

MINUTES OF THE JOINT MEETING OF THE BOARDS OF DIRECTORS OF E-STEM PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS, INC., E-STEM ELEMENTARY PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS, INC., E-STEM MIDDLE PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS, INC., AND E-STEM HIGH PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOLS, INC.

December 15, 2011

The Boards of eStem Public Charter Schools, Inc., eStem Elementary Public Charter Schools, Inc., eStem Middle Public Charter Schools, Inc., and eStem High Public Charter Schools, Inc. met on December 15th at 5:30pm at the eStem High Public Charter School Multi Purpose room. Present were directors Vernard Henley, Mallory Taylor, Angela Johnson, Bill Dillard, Jess Askew, and Kim Evans. Others attending were John Bacon, Mark Milhollen and Cindy Barton. The meeting was called to order and there was a quorum present from all school boards except elementary.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

CFO Report

Mark Milhollen gave the CFO report which included the monthly financial statements and a SPED report. We have grown from 16 to 94 special needs students since our beginning. Mark reported that the roofing project came in about \$20,000 under the estimate and the leftover money would be used as a reserve building maintenance fund.

CEO Report

John Bacon gave the CEO report. He gave an update on the Performance Award System. Some of the highlights of the proposal will be that teachers will be rewarded for the performance of the individual students they teach with a maximum award of \$1,000 per exam, an "Innovative Grant" initiative will become part of the award system to motivate teachers to explore innovative approaches to teaching and we can begin using the state per pupil aid to supplement salaries to bring ours closer in alignment with surrounding districts. A motion was made by Jess Askew from the eStem Public Charter School Board that the Bonus Program for 2012-2013 be approved and adopted by the schools. Kim Evans seconded the motion and it passed. Vernard Henley made a motion that the High School Board adopt the Bonus Program for 2012-2013. Kim Evans seconded it and the motion passed. Angela Johnson made a motion that the Middle School Board adopt the Bonus Program for 2012-2013. Mallory Taylor seconded it and the motion passed. The Elementary Board did not have a quorum and John was going to talk to Chris Corbitt regarding the program. John, Cindy & Katrina will begin talking to the faculty now to let them know of the changes.

ACTION ITEMS

Old Business

There is still nothing new on the Adair lawsuit. On the Little Rock School District lawsuit, the motion is on the judge's desk and he should make a ruling anytime. The depositions started on Monday.

New Business

The calendar dates for 2012-2013 school year were presented. These dates do not have to be board approved. Schools may begin communicating the dates for fall break and beginning and end of school to the parents.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:38pm.

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January 19, 2012

The Boards of eStem Public Charter Schools, Inc., eStem Elementary Public Charter Schools, Inc., eStem Middle Public Charter Schools, Inc., and eStem High Public Charter Schools, Inc. met on January 19th at 5:30pm at the eStem High Public Charter School Multi Purpose room. Present were directors Don Marshall, Mallory Taylor, Michele Lynch, John Ahlen, Vernard Henley, Jr., Keith Berry and Jess Askew. Others attending were John Bacon, Mark Milhollen and Cindy Barton. The meeting was called to order at 5:35pm.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Review of Board Member Training Information – John Ahlen

Mr. Ahlen called attention to the following items from the Board Member Training he had attended:

1. The school should have a certificate of appointment for
 - A. The director as Financial Secretary
 - B. The bookkeeper as the District Treasurer
2. Most recent audit should be on the website
3. Know your charter & what the waivers are
4. Be familiar with Standards of Accreditation and those should be on website also
5. Know the bylaws

Don Marshall was recognized for having completed over 25 hours of training with the Arkansas School Board Association.

CFO Report

Mark Milhollen gave the CFO report which included the monthly financial statements. There are no cycle reports due this month. The next cycle report is February 15th. We are still waiting on the state to distribute the growth money. We received extra money from the state in the Jobs Fund.

CEO Report

Mr. Bacon gave a report on the Charter Renewal Process. We don't want to be just better, but different. The overall goal is to create a dynamic learning environment that supports the development of the exemplary eStem graduate. Our strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats were looked at to see

what the ideal eStem graduate looks like. There are four guiding principles we will go by through the process which are Inform, Align, Empower and Innovate. The five year plan will be done in phases with major goals, minor goals and objectives. The first phase major goal will be "Identity". The board members also want to be aligned with this process and are willing to work with John to do things such as review the charter piece by piece.

ACTION ITEMS

Old Business

On the Little Rock School District lawsuit, the charter schools have been permitted to get involved in the LRSD case. Mr. Bacon was deposed last week. There will be a hearing in February or March.

New Business

There was no new business to report. Mr. Bacon did say that open enrollment had started and in the 2 days since starting we had already received 197 applications for kindergarten.

Meeting was adjourned at 6:44pm.

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February 16, 2012

The Boards of eStem Public Charter Schools, Inc., eStem Elementary Public Charter Schools, Inc., eStem Middle Public Charter Schools, Inc., and eStem High Public Charter Schools, Inc. met on February 16, 2012 at 5:30pm at the eStem High Public Charter School Multi Purpose room. Present were directors Chris Corbitt, Kim Evans, Don Marshall, Mallory Taylor, Michele Lynch, John Ahlen, Vernard Henley, Jr.,. Others attending were John Bacon, Mark Milhollen, Ruthie Walls and Cindy Barton. The meeting was called to order at 5:33pm. Minutes from the last meeting were approved unanimously after a motion by Mallory Taylor and a second by Don Marshall.

INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

CEO Report

Mr. Milhollen reported that February was a cycle month and everything looks good. Enrollment for the three schools is as follows: Elementary – 464.16, Middle – 500.82, High School - 485.51. We received the student growth fund money from the state and have paid \$50,000 toward our loan.

CEO Report

Mr. Bacon gave an update on our open enrollment. Open enrollment ended February 17th and these applicants will be included in the random, anonymous lottery process. There were a total of 338 kindergarten applicants for 96 available seats of which 41 are siblings of current students. Mr. Bacon also reported on an article in the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette regarding an IRS plan to make charter schools not participate in state retirement systems. The APSRC will make formal comments to the IRS but individuals should also. Mr. Bacon will ask Scott or someone from the APSRC to come to our March meeting to discuss the issue further.

ACTION ITEMS

Old Business

LRSD Deseg case – A brief was filed in court. We have 30 days to file our brief. The hearing will be in mid to late March. On the Adair lawsuit, the judge threw out most of the complaints. An amended complaint will have to be filed.

New Business

1. Appointment of Board Member Nominating Committee - The following members were appointed to the board member nominating committee by the Chair of the CMO Board: Don Marshall, Bill Dillard and Mallory Taylor. This committee will look into the terms of service for current members of the boards and create a pool of candidates for current and future board openings. The committee will also look at the waivers from the Arkansas Code because the codes are not matching up with what was requested as a waiver and what was granted. The possibility of collapsing the boards will also be investigated.
2. Appointment of committee to assist with charter renewal process – The following members were appointed to the Committee to Assist with Charter Renewal Process: Jess Askew, John Ahlen, Kim Evans and Vernard Henley. The committee will serve in an advisory role to Mr. Bacon as we go through the charter renewal process. There are several schools that are up for renewal this year that we will be watching to see how their process goes. Mr. Askew is working with Lisa Academy and they will have their hearing in April. Mr. Bacon feels that we should bring proof of why we should exist to our hearing.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:27. Motion made by Don Marshall, seconded by Chris Corbitt and approved unanimously.