

Arizona State Board for Charter Schools
Arizona State Board of Education

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CHARTER MISSION AMENDMENT REQUEST

(Charter Holder Name) Ball Charter Schools (Hearn) (CTDS) 78987000

(Charter Holder Mailing Address) 17606 N. 7th Avenue

(City, State) Phoenix, AZ (Zip) 85023

(Charter Representative's Name) John Huppenthal

(Phone Number) 602 896-9160 (Fax Number) 602 896-1997

Failure to submit all required documentation will result in the Amendment Request being returned without being processed. Faxed copies will not be accepted. Please send originals.

Change in mission / description

Included is the following:

- Board minutes approving the change (minutes must comply with Open Meeting Law ARS §38-431.01)

The Arizona State Board for Charter Schools and Ball Charter Schools (Hearn) (Charter Holder), herein agree to amend the terms of the charter contract as follows:

FROM: See Charter Contract

TO: See attached

In witness whereof, Charter Holder has signed this contract amendment as of this 13th day of April, 2009, and the State Board for Charter Schools has signed this contract amendment as of this ____ day of ____, 200__, to take effect at such time as it is signed by both parties.



Charter Representative Signature

Representative Signature for the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools

Mission Statement

Arizona Ball Charter Schools Mission Statement

Ball Charter Schools provide a high quality education that emphasizes core academic excellence delivered in a nurturing partnership, where parents, students, and staff work together to form a successful educational program.

MINUTES
Ball Charter Schools Governing Board Meeting
March 9, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 6:24 P.M. on March 9, 2009 at the 5th Avenue Professional Building, 3411 N. 5th Avenue, Suite 300, Phoenix, Arizona and began with the Pledge of Allegiance and roll call:

Present:

Mike Dyer, Board Secretary
John Huppenthal, Board President
Michael Larrabee, Board Vice-President
Dan Matthews, Board Member
Steven Gary Yee, Board Member
George Ellis, Dobson Principal
Jane Vert, Hearn Principal
Arlene Palm, Board Coordinator

Others Present:

Annie Gilbert, Business Manager, Dobson Academy
Jim Hudspeth, Business Manager, Hearn Academy
Steve Knoblauch, Assistant Principal, Hearn Academy
Bryant Johnston, Hearn Academy Parent

Absent:

Sheila Arredondo, Board Member
Mary Beth Miller, Board Member

Presentation – None.

Public Comment – Bryant Johnston, parent of 6th and 7th grade students at Hearn Academy, addressed the Board on the topic of inconsistent messages to students. He spoke about teachers not setting an example, and inconsistent discipline between events involving his son.

Steven Gary Yee addressed the Board as a parent of a student at Hearn on the topic of the 2nd grade curriculum. He spoke about concerns regarding the curriculum in the second grade classroom - the appropriateness of material being given to students, and the requirements being imposed upon the students by the teacher.

Approval of Minutes – Hearing no comments, the minutes stand approved as noted.

I. Consent Agenda -

I A – **Staffing Recommendations for Hearn Academy and Dobson Academy** – Dr. Ellis and Dr. Vert reviewed staffing recommendations for their respective schools.

I B – **Enrollment/Attendance Updates** – Enrollment and attendance update information was contained in the packet for review.

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented by Michael Larrabee; second by Steven Gary Yee. Approved.

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Old Business Items

II A – School Expansion – At the Board Retreat John Huppenthal volunteered to do some work on a map project and so he presented members with a completed map illustrating gains for district schools and also included charter schools on the map. The next step is to map the parcels we are looking at and do a larger map for each area. Jim Hudspeth shared information regarding a church site in Glendale. Lengthy discussion followed including the status on the contract with the realtor. Mike Dyer indicated that we must get to the focal point in terms of area and cost/price we are able to pay. Annie Gilbert had no additional information regarding a stand alone pool. George Ellis reported on his activities and upcoming meetings related to expansion. Jane Vert suggested we pursue the church information shared earlier with members. Steve Yee reiterated the 1st order of business is to determine location and not pursue a 'shotgun approach'.

II B – Governing Board Mission Statement – Following review and discussion, the recommendation was made to revise the Governing Board Mission Statement: "The Governing Board ensures our schools are fiscally responsible and oversees our schools in achieving core academic excellence within a rich learning environment".

Motion to approve the Governing Board Mission Statement, as revised, by Mike Dyer; second by Dan Matthews. All in favor. Approved.

II C – Ball Charter Schools Mission Statement – Following review and discussion, the recommendation was made to revise the Ball Charter Schools Mission Statement: "Ball Charter Schools provide a high quality education that emphasizes core academic excellence delivered in a nurturing partnership, where parents, students, and staff work together to form a successful educational program".

Motion by John Huppenthal, second by Dan Matthews, to approve the Ball Charter Schools Mission Statement as revised. Approved.

New Business Items

III A – Financial Reports (including PTO and PTSA) – Annie Gilbert proposed that only the consolidated balance sheets be included in the packet. She also addressed the following areas on the financial reports: grants, ordinary expenses, building and improvements. Following discussion, everyone was in agreement that Annie and Jim would send the financial reports to Arlene in PDF format and she in turn, would send them to the Board via email. Only the consolidated balance sheets would be included in the board packets. Mike Dyer indicated the Financial/Personnel Committee will discuss the guidelines and procedure for reporting deviations, including the percentage.

Mike Dyer asked what happened with collateralization. Annie responded that the bond expires March 30th, and also noted that the bank changes guarantee non profits up to five million dollars.

III B – Prop 301 Review - The components of the Prop 301 Performance Plan were reviewed along with the recommended changes: 20% to increase Teacher Base Pay - base pay of \$1,000 included in base salary in 2006-2007 and paid out over 26 pay periods; 40% for Teacher Performance Pay - December and End-of-Year payments based on revenue received up to that payout time and performance measures met from 1st survey; Distributed in the following order: Longevity, Rank & Rate - mandatory participation for all new teachers in 2008-2009, teacher performance; 40% for Maintenance and Operations - Classified Staff - Longevity Bonus (5 year and 10 year as determined by employee's anniversary date).

Motion to approve Prop 301 component changes as presented by Mike Dyer, second by Michael Larrabee. All approved.

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III C – Projected Salary Considerations/Projections – Dr. Ellis presented members with a handout summarizing budget adjustment strategies by both charters and districts due to the projected revenue shortfall. The list of information included: freezing staff pay and benefit costs at current 2008-2009 levels, cutting positions for teachers and other personnel, cutting pay by 10% across the board, increasing the per pupil ratio per class, reducing field trips, delay textbook adoption purchases, eliminate instructional programs (art/music/etc.). Questions regarding the Full-Day Kindergarten Program were also presented. Lengthy discussion followed. Motion by Mike Dyer, second by Michael Larrabee, to authorize the principals to charge tuition for Kindergarten, freeze salaries and benefit costs, establish a contingency clause based on measurable standards (trigger), and put a contingency plan for cuts into place pending state funding.

III D – Anticipated Increases for Health Benefits and ASRS Costs – Jim Hudspeth presented information on anticipated increases for health benefits at 7% to 8% per Bob Phillips at Brown and Brown. ASRS increase is anticipated to go from 8.9% to 9%. Discussion followed.

III E – Rationale Schools Will Use to Develop Budget Reductions for 2009-2010 - Dr. Vert gave members a handout reviewing rationale that will be used to develop budget reductions for the coming school year. Included in the rationale were the following questions: What is necessary to run the most effective school while cutting costs? Are there any other potential sources of income? What is needed from our professional staff? What is essential for continuing to recruit excellent staff? Information presented was similar to that presented earlier by Dr. Ellis.

PURSUANT TO A.R.S. Sec. 38-431.03. Motion by Steven Gary Yee to recess to Executive Session for discussion and consideration of personnel issues. Michael Larrabee second the motion.

Reconvene regular meeting.

III F – Principal Evaluations – This item will be presented at the next meeting.

III G – SAIS Reporting for 2010 – Dr. Vert reported on SAIA requirements for the coming school year. Districts and charters must switch over to a student monitoring system that will cost approximately \$30,000 just for the program. This cost does not include staff training, nor the time involved in transferring information.

Reports

A – Board Committee Reports – President's Report – The Board President had nothing to report at this time.

Financial/Personnel– Mike Dyer, Committee Chair, reported that at a recent committee meeting the committee agreed to expand the committee to include an additional parent and teacher from each of the schools. Criteria are being developed and will be forwarded to the principals. The committee anticipates reviewing candidates by April and hopes to have them seated by May. Committee meetings will be held on the 1st Thursday of the month. Times may change to accommodate teacher school schedules.

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A – Board Committee Reports – (Continued)

Planning and Development - Michael Larrabee, Committee Chair, reported that the committee is planning for the annual retreat which will be held on June 5 and 6, 2008. It will begin with the June Board Meeting, immediately followed by the retreat. The focus of this retreat is to develop the Board's strategic plan.

IV B – Hearn Academy – Dr. Vert reported on numerous after school activities at Hearn, as well as advanced placements. She also indicated that Hearn has a choir for the first time and they will be in competition in CA on April 30 - May 2. Five Hearn students will be performing in Pirates of Penzance at Southwestern College April 15 - 18. These students will also perform at the school assembly on Friday, March 13th. Dr. Vert also reported that as a result of John Huppenthal's efforts, construction should be beginning on the library expansion during spring break or shortly thereafter.

IV C – Dobson Academy – Dr. Ellis reported on several community charity events, basketball activities, solar project and the science fair. He also reported that testing materials have arrived and they will be preparing for testing. Dr. Ellis met with PTO to discuss the financial situation, noting that Dobson will have to cut back on some of their charity events due to the economic situation.

V. Current Events – Steven Yee reported that a student at Hearn in the archery program will be competing in a national event; he also reported that a 7th/8th grade student was chosen to participate in a Geography Bee.

Michael Larrabee, who also serves on the AAEC School Board, reported that AAEC was chosen as the top charter school in Arizona.

Adjournment: Motion by Mike Dyer to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 PM. Second by Steven Gary Yee. Approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:26 PM.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for April 13, 2009 at the 5th Avenue Professional Building, 3411 N. 5th Avenue, Suite 300, Phoenix, Arizona.

Approved by Ball Charter Schools Governing Board


Board Secretary

4-13-09
Date: