weatman** – per student formula presentation (30 minutes)
(Will take place in Senora Cochran's room for Promethean board use;)

Power Point presentation is available to us. Same one that he shows to others in the District. \$5,680.00 per child.

- IV. Board Secretary Position
Ernie nominated. Chris Cadieux seconded. All voted in favor. Nicole Whittington-Evans is now the new Secretary.

IV. Consent Agenda

A. Principal's Report

Budget priorities

Casey got list from teachers. Adjustment for differences in salary between former and new Secretary. And adjustments regarding sub-account (where Solveig was payed from for a while) Gwen – Special Ed teacher who went up to .5, which District has not recognized to date. After the money we put in, we still have about \$140,000 plus about \$50,000 overage from our teacher hires.

Casey received quote for 3rd portable - \$110,000 dollars; 60 X 24 modular building; finished. Is this our priority over teacher's list of materials? Casey believes teachers are really eager to have curriculum materials. We could get by with 2 portables, and could still have folks in art building. Upper grades need space to do lab work. Two other portables are 20 X 40. The larger building would allow for 2 bigger teaching areas than the other 2 portables. Kalander – it's better to stick to our original game plan of acquiring 2 portables now and then trying for a third next year.

We need agreement that we need to move money around in the budget to purchase supplies for school. Anything over a certain amount has to go before the board. Ernie wants to know what makes teachers happier about how budget is spent – increasing "P" card or sticking to current system. P-cards allow teachers to purchase items individually.

Wendy likes a combination of both Chris C's and Ernie suggestions - we focus on what we really need, and figure out how much those cost - then if there is money left over, teachers could get amount of funds to purchase needs for their classroom.

Casey - IT person is key. Librarian is important. Might consider increasing hours of person who has been a librarian at another school. Possibility of hiring Gwen – Special Ed – full time (part time now). Gwen puts in a lot of personal time on many things, such as coordinating computer lab. Ames Testing is another example. Takes so much time to interpret Ames testing results.

All in agreement to have Casey move forward with needs as he understands them. Have a budget committee to respond to budget decisions.

Next year's budget – 2 more playground monitors; Custodial duties (parent volunteers).

Portable Purchase Update – discussed above.

PE transportation/budget needs for NYO; \$100.00 can go to NYO field trip. Adam can spend it as he pleases. Robert will talk with Kati about moving this.

Wendy – Fronteras Celebration!

Still working on Student Band playing

Opening Program

Comments collected

Kayleen working on special medals

Nina working on balancing logs to see who has completed hours;

Student performances will have opportunity to say how we feel about Fronteras. (1 minute)

K-1 Kids – science songs singing;

2-3 graders – written paragraphs and poems;

Hilary – Spanish poetry;

4 – 5th graders doing amazing things;

6- 7th – school wrap;

Mexican Folk Dances;

Mrs. Monroe wants to sing with students;

Door prizes;

Refreshments;

Valley Technical High School – 2/25;

One of their programs is “Hosting”, so they might be willing to help;

Risers need to get over to facility – someone with a truck is needed.

6th grade Spanish speaker interested in attending Fronteras.

B. Board Updates

Router and Web Camera – as we went round and round on e-mail we realized it wasn't the best way to proceed. Casey asked teachers and they indicated they wanted a new router. The old router is on its last legs and ready to fail. Getting the cost share was our best option for this purchase. District has offered a teaching opportunity in the fall of what opportunities exist with web streaming. It's opening up the world to students. National Parks, Foundations, Museums, Other Schools. Robert encourages us to go to training in the fall. We can partner with other schools in our district but also around the world. Some schools got on board. Some went partway like us – new router but no camera. Others didn't bite. The District had to race around to all schools to get a commitment from them. Robert apologizes for the way it was conveyed, but there was no real choice. It was all very last minute. The goal by District is to have everyone certified at Level 1 for this new technology. District will be in touch with Casey about this fall.

Lori - Fronteras teachers were not opposed, but they wanted to know more about it. Hard to rationalize spending \$10,000 when they didn't know if it was something was really going to be useful to them. Better to spend time this year looking into it to see if it's going to be something we really can use. Every time technology gets brought in, it is a huge investment in time.

Chris C. – what was the deal they were offering? 50% off the web camera?

Ernie – This is the type of information we didn't have. We didn't have enough information to be able to make a good decision. How much of a reduction in the cost of the technology was it?

Fronteras video camera is missing – Casey. Box is empty.

Electronic Voting Procedures – Perfectly appropriate to call for a vote when stuff comes up. There was no majority vote on this topic: 4 yays, 4 nays. Regardless, the router was purchased. Ernie believes it was a good decision, but we need to have accountability in our electronic voting. We need to follow up with tally, and then we need to send it around and ask if there are any problems with it? Can ratify it again at the next board meeting.

Lori – teachers were upset that this decision was moving forward without input from the teachers. Once they had the meeting with teachers, it was presented to the teachers as already a completed decision.

We learned something overall in this. Lori - Decisions need time to be made. If we don't have sufficient time, then we should decide NOT to make the decisions.

Other?

C. Committee / Team Reports:

Facilities – Ernie has learned things about specifics related to portables - enough to be able to go to Crossroads now to get specific permits for the portables.

Signs at Fronteras – Centro Academico needs to be incorporated.

Treasurer's Report – treasurers report identical to last month.

Fundraising - 2 new ideas. Golf tournament. Parent is willing to run the gold tournament. Veronica wanted to know if we should do another fundraiser for Secret Garden – Jackie is directing it. Thursdays – would not be a problem. Jackie can agree to have Fronteras run the concession stand for 4 Thursdays. One of those we also sell the tickets for. More money made on the concession stand. Starting day – April 30th.

Taco Tuesday's – Sandra's idea. Can't cook them here. Kitchen is a problem.

Lori – teachers need space. We have Pizza Friday's and Viernes Fantasticos and no place for teachers to go to meet away from Parents and students.

Yearbooks - \$11.24 to print plus about \$100.00 for shipping. Could sell them for \$20.00. Last year sold approximately 120 books. The year books are great. Robert - \$20.00 is pushing it. Last year provided each teacher with a free book. Some books didn't sell. We should at least cover the costs and make a couple dollars on each book.

Academic & Curriculum Report

Enrollment lottery – April 7th; March 1st, intent forms go home.

Teacher's Requests – Casey's list.

Public Relations – Not doing ads. Shelly is free. Public Announcements re: lottery. Once we determine what needs to be done to advertise lottery

Monthly Family Activities:

Fundraisers –4th/5th (Spring Field Trips)
Celebrating Fronteras – February 25th
Canceling Movie Night because of all of the events (3 in 3 weeks is too much and don't want Movie night to take away from 4th/5th fundraiser."
Science Fair – March 18th - need judges;
La Fiesta de Fronteras – April 30th (Colony High?)

Amigos de Fronteras Report – Parents dissatisfied with calendar being different from District's calendar. In respect for parent's who use child care facilities it would be good to have the same calendar as the district.

Miscellaneous Reports – intercom system? Can speak to teachers. During assemblies, let's go through the calendar. Let's try using the intercom system and see if the children listen instead of assembly. Teachers will discuss it on Friday.

IV. Unfinished Business

Fundraising - **take off the agenda.**

Field Trip Protocol (Develop by Board & Teachers), 05-107: **Take off the agenda**

Action: Need to find out what is allowed by the School District.

Action: Should have some parents work with the school district on this issue.

Business Partners – Chris C. has gotten ideas from board members for what we can do for businesses. Building name, signs, benches for playground, etc.. Long range/short range facility goals – development training (Wendy);

Business Outreach – No update;

Parking Lot – No update;

Foraker Group/Others? (Nina) Not Foraker anymore – they don't meet our needs. One company name/profile attached to agenda. Are we committed to doing this? Do we need this? Training for the board is a good idea. If we could get some development training it would be helpful. Some companies can come in and talk with us, find out our needs and help us work on whatever we identify as our priorities. Do something fun, would be helpful. Team building important. Let's have her come and talk to us about what makes an affective board. What budget are we willing to put forward for this? Can she come for a consultation? Board training through Twindly Bridge.

Water Safety at Fronteras: Update (Nicole)

Activities Approval Form: (Melissa O'Rourke) Has this form been created? – Needs to come off agenda. Will send e-mail to Solveig and Casey when activities occur. We only need form for fundraiser.

99-998 Review *Task Report* items (Team). Changes noted on next report.

V. New Business:

What is the status of obtaining technological assistance at Fronteras? The school is in need of a professional who can service both Macs and PC's. Casey is having meeting

tomorrow about a proposal to split one person's time between 3 schools to make a full-time District employee, and he would have access to all the District's support systems.

Update on **P.A.C.S.** (Joyce) With a request for a second enrollment meeting. - let's do a quick announcement at the Fronteras Celebration with application forms.

Limiting enrollment to K – 1 Grades (Helena Curtain's recommendation); Strong recommendation by Helena Curtain to not enroll non-Spanish speakers after 2nd grade. Need to have this discussion next week.

Preparation of Annual Report – Ernie will talk to Nicole/Secretary separately about this.

Fronteras School Calendar – already discussed this.

Joint Board/Staff mixer meeting – never done this. We should do it.

Board positions – coming up. Expiring in April. 4 positions expiring. Someone really needs to talk with Teachers to find new board members.

VI. Future Items/Future Business

Replace Fluorescents with Full Spectrum lights in buildings.

Next meeting: **March 16, 2010**, 7:00 P.M.

VII. Executive Session:

Matters generally include those affecting finances and personnel, the public knowledge of which might prove adverse or prejudicial.

VIII. Adjournment:

APC Governing Board Members

Additional Attendees

Present, Unless Noted Otherwise:

- Wendy Bowen
- Joyce Boyd
- Chris Cadieux
- Kevin Cochran
- Ernie Hetrick
- Robert Kalander, Chair
- Lori Koutsky, Vice Chair
- Sandra McMillian
- Kati Sanders, Treasurer
- Nina Shaw
- Nicole Whittington-Evans

Casey Bowen, Principal
