



23264 SW Main Street, Sherwood, OR 97140

Work Session of the Board of Directors: Saturday, May 2, 2015 – 9:00am MEETING MINUTES*

I. Opening Items

The Sherwood Charter School Board of Directors met for a work session on Saturday, May 2, 2015, in the “math room” of the Sherwood Charter School, located at 23264 SW Main Street, Sherwood, OR 97140.

The meeting was called to order at 9:12 am by Chair, Keith Halasy.

Members Present: Keith Halasy, Kim Young, Stephen Schweitzer, Tee Ramos, Brian Craker, Joy Raboli. **Members Absent:** None

Public Present: None

Agenda Additions: None

II. Board Discussion

A. Curriculum Direction

How to define “rigor.” To help every student strive to learn at a grade ahead. That means setting a goal of teaching and executing consistently at a grade level above. This means pushing beyond the state grade level or “common core” standards, and engaging them in higher expectations with a combination of innovated education, critical thinking and real-life integration.

Highlights from discussion and future considerations include:

- District elementary schools focus on math & english in order to prepare students for common core tests. This means significantly reduced time in other subjects, especially the sciences.
- Research shows that learning accelerations, phonics, hands-on learning & parent participation were far and away the top areas that yield the greatest results over time. Homework that is basically busy work review of course work actually yields a negative (attrition) effect.
- Questions of how Riggs is incorporated into our literacy model. Currently using a Comprehensive Literacy Model that has a wholeistic approach in Reading, Writing, Study & Thinking, in alignment with new state Common Core testing standards. Phonics integration is of particular focus in this upcoming discussion.
- Next Steps: What is rigorous academic experience. Further discussion with current primary teachers who have this training to determine where we are strong and where we can improve. Dissect current missions statement and what do the components mean.
- After discussions, move for strategic planning meeting.
- Need for a work session to continue the discussion of the Language Arts program and the use of RIGGS. Joy will invite the teachers to the work session to gather their input on how the components of RIGGS are or can be used in the Comprehensive Literacy Model.

B. Facilities Planning

Tabled for next work session.

C. Fundraising/PAC Status

Tabled for next work session.

D. Charter Renewal

Tabled for next work session.

III. Closing Items

The next regular board meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, May 14th, 2015 at 6:30pm, **NOT IN ALIGNMENT** with our regular meeting schedule. A Work Session will be held at 5:30pm on the same day for the purpose of continuing curriculum discussion. The meeting was called to adjournment at 12:05 pm by Chair, Keith Halasy.

IV. Minutes Submission

*Recording and submission of minutes by Brian Craker, Board Secretary (Minutes are considered in DRAFT form until approval by Board of Directors.

(NOTE: These minutes were APPROVED by the Board of Directors on May 14, 2015.)