EMPIRE SPRINGS CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

43466 BUSINESS PARK DRIVE • TEMECULA, CA 92590

REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES

December 11, 2014

9:00 a.m. – 12:00p.m.

43448 Business Park Drive / Temecula, CA 92590

I. PRELIMINARY

Our mission is to empower students by fostering their innate curiosity, engaging their parents, and promoting optimum learning by collaboratively developing a personalized learning program for each student.

1. *Action*: **Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance**
   a. Board Chair, Heidi Chan, called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance at 9:08 a.m.

PRESENT:

Heidi Chan, Chair	Kathleen Hermsmeyer, Superintendent
Marlene Darrow, Vice Chair	Amy Podratz, Assistant Supt – Business and Admin Ops
Beth Burt, Secretary, (arrived at 9:31 a.m.)	Phil Hermsmeyer, Assistant Supt – IT & Facilities
Tracey Vela, Treasurer	Diane Anvari, Assistant Supt – Human Resources
Don Langille, Director	Debbie Daniel, Assistant Supt – Pupil Services
Justin Moldenhauer, Director	Natali South, Executive Assistant to the Board
Robin Mammoth, Director	

2. *Action*: **Approval of Agenda**
   a. **Ms. Mammoth moved to approve the agenda.**
   b. **Mr. Vela seconded.**
   c. Discussion: None
   d. **7 AYES (Chan, Darrow, Vela, Langille, Moldenhauer, Mammoth); 0 NOES; 1 ABSENT (Burt). Motion adopted.**

3. *Action*: **Approval of Meeting Minutes – October 9, 2014**
   a. **Ms. Vela moved to approve the October 9, 2014 meeting minutes.**
   b. **Ms. Mammoth seconded.**
   c. Discussion: None.
   d. **6 AYES (Chan, Darrow, Vela, Langille, Moldenhauer, Mammoth); 0 NOES; 1 ABSENT (Burt). Motion adopted.**

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Consent agenda items are considered routine and may be enacted by a single motion. Any Director of the Board may request removal of any item from the consent agenda for consideration under the regular agenda if discussion of the item is desired. Items not removed from the consent agenda will stand approved upon motion of a Board Director, followed by a second and majority vote.

4. *Action*: **Ratification of Warrant Listing & Personnel Action Report (October & November)**
   - **a. Mr. Moldenhauer moved to approve the Consent Agenda.**
   - **b. Ms. Mammoth seconded.**
   - **c.** Discussion: None
   - **d. 6 AYES (Chan, Darrow, Vela, Langille, Moldenhauer, Mammoth); 0 NOES; 1 ABSENT (Burt). Motion adopted.**

III. COMMUNITY RELATIONS

This is an opportunity for community members to speak to any item on the agenda or regarding subjects or concerns that do not appear on the agenda. Any person wishing to speak is requested to complete the "Request to Speak" form found at the entrance to the meeting and to bring it forward to the Board Secretary. Presentations are limited to five minutes. Government Code Section 54954.2 and Education Code Section 35145.5 prohibit the Board from discussing or acting upon matters not on the agenda.

5. *Information*: **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
   - **a.** None

6. *Information:* **BOARD COMMENTS**
   - **a.** Mr. Moldenhauer indicated that he enjoyed the A-Plus conference and said it was very informative.
   - **b.** Ms. Mammoth reported that she recently attended the Learning and the Brain conference in Boston on the topic of brain research and learning styles. Additionally, Ms. Mammoth attended the Flabob Fall Festival.
   - **c.** Ms. Chan wished everyone Happy Holidays. She provided an update on our Robotics team's fundraising efforts and competitions. Ms. Chan encouraged Board members to look for opportunities to support our students by attending events listed on the School Events Calendar.
   - **d.** Ms. Darrow wished everyone Happy Holidays.
   - **e.** Ms. Burt mentioned that she attended the A-Plus conference, and was very impressed with the conference and presenters.

IV. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

7. *Information*: **Report from the Superintendent:** Dr. Hermsmeyer reviewed the Superintendent's Report included in the Board packet. Additionally, Dr. Hermsmeyer indicated that she recently spoke with our Internet marketing specialist, and learned that we are receiving a large amount of website traffic. With that in mind, we are working to improve our website. Additionally, Dr. Hermsmeyer mentioned efforts to have staff "like" us on their social media outlets, such as Pinterest, Facebook and Twitter. Dr. Hermsmeyer mentioned that we will be pursuing the Pathways Trust Grant, which supports career technical education and internships for students who will plan to work in industries that require only a two-year degree available through local community colleges.

V. BUSINESS/GOVERNANCE

8. *Action*: **Approval of the 1st Interim Budget**
   - **a. Mr. Langille moved to approve the 1st Interim Budget**
   - **b. Ms. Burt seconded.**
   - **c.** Discussion: Ms. Podratz reviewed the updated 1st Interim Budget, and provided explanations to the following questions:

Ms. Chan: How has Rancho Cucamonga Learning Center affected the Empire Budget?
Ms. Podratz: It is a very low cost endeavor that has actually increased our enrollment.
Ms. Chan: Anything that we need to be concerned about or focusing on about enrollment or other issues?
Ms. Podratz: We will look for ways to spend the surplus funds toward marketing which should help increase enrollment.
Mr. Langille: Is there any penalty for ending with a surplus?
Ms. Podratz: No, we monitor our funds to be sure that we are compliant with SB740 which requires us to spend 80% on instructional items to receive full funding.

b. 7 AYES (Chan, Darrow, Burt, Vela, Langille, Moldenhauer, Mammoth); 0 NOES; 0 ABSENT. Motion adopted.

9. *Action*: **Approval of Annual Audit for Fiscal Year 2013-14**
   - **a. Ms. Mammoth moved to approve Annual Audit for Fiscal Year 2013-14**
   - **b. Ms. Vela seconded.**
   - **c.** Discussion: Ms. Podratz indicated that the audit went very well. The auditors reviewed records for all three schools and focused on the separation of funds. They were impressed with the accuracy of our records which resulted in no audit findings.
   - **d. 7 AYES (Chan, Darrow, Burt, Vela, Langille, Moldenhauer, Mammoth); 0 NOES; 0 ABSENT. Motion adopted.**

VI. GOVERNANCE

10. *Discussion/Activity:* **Board Goals**
    - **a. Ms. Darrow moved to open a discussion to review Board Goals and vote on their approval as submitted.**
    - **b. Mr. Moldenhauer seconded.**
    - **c.** Discussion: The Board discussed the goals as presented. It was requested that staff assist with Goal #4: Create a Quick-Reference Sheet of Key Charter Information for Board Members.
    - **d. Ms. Mammoth motioned that the Board Goals be approved.**
    - **e. Mr. Moldenhauer seconded.**
    - **f. 7 AYES (Chan, Darrow, Burt, Vela, Langille, Moldenhauer, Mammoth); 0 NOES; 0 ABSENT. Motion adopted.**

II. ADVII. ADJOURNMENT

11. *Action*: **Adjournment**
    - **a. Ms. Mammoth moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:43 a.m.**
    - **b. Ms. Vela seconded.**
    - **c.** Discussion: None

d. 7 AYES (Chan, Darrow, Burt, Vela, Langille, Moldenhauer, Mammoth); 0 NOES; 0 ABSENT. Motion adopted.

VIII. NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, February 12, 2015, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Temecula Administrative Offices – Executive Conference Room – 43448 Business Park Drive / Temecula 92590

Beth Burt
Beth Burt, Secretary

3/12/2015
Date

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (AB3035; CH 300, Statutes of 2000), if you need special assistance, disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in the public meetings of the District's governing board, please contact the Administrative Office at (951) 252-8891. Notification by noon on Monday prior to the board meeting (48 hours) will enable the school to make reasonable arrangements to assure accessibility to this meeting. Upon request, the school shall also make available this agenda and all other public records associated with this meeting in appropriate alternative formats for persons with a disability.