**YUBA ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE CHARTER ACADEMY**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**COUNCIL OF DIRECTORS**

**9841 Texas Hill Rd.  
Oregon House, CA**

**-MINUTES-**

**Thursday, September 29, 2016**

**3:30 PM**

**I.          PRELIMINARY**

**A.        CALL TO ORDER 3:40**

**B.        ROLL CALL/ESTABLISH QUORUM Guests: Danica Ristow, Kathy Smith, Dane Cannon**

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| **President/Chair** | **Jackie Stanfill** | **Present** |
| **Vice President** | Open |  |
| **Chief Financial Officer** | **Paul McGovern** | **Out** |
| **Secretary** | Open |  |
| **Staff Representative** | **Tena Brown** | **Present** |
| **Director** | **Jessica Shier** | **Present** |
| **Director** | **Freja Nelson** | **Present** |
| **Director** | Open |  |
| **Director** | Open |  |

**C.        Adopt Minutes from Previous Meeting 8/25/2016 Motion by: Tena, Second by: Freja, In favor: Unanim.**

**D.        Reading of Vision/Mission/Core Values:**

Mission: YES CHARTER ACADEMY educates K-8 students in a school culture that values the scientific method and a curricular focus on environmental studies. The highest Common Core State Standards, as well as high standards of moral conduct, are emphasized.

The vision of the YES CHARTER ACADEMY is to educate K – 8 students of the Sierra Foothills through a self-motivating, individualized, and comprehensive curriculum that connects learners with learning via a program, teaching staff, and school culture that value scientific methods of inquiry.

YES Charter Academy Students Are: Environmental Stewards, Positive Team Members, Academic Masters, Resourceful, Responsible Citizens, Kind!

**II.**        **PUBLIC SESSION**

1. **For Information/Action:**

Living Building Challenge overview by Susan Rainier-- Susan will be at next meeting and give more information. She is an architect who works specifically with environmentally friendly buildings and landscape design. She has access to several grants and options to build a living building. She has contacted the CDE building commission on our behalf and found that new laws say we cannot put a new roof or any other improvements on a portable building, but a ramada free standing roof is possible.

1. **For Action:**

*Form 700-* Jackie reminded everyone of the requirement to complete and turn in 700 forms right away.

1. **For Information:**

*Budget Update*: Dashboard review, Paul out of town. Susan updated that everything is going well and attendance is above LCAP goal. Update on Grants and Fundraising- Nicole updated on grants received and applied for. Electric bus grant is big priority.

1. **For Information/Action:**

Dress Code Policy Review: Teachers have proposed slight updates that allow students to wear clothing with characters, etc. This would free the teachers from having to monitor so closely and allow more freedom to families. Motion to update dress policy accordingly by Jessica, Second Tena, In favor Unanim.

1. **For Discussion/Action:**

Board Self-Assessment review and planning. Jackie reviewed results of board self evaluation and identified areas that could use improvement. Jackie distributed “Ten Basic Responsibilities of Nonprofit Boards” and “Selection Criteria for Council Members” to consider to increase structure. Homework for members is to review these documents and the Matrix to facilitate a discussion about structure. Homework paper with links was distributed.

1. **For Discussion/Action:**

Attendance Policy Review: Debbie has a proposed attendance policy to minimize attendance issues by strictly enforcing enrollment based on adequate classroom attendance and completed. She would like for us to adopt the following: A student will be sarb after 3 unexcused absences.  If they miss more than 6 days unexcused or excused without a Dr. note they will be put on a contract.  If they then miss 2 days unexcused or excused without Dr. note they will be dis-enrolled from the school.

Feedback: May be too strict and not allow for the needs of the families who may not want to share with the office or go to the doctor. It needs to spell out more clearly the parameters of the independent study. Important to be clear that there is a standard and expectation for students to attend. Intention to recognize working with families and also value the need to attend school and stay current with studies. Freja and Danica will work with Debbie and Cheryl to research attendance policies at other schools to flesh out the language and policies that are best for YES then bring it before the board for possible adoption.

1. **For Discussion:**

Review and prepare for Prop 39 submission in lieu of facilities. Freja is interested in being a part of this committee for negotiating

1. **For Discussion:**

Review of State Testing results and Academic Goals

1. **For Discussion:**

SPARRK implementation to date—Joan provided an update summary of progress so far. Peace quilt was viewed. Board input: it would be great to have the kids who have apples take their apples home to a list be placed on the wall for recognition even if they do not win the drawing for a prize. Parents might like to be reminded of the awards assembly if their child might be getting an award.

1. **For Action:**

Officer Elections/Accept applications for new Directors- Jackie distributed the officer descriptions from our by-laws and asked members to consider possibly running for one of these positions for board voting next meeting.

President/Chairperson

Vice President

Chief Financial Officer

Secretary

1. **For Discussion:**

Standing Committees- Academic, Facilities, Outreach, Financial- Jackie distributed clarification of committee assignments and requested board members to select a committee to chair. Jackie offered to co-chair the committees to help set them up and standardize agendas, minutes, and reporting back to the board. Freja is interested in Outreach Chair. CFO is chair of Finances Committee.

1. **Calendar and Coming Events:**

Next Council of Directors meeting Thursday, October 27 @ 3:30

YCOE submission and review of MOU transparency, Oct. 28

YES Annual Harvest Festival, Chili Cook Off, and Scholastic Book Fair, November 4

Parent Teacher Conferences, T1 report cards November 14-18

Council of Directors meeting Thursday, November 17 @3:30

Santa’s Workshop December 5-December 15

Breakfast with Santa, December, TBA

Council of Directors meeting Thursday, December 15 @3:30 (review of academic achievement)

Holiday Performance December 16 @11:00

Winter Break December 19-January 6, No School

**V.       ADJOURNMENT  Motion by Tena, Second by Jessica, In favor: Unanim.**