

EMPIRE SPRINGS CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

27740 JEFFERSON AVE • TEMECULA, CA 92590

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

May 13, 2021

9:00 a.m.

Due to CA safer at home order, meeting was held electronically.

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.

Present:

Ivo Caouette, Board Chair
Michelle Nagelvoort, Vice Chair
Jessica Large, Secretary
Jason Rodriguez, Board Treasurer
Tracey Vela, Board Director (arrived at 9:06 a.m.)
Dianne Mendez-Cantu, Board Director
Craig Schneider, Board Director (left at 10:15 a.m.)

Kathleen Hermsmeyer, Superintendent
Amy Podratz, Asst. Superintendent, Admin Operations
Tanya Rogers, Asst. Superintendent of Business
Doug House, Asst. Superintendent, Personnel
Vivian Price, Asst. Superintendent of Education
Debbie Daniel, Asst. Supt. , Program Improvement
Natali South, Director of Executive Support

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

- Mr. Caouette called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Action: Approval of Agenda

- Ms. Mendez-Cantu moved to approve the agenda.
- Ms. Nagelvoort seconded.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Caouette, Large, Mendez-Cantu, Nagelvoort, Schnieder, Rodriguez;
1 Absent: Vela; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

3. Action: Approval of Minutes from March 11, 2021

- Ms. Large moved to approve the Minutes from the March 11, 2021 meeting.
- Mr. Rodriguez seconded.
- Discussion: None
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Caouette, Large, Mendez-Cantu, Nagelvoort, Schnieder, Rodriguez, Vela; 0 Absent; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

4. **Action: Approval of Consent Agenda**
 - Ms. Large moved to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of Warrants, Personnel Action Report, and ratification of the OPS contract.
 - Ms. Nagelvoort seconded.
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Caouette, Large, Mendez-Cantu, Nagelvoort, Schnieder, Rodriguez, Vela; 0 Absent; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

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

6. **Information: Superintendent's Report**
 - Dr. Hermsmeyer reviewed this month's report and provided updates regarding current legislation affecting charter schools. In addition, Dr. Price reviewed our upcoming HELLO program.

7. **Information: Public Comment - Local Control Accountability Plan**
 - Public Comment regarding our Local Control Accountability Plan was offered at 9:49 a.m. Katherine VanLeeuwen provided information regarding our LCAP. Board members asked clarifying questions. No one from the public made comments during the Public Comment window.

8. **Information: Covid-19 Updates and Guidelines**
 - Jared McLeod reviewed our procedures related to Covid-19 as they currently exist for gathering together in our schools and buildings.

9. **Information: Guidance Department Update**
 - Kristin Turner provided an update regarding the Guidance Department and things they've been implementing this year. A report with charter-specific data was shared with the Board.

10. **Information: First Reading of Revised Board Policy 8006.1**
 - Doug House provided an explanation regarding the updates to the Certification policy. No changes or updates were requested, and the policy will be brought back at the next meeting for Second Reading and Approval.

11. **Action: Approval of Financial Update**
 - Ms. Mendez-Cantu moved to approve the Financial Update.
 - Ms. Vela seconded.
 - Discussion: Tanya Rogers reviewed the financial update report and explained that two budget plans were developed for the upcoming school year. One includes budget projections based on expected revenue including one-time

funding and being paid for growth, while the other budget scenario is based on 2020 funding in the event that our funding is restricted. Tanya will bring back a more solid plan at the next meeting which will be developed after the Governor's May Revised Budget is released.

- Vote: 6 Ayes: Caouette, Large, Mendez-Cantu, Nagelvoort, Rodriguez, Vela; 1 Absent: Schneider; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

12. Action: Approval of ESSER Funds II/III Compensation Plan

- Ms. Mendez-Cantu moved to approve the ESSER Funds II/III Compensation Plan.
- Ms. Large seconded.
- Discussion: Dr. Hermsmeyer explained that ESSER II/III funds are Federal dollars that our school qualifies for. One acceptable use of the funds is employee compensation, and this plan would allow a 3% one-time bonus for our staff.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Caouette, Large, Mendez-Cantu, Nagelvoort, Rodriguez, Vela; 1 Absent: Schneider; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

13. Action: Approval of Extended Learning Opportunities Expenditure Plan

- Ms. Vela moved to approve the Extended Learning Opportunities Expenditure Plan.
- Ms. Large seconded.
- Discussion: Dr. Price reviewed the plan for utilizing Extended Learning Opportunities funds in keeping with the requirements established by the ELO program.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Caouette, Large, Mendez-Cantu, Nagelvoort, Rodriguez, Vela; 1 Absent: Schneider; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

14. Action: Approval of Corporate Resolution in Opposition to AB 1316

- Ms. Nagelvoort moved to approve the Corporate Resolution in Opposition to AB 1316.
- Ms. Vela seconded.
- Discussion: Dr. Hermsmeyer reviewed AB 1316 which is a piece of harmful legislation designed to reduce funding for Independent Study charter schools, among other negative effects. The Board was asked to adopt a resolution in opposition of the Bill, which will be forwarded to legislators.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Caouette, Large, Mendez-Cantu, Nagelvoort, Rodriguez, Vela; 1 Absent: Schneider; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

15. Action: Approval of Consolidated Application (Con-App)

- Ms. Large moved to approve the Consolidated Application.
- Ms. Mendez-Cantu seconded.

- Discussion: Tanya Rogers indicated that this application allows the school to submit for various Federal Funding opportunities.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Caouette, Large, Mendez-Cantu, Nagelvoort, Rodriguez, Vela; 1 Absent: Schneider; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

16. Action: Approval of Sublease with Citrus Springs

- Ms. Vela moved to approve the Sublease with Citrus Springs.
- Ms. Mendez-Cantu seconded.
- Discussion: Tanya Rogers indicated that the lease for the Santa Ana student center is written in Empire Springs' name. This agreement establishes the ability for Citrus Springs to sublease the space from Empire Springs.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Caouette, Large, Mendez-Cantu, Nagelvoort, Rodriguez, Vela; 1 Absent: Schneider; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

17. Action: Approval of Authorized Pacific West Bank Signers

- Ms. Large moved to approve the Authorized Pacific West Bank Signers.
- Ms. Mendez-Cantu seconded.
- Discussion: Tanya Rogers explained that a staffing change has resulted in the need to update authorized signers.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Caouette, Large, Mendez-Cantu, Nagelvoort, Rodriguez, Vela; 1 Absent: Schneider; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

18. Action: Approval of Long Distance Travel for Venture Staff

- Ms. Nagelvoort moved to approve the Long Distance Travel for Venture Staff.
- Ms. Large seconded.
- Discussion: Vivian Price indicated that this will allow our Venture staff to travel for staff development activities in August.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Caouette, Large, Mendez-Cantu, Nagelvoort, Rodriguez, Vela; 1 Absent: Schneider; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

19. Board Comments

- None

20. Closed Session - in Accordance with Gov Code Section 54957.1/54957.9 - Entered into at 10:49 a.m.

- Conference Regarding Settlement Agreement with Public Employee #305593
- Conference Regarding Pending Litigation: Employee #294378

21. Report of Action Taken in Closed Session - Entered into at 11:04 a.m.

- Conference Regarding Settlement Agreement with Public Employee #305593
 - No Action to Report
- Conference Regarding Pending Litigation: Employee #294378
 - No Action to Report

22. Action: Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

- Ms. Mendez moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:05 a.m.
- Ms. Large seconded.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Caouette, Large, Mendez-Cantu, Nagelvoort, Rodriguez, Vela;
1 Absent: Schneider; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted



Jessica Large, Secretary

06/10/2021

Date