

PARADISE CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

Minutes

MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

SPECIAL MEETING AGENDA

OPEN FORM

February 1, 2022

5:00 P.M.

Meeting Location: 6473 Clark Road, Paradise, California

1.0 Call to Order

1.1 Flag Salute

Minutes:

Christina Voigt led the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was called to order at 5:02 pm.

1.2 Attendance

Christina Voigt, 7th Grade Parent Representative, President	Present
Jill Pruis, Vice Chair/8th Grade Parent Representative	Present
Mike Witten, Staff Representative/Chief Financial Officer	Present
Kristina Clarkson, 6th Grade Parent Representative	Present
<i>Community Representative</i>	Vacant

Beverly Landers, Executive Director	Present
Jennifer Robbins, Secretary to the Board	Present

Guests: Mike Blaschke, Brian Faith, Amy Behlke, Yvette Kolstad, Chris Palmer
Parents were also in the audience

2.0 Changes/Deletions to Current Meeting Agenda

Minutes:

No changes or deletions to the agenda.

3.0 Public Comments on Items not on the Current Meeting Agenda

4.0 Discussion

4.1 Open Forum for Discussion

Minutes:

1. Jill Pruis said the board has met with staff and Mrs. Landers. In the future a board member will be present at staff meetings and a teacher will attend board meetings for better communication. The board approved Kathy Granger as a consultant to work with the board, meet with staff and principal.
2. Christina Voigt said the board approved a contract with Barbara Mandelbaum for principal/superintendent support.
3. Kristina Clarkson said the first community family night at the Paradise Ice Rink was successful. The PCMS, PLC, and the board's goal is to hold future community events.
4. Carrie Stratton asked when is the end date for students wearing masks. She added at what point do we ask, "enough is enough?"

5. Charles Brooks suggested an 'informal' policy for students to have the option to wear a mask or not.
6. Christina Voigt said the board has given the staff direction to follow the mask policy per the recommendation of the county and state. Ms. Voigt said there are risks and repercussions to the school not following these mandates. She said if something were to happen it would affect the charter and the school would be liable.
7. Kristina Clarkson said personally she is against students wearing masks, however, the school's insurance will only cover a percentage (\$100,000.00) of legal fees if the school were to be sued. She said the school is considered a business and the board's job is to also protect the school.
8. Brian Faith said he agrees with much of the parent's responses of wearing masks, but he said he is under the authority of the county and the state. He said it is important to protect and preserve the institution of PCMS.
9. Amy Behlke said there is a lot at risk as a teacher not following the guidelines.
10. Bev Landers said we have a unique situation where the community and staff are actually on the same page. She said the teachers are dedicated to the students and do their best to put the students' needs first. She said she believes the mask mandate is shifting and asked families to be patient.
11. Shannon Kerr asked if all teachers would accept the mask mandate lift or would some of the teachers continue to require their students to wear masks in the classroom.
12. Jill Pruis said the teachers take direction from the board.
13. Carrie Stratton suggested the board contact the Butte County Office of Education.
14. Christina Voigt asked parents to understand the teachers are following directions from the board regarding students wearing masks in the classroom. She encouraged parents to contact their student's teacher for clarification before judgment is made.
15. Candice Banks said her son loves school and she thanked the teachers for all they do. She asked about exemptions for the vaccination.
16. Jill Pruis said the school would support medical or religious exemptions if they are approved and accepted by the state.
17. Bev Landers said the school would consider other learning options for their child in order to respect the rights of parents to choose to vaccinate their child or not. She said as a community we need to work together; the school did not create this problem but is responding in the wisest possible way to preserve a legacy that deserves to continue.
18. Jenn Brooks asked if there could be more class time held outdoors with good weather.
19. Charles Brooks said he wished the mask enforcement was not put on the teachers. He expressed his gratitude to the teachers for putting students first. He said the more communication the better for families.
20. Brian Faith said this community has lost so much since the fire, and now with the epidemic.
21. Yvette Kolstad said students come to school and they are happy and thriving.
22. Kristina Clarkson asked if teachers would be interested in a personal umbrella insurance policy to feel more personally protective and reduce the stress of the responsibility to enforce students to wear masks.

23. Brian Faith said holding an open discussion with parents is more valuable to him than an insurance policy.

24. Christina Voigt said building back "Trust" with families is PCMS's goal.

5.0 Future Agenda Items

Minutes:

- Vaccination Survey sent in March to families.
- Overcommunicate with families
- Parent involvement with school projects

6.0 Adjournment: Next meeting February 24, 2022

Minutes:

The meeting adjourned at 6:23 P.M.