

Board Meeting Minutes

Organization: Pride Academy Charter School Board Meeting
President: Dr. Randall Richards
Time: 9:17 am
Place: 117 Elmwood Ave
Date: March 14, 2009
Minute Taker: Ms. Rose Mary Dumenigo
Board Members Present: Ms. Albert, Mr. Mitchell, Dr. Richards,
Others Present: Ms. Dumenigo, Mrs. Thomas, Mr. Joel Julien
Absent: Mr. Brown, Mr. Tiggs

This meeting was publicized in the following papers: Newark Star Ledger, Orange Record, Newark Leader, East Orange Transcript

Topic	Discussion	Outcome
I. Welcome	Greetings and introductions by Board members	
II. Call to Order/Pledge	Dr. Richards called the meeting to order at 9:17am. Roll call was done by Dr. Richards Pledge of Allegiance Announcement of publications	
III. Budget Review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purpose of meeting to outline school budget for academic year of 2009-10 • Mr. Julien introduced budget stating that budget is based on current funds of \$2,629,492 based on 199 students. • The state sent new projected amount of \$2,928,994 based on 234 students. • We are choosing to base the 2009-2010 budget on 199 students, so that we are starting the year with a reserve. This is to avoid having to pay the state back in the event that we are under-enrolled. • Line 24 will change to \$2,928,994 to reflect the state's projected budget • Page 2 – Line 86 will also change as we adjust state changes and spending • Mr. Julien stated that when meeting w/ Ms. Dumenigo that staff increases will 2.5%. • Mr. Julien went over the detail of the instructional staff. • Mr. Julien outlined the increase in lease expenses, as per our lease stipulations. • The board discussed how we can add some additional expenses based on our ending fund balance. • Mr. Richards asked questions about secretarial and custodial staff being being tenured. • Mr. Julien asked that Mrs. Thomas and Ms. Dumenigo go over wish list for staff now. • Wish List to include: 	

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Line 43 should reflect 12 teachers, 3 lead teachers, 3 special education teachers, part-time dean of student life teaching 6 periods per week 2. Line 44 should reflect 4 instructional aides (we discussed how our school has a very large percentage of special education students) 3. Line 52- Change Dean of Academics to Asst. School Director. Dean of Students no longer teaches so adm. salary changes to \$51,250. Dean of Student Life is not now at \$38,438. 4. Line 66- Additional \$50,000 for a second social worker. 5. Line 69- additional room at 220 sq. ft x \$14 = \$3,080 to add to our lease costs. 6. Line 79- additional security equipment. The board discussed the possibility of calling a company to get an assessment of the security system that we have and what we need. Also discussed getting the camera set up so that we can at least have a camera about who's at the door. Better lighting for the front of the building may also be needed. 7. Line 68- Security guard may also be additional item on wish list for dismissal. \$15,040. 8. Line 79- \$15,000 for additional security systems and equipment for the building. We discussed the need for setting up a camera at the door, as well as sensors for doors and windows. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Richards asked about the mobile lab and how it would be used. • Randy asked about why Irvington wasn't listed on line 2. Joel referred us to pg. 3 of projections where state and local share is listed, but the data for Irvington for Equalization funding was not available. • Mr. Julien said that we might get an additional \$300,000 from State Non-Public Aid. • Mr. Richards talked about the importance of field trips and increasing opportunities to have cultural experiences. We discussed where funding should go for this. Should it go for admission or transportation to the activity? He asked that additional trips be added to the school's wish list. • Line 49 – should be \$28,400 for increased to up to 4 trips per student and Project Use. • We discussed the SBA consulting fees, and whether 30 hours were necessary. Mr. Julien said that having the part-time/ temp to do clerical work will help to alleviate hours for the SBA. SBA should be increased 	

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	<p>to \$150 an hour based on proposals that we have received from SBA consultants. This would bring us to \$54,000.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Randy asked if teachers could collect unemployment. Mr. Julien said yes. • Mr. Richards asked if we should increase our board advertising, since we need to include ads for various school and board needs. Recommendation is to increase line to \$1,000 • Mr. Julien added that he recommends that we keep the attorney line or increase it. Mr. Richards said that their research showed that attorney's want \$5,000 as a retainer and then \$200 p/ hour. Mr. Julien recommended five hours a month, bringing the total to about \$12,000 for Legal Services in line 55. • Line 58 includes Office Supplies, which we have at \$6,900. It may not be enough, but we could move funding later if necessary. • Mr. Richards also brought up the point about making sure that we are being mindful of the number of copies in our copy machine lease. We should take steps to ensure that we don't go over. • Possible to include interest for bridge loan, if it is necessary to cover summer costs. (line 60) • Mr. Richards asked Joel how our energy costs were this year, and how does in match up with our budgeted amount of \$70,000. We are way under budget in energy costs, but we need to keep it as is, in the event that oil costs go up again. • Line 96 for Federal Projects refers to Start-Up Grant and NCLB. Funds must be used. Are not moved to ending fund balance, so it must be used or returned to the state. • Mr. Julien said that we must move more funds to instructional in order to meet the 60% instructional expenditure requirements. The board and administration recommended that it go to instructional supplies, since we went over budget on that line this year. <p>Based on changes that we made today, the total expenditures would be at \$2,652,146 based on 199 students. We should be in good financial standing, especially if we have an ending fund balance from the 2008-2009 academic year.</p> <p>At the next meeting, we need to have an updated budget and a resolution in order to meet state guidelines and the March 30th deadline.</p>	
IX. New Business	None	

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IX. Old Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Richards asked about the status of the Pride Academy state pension plan. Mrs. Thomas made calls, but has not heard back from them. • Mr. Richards expressed the school's concern about not yet being enrolled in the program to date. • Mr. Mitchell asked about how payments are made when enrolled. It was explained that funds could not be withheld. Costs will be taken out retroactively, but in installments. Staff have been notified that they should be saving funds in preparation for when payments are withdrawn from payroll. 	
XIX. Comments from the Public	None	
XX. Adjournment	<p>Motion to Adjourn at 11:39 am by Ms. Albert Seconded by Mr. Mitchell Voting: All in favor Meeting adjourned at 11:39 am</p>	