

**VIBRANT MINDS CHARTER SCHOOL
REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, April 14, 2021**

1. CLOSED GENERAL SESSION

Procedural: 1.1 Call to Order 5:00 p.m.

Procedural: 1.2 Establishment of Quorum

Roll Call	Present	Absent
Anderson	X	
Farukhi	X	
Hernandez Figueroa	X	
Nelson	X	
Rhee	X	

Procedural: 1.3 Public Comment -- Closed Session Agenda Items

None

Action, Procedural: 1.3 Approval of Recession to Closed Session

Motion: Anderson	Second: Nelson	
Roll Call	Aye	Nay
Anderson	X	
Farukhi	N/A (Arrived Late)	
Hernandez Figueroa	X	
Nelson	X	
Rhee	X	
Item Passes – Vote: 4/4		
Item Does Not Pass – Vote:		

Discussion: 1.4 Conference with Real Estate Property Negotiator

Exploration of possible facilities for school in the Central Anaheim area in preparation for 2022-2023 school year.

2. OPEN GENERAL SESSION

Procedural: 2.1 Call to Order 5:30 p.m.

Procedural: 2.2 Establishment of Quorum

Roll Call	Present	Absent
Anderson	X	
Farukhi	X	
Hernandez Figueroa	X	
Nelson	X	
Rhee	X	

Procedural: 2.3 Pledge of Allegiance

Action, Procedural: 2.4 Approval of the Agenda

Motion: Anderson	Second: Farukhi	
Roll Call	Aye	Nay
Anderson	X	
Farukhi	X	
Hernandez Figueroa	X	
Nelson	X	
Rhee	X	
Item Passes – Vote: 5/5		
Item Does Not Pass – Vote:		

Procedural: 2.5 Public Comment

None

3. LEGAL COUNSEL ON BOARD POLICY

Information: 3.1 Legal Consultation Regarding Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Scholar Discrimination Board Policy

Richard Hansberger presented information about policy requirements. It has been the topic of discussion with School Boards since 2013. Must meet basic requirements of sample on California Department of Education website. Schools exploring unisex restrooms with private stalls. Will have a policy in place after further study and discussion.

4. PARENT REPORTS

Reports: 4.1 School Site Council (SSC) Report by Parent Representative

Alyssa Truman presented on behalf of SSC. Topics under discussion at April meeting included:

- Reaching out to ELAC individually to ensure increased participation
- Salvation Army location
- COVID-19 Tests -- All negative at each testing
- Possibility of changing to Yellow Tier soon, with fewer restrictions
- Parent Survey -- Suggestions for refinements
- Summer Academy -- Part of approach to address learning loss mitigation; discussion about use of paraprofessionals and credentialed teachers

Reports: 4.2 English Learner Advisory Committee (ELAC) Report by Parent Representative

Chammarra Nguyen presented on behalf of ELAC

- No attendance at last meeting

Reports: 4.3 Family and Staff Team (F.A.S.T.) Report by Representative

Yvette LaValle presented on behalf of F.A.S.T.

- Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week
- Talent Showcase
- 6th Grade Promotion
- TK/K Celebration
- Last Week of 6th Grade
- Cow Chip Bingo for 2021-2022
- Election Process for F.A.S.T.

5. CONSENT (ONE VOTE)

Action (Consent), Minutes: 5.1 February 16, 2021, Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Recommended Action: Consent section items are for routine matters that do not require discussion or deliberation by the Board. The consent calendar permits the Board to approve multiple items by one action. All Board members have the right to remove a consent item from the consent calendar so that normal discussion and deliberation may take place.

Motion: Nelson	Second: Rhee	
Roll Call	Aye	Nay
Anderson	X	
Farukhi	X	
Hernandez Figueroa	X	
Nelson	X	
Rhee	X	

Item Passes – Vote: 5/5
Item Does Not Pass – Vote:

6. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT -- DEBRA J. SCHROEDER

Information: 6.1 Reopening Update

Continues to function smoothly. Scholars are adjusting to being back in school. Specific numbers for attendance will be reported by Chammarra Nguyen.

Information: 6.2 LCAP Update and Parent, Scholar, and Staff Surveys

Scholar and Parent Survey shared with Board. The Parent Survey included refinements suggested by SSC. Board also given opportunity to share any other thoughts about LCAP.

Discussion: 6.3 State Testing Flexibility

California Department of Education has received an approved waiver to offer assessment flexibility to the districts in California. This means that if the district chooses to use an alternative assessment that meets the requirements established by the CDE, it can be used in lieu of the SBAC. VMCS has been implementing the iReady Assessment System for the past two years, and this meets the requirements of CDE. With the number of VMCS scholars continuing with distance learning (approximately 24%), the unstable Internet at Zion, and the limited time we have to teach our scholars, it is a better option for the 2020-2021 school year.

Information: 6.4 Recognition of Additional Work for Staff

This has been discussed previously, but it will be brought to action at this meeting. Board in agreement that it is an appropriate means of supporting staff who have undergone a challenging year.

7. ASSISTANT DIRECTOR REPORT -- CHAMMARRA NGUYEN

Reports: 7.1 2021-2022 School Enrollment and Waiting List

The waiting list for 2021-2022 remains strong with 14 TK, 57 K, 48 1st, 47 2nd, 50 3rd, 47 4th, 28 5th, and 2 6th. This is based on all classes having 30-32 scholars. The only class with openings at this time is Grade 6 with three openings.

Reports: 7.2 Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant

Results in approximately \$78,000 additional funding. Areas can include professional development for staff (e.g., conferences, book studies), TOSA and I.A. support, Summer Academy, tutoring, etc. The goal is to focus on scholars who are struggling academically and/or socially-emotionally.

Reports: 7.3 Summer Academy

Funded in part via Expanded Learning Opportunities Grant. Currently in the midst of planning, with refinements being made based upon SSC feedback.

8. ICON SCHOOL MANAGEMENT REPORT -- ROY KIM

Reports: 8.1 AB 86 Allowable Use & Funding Update

Covered in PowerPoint. Similar to that reported by Chammarra Nguyen.

Reports: 8.2 February Financials

Covered in PowerPoint. Fiscal status continues to be strong.

Discussion: 8.3 Selection of Auditor

After RFP process, two auditors provided proposals. CLA is a national organization, and Silva & Silva is smaller and local. Worked with CLA (smaller organization bought out) for past five years. There are about 5-6 firms that work with charter schools in area. These two firms are recommended.

9. ACTION ITEMS

Action: 9.1 Stipend Agreement for Certificated and Classified Staff

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the VMCS Board of Directors approve the payment of a stipend of \$500 to each staff member who worked the entire 2020-2021 school year.

RATIONALE: All staff members experienced multiple transitions throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, which required flexibility, resilience, and a strong work ethic. For this reason, it would be appropriate to provide a \$500 stipend on the last paycheck of the school year.

Motion: Nelson	Second: Anderson	
Roll Call		Nay
Anderson	X	
Farukhi	Left Early	
Hernandez Figueroa	X	
Nelson	X	
Rhee	X	
Item Passes – Vote: 4/4		
Item Does Not Pass – Vote:		

Action: 9.2 State Testing Flexibility

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the VMCS Board of Directors approve the use of iReady English-Language Arts and Mathematics Assessments in lieu of the Smarter Balanced Assessments for the 2020-2021 school year.

RATIONALE: Given the flexibility that is being considered/approved by the U.S. Department of Education and California Department of Education, using the iReady Assessment will take less time and provide more useful data than the Smarter Balanced Assessments, especially given the circumstances of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Motion: Hernandez Figueroa	Second: Rhee	
Roll Call	Aye	Nay
Anderson	X	
Farukhi	Left Early	
Hernandez Figueroa	X	
Nelson	X	
Rhee	X	
Item Passes – Vote: 4/4		
Item Does Not Pass – Vote:		

Action: 9.3 BP Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Scholar Discrimination

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the VMCS Board of Directors adopt the Transgender and Gender Nonconforming Scholar Discrimination

RATIONALE: This is a policy that reflects the State and Federal legal requirements in this area.

Action item tabled for May Board Meeting.

Action: 9.4 Selection of Auditor for 2020-2021

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended that the VMCS Board of Directors accepts the proposed contract with either CliftonLarsonAllen or Silva & Silva auditing firm.

RATIONALE: VMCS is audited on a yearly basis, and CLA has been used for the past five years. There was a Board question whether it would be beneficial to change auditing firms now that VMCS is independent of GOALS Inc. For this reason, a RFP was posted, and two auditing firms are under consideration for the 2020-2021 school year.

Silva & Silva was selected by Board.

Motion: Nelson	Second: Anderson	
Roll Call	Aye	Nay
Anderson	X	
Farukhi	Left Early	
Hernandez Figueroa	X	
Nelson	X	
Rhee	X	
Item Passes – Vote: 4/4		
Item Does Not Pass – Vote:		

10. BOARD COMMENTS

Procedural: 10.1 General Comments

Determination as to when to begin meeting in-person as a Board. Questionnaire can be sent out to make determination, or defer until June.

Procedural: 10.2 Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, May 12, 2021

11. BOARD ADJOURNMENT

Procedural: 11.1 Board Adjournment: 7:30 p.m.

12. GENERAL INFORMATION

Information: 12.1 Notifications