

# Community School for Creative Education Governing Board Agenda

Governing Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday  
April 13, 2011  
7:00 P.M. – 8:15 P.M.

Arise High School  
3301 E. 12<sup>th</sup> Suite 205, Oakland  
(above Citibank)

Dial In Number: (712) 432-0220, code: 5170331

Geraldine McGrath, Chair  
Robin Evitts, CFO  
John Lundell, Secretary  
Karimah Adisa Thomas  
Jim Hollis

Michele Meyer  
Lynne Newton  
Jorge Ruiz de Velasco  
Cindy Wong

*To ensure an orderly meeting and an equal opportunity for each speaker, persons wishing to address the Board must fill out a speaker's card. Cards are located at the entrance to the meeting room and should be turned in to the Secretary of the Board.*

**Note:** *The President may limit each speaker to three minutes and/or set a limit of twenty minutes for all speakers on any one subject. In accordance with the Brown Act, if a member of the public addresses an item not on the posted agenda, no response, discussion, or action on that item may occur. The projected timeline is a projection only, not a limitation on the length of any agenda item, and may be revised at the meeting. Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed to a majority of the Governing Board less than 72 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at the Community School for Creative Education (CSCE) campus during normal business hours. The CSCE Governing Board will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities planning to attend Board meetings who contact the Secretary of the Board at least 48 hours before the meeting.*

## **AGENDA**

### **ORDER OF BUSINESS**

#### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

1.1 Roll Call

7:10

Lynn Newton via phone

Michele Meyer via phone

Ida Oberman via phone

Monica Alexandra via phone

Robin Evitts

Geraldine McGrath

Cindy Wong

Jim Hollis

Adopted: 03/31/09  
Revised: 06/10/09

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John Lundell

R. H. Jones

Jorge Ruiz de Velasco via phone

Quorum reached

## 1.2 Verse

*The healthy social life is found  
When in the mirror of each human being  
The whole community finds its reflection,  
And when in the community  
The virtue of each one is living.*

*La vida socialmente saludable es encontrada  
Cuando en el espejo de cada ser humano  
La comunidad entera se encuentra reflejada  
Y en la comunidad la virtud de cada uno esta viviendo*

*尋找到健康之社交生活,  
就是當每個人對著鏡子  
能從整個社區的影像中找到自己的反映,  
這樣在社區內每人都能活出精彩。*

## 2. Approval of Agenda and Board Minutes

Ms. McGrath suggest some clerical corrections to the minutes

Ms. Evitts moves to approve the minutes with the clerical corrections

Mr. Hollis seconds

Vote: all 8 ayes, no nays.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT:** *Limited to 3 minutes per person (or as established by the Board Chair), up to a total of 15 minutes, but there is no limit on the number of members of the public who may speak. At a special board meeting there will be no public comment on matters not on the agenda.*

3.1 Public comment regarding matters ON the agenda

None.

3.2 Public comment regarding matters NOT on the agenda

None

## 4. ITEMS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL

Adopted: 03/31/09

Revised: 06/10/09

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### 4.1 Report of Facility Committee on School Site

Report from R.H. Jones:

May 2 acceptance date. We currently have two options, Howard and 12<sup>th</sup> St. 12<sup>th</sup> St. will be more expensive. Already have some funding cuts – this weighs the balance towards accepting the Prop 39 offer at Howard. Will send the acceptance letter to legal tomorrow for their review. Questions about other expenses we need to cover such as custodial costs. Then the board will be able to review. Need to know how to respond to the real estate broker for the 12<sup>th</sup> St. location. Do not think they will move from the 1.60/sq ft price. Will ask if there is any other way to bring it down.

Ms. Evitts would like to understand the community impact of choosing Howard.

Ms. McGrath wants to see a matrix costs and issues on these locations.

Dr. Oberman briefed on alternates at Alice St. and Clinton Park. The Alice location is Field Act compliant. We do not know if the Clinton Park location is Field act compliant. These are both Oakland Parks and Rec buildings.

Ms. Evitts: it is not just the mission impact, how long will the impact be?

Mr. Jones: Right now it is year to year, we may not be able to stay at Howard next year.

Ms. McGrath: are there examples where schools could not come back to a Prop 39 location?

Dr. Oberman: it is normal for charter schools to have to move multiple times in their early years.

Dr Oberman briefed on the Community Survey results:

49 responded. 25 did not respond. Poor turnout for non-English speakers. 76% would still attend if the location was Howard. Nearly all would drive their child to the school. 65% would use a bus if available. 82% would like to carpool. 95% are willing to participate in fundraising to cover transportation costs.

Ms. Evitts: how to handle the pre and post school pickup and drop off times?

Mr. Jones: Aida has worked on carpool and bus transfer system. It would take 30 minutes to get to Howard from the Fruitvale Station via public buses.

Ms. Evitts distilling it down, options in the neighborhood are slim unless one of the other options Dr. Oberman mentioned comes through since both Howard and the 12<sup>th</sup> St. locations are outside of the desired region.

Ms. McGrath: we will not be guaranteed to stay in any location for a year.

Mr. Jones: van or bus with 12 or more students, then the insurance is much more. If we provide busing, keeping fewer than 12 students at a time will be important for costs. Will need to make it a task to keep looking for better options.

Ms. McGrath: summarize – we have 4 site options, 2 are very remote chances with little information, Howard, the Prop 39 site, is affordable but outside the neighborhood, and we

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have 12<sup>th</sup> St. that is outside our current budget. We have survey that says a majority would go to Howard and parents willing to help with carpooling and fund raising to help with transportation costs.

Dr. Oberman: Emma Paulino from OCO has been saying, set up to win renewal in 5 years, service the San Antonio and Fruitvale, and make the students successful. We do not know our budget at this time. Emma said that given everything it is Howard or no school this year. Her advice is that we realize that it is Howard this year, we recognize that other schools have gone through these growing pains. Right now we need to go with Howard and figure out how to get our students there. We have an LOC meeting in 2 weeks right before the board meeting and Dr. Oberman asked the board to come. They will talk about the challenges of the school location.

Ms. Meyer: every small school she has known has dealt with these issues. We should fix the location as soon as possible and start focusing on the school and students.

Mr. Ruiz de Velasco: The community is more a community of interest instead of a community of defined by boundaries. They want to make the school successful, he feels good about the decision given this community. Most of the time when schools move it is more due to needing more space or a better space. He feels we would not be kicked out if we want to stay at Howard.

Ms. McGrath asked for each person for any other comments on the location topic.

Mr. Hollis: 2 issues, crime rate is much lower in the Howard area than at any other proposed location. Not getting a sense that we would not be on board with Howard.

Ms. Wong; agree with Jim, she can check on the van. Can check on insurance and costs.

Ms. Evitts: nothing to add

Ms. Meyer: nothing to add

Ms. Newton: it is really important that children be able to get to the location and be consistent. It should not be a real burden to get to the school.

Mr. Lundell: what is the plan for the other 2 locations, we only have 2 weeks to check into these alternatives.

Ms. McGrath: Mr. Jones should not spend time on 12<sup>th</sup> St. location.

Mr. Ruiz de Velasco: no other comments

Ms. McGrath: we do not have many choices, we will be transporting students. She does like the Clinton location.

Dr. Oberman: Claudia Burgos from Vice Mayor Igancio de la Fuente's office has not gotten back to us on the Clinton Park or Alice St. locations.

Actions:

Mr. Lundell will call Claudia Burgos to follow up on the Clinton location

Mr. Jones will respond to Steve Mohr on the 12<sup>th</sup> St. location.

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Mr. Jones will send draft acceptance letter to legal and will forward Peter Hanley's letter to Ms. McGrath.

Ms. McGrath will review the draft acceptance letter.

Ms. Wong will look into van and insurance.

Dr. Oberman would like to invite the board to show up at the LOC meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup>, the meeting is from 6 to 7 with an added an extra half hour for parents to attend the board meeting if they wish.

**5. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA:** *Board members may make a brief announcement (including recognitions) or make a brief report on his or her own activities*

Ms. McGrath: Karimah Adisa Thomas has resigned. Ms. McGrath acknowledged her for her service and hopes she can continue to provide advice and help to the school.

**6. ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION POSTED PURSUANT TO THE RALPH M. BROWN ACT CALIFORNIA GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956**

None

**7. REOPENING IN OPEN SESSION**

**8. VERSE**

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**9 MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Evitts moves to adjourn the meeting.

Ms. Wong seconds

Vote: all 8 ayes no nays.

Adjourned at 8:15.

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