

# Riverside Drive Charter School Governance Council Meeting

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September 9, 2015

## Welcome

### Governance Council

Kesia Doucette, Principal; Sybil Goodkin, Chair/Parent; Suzanne Eisenberg, Vice-Chair/Teacher; Catherine Wygal, Secretary/Parent; Ilra Wi, Parliamentarian/Teacher; Hope Cameron, Parent/PFRD Rep; Jenni Sawin-Gerdes, Teacher; Sandra Rodriquez, ELAC/Parent; Angie Ware, Classified Staff;

### Attendees and Presenters

Damon Johnson, Alternate/Parent; Wendy Thompson, Alternate/Parent; Christine Higgins, Charter Renewal Chair/Parent

## Reading and Approval of Minutes

Sybil Goodkin called the meeting to order at 3:05pm.

The council reviewed the minutes from the last meeting and approved with a few changes.

## Budget Update

Kesia Doucette

Roll over monies have been given and will go into the general fund. Funds for 2015-2016 to be allocated from the 13027 account. Ending balance \$188,646

\$9,257 = adjustments + reimbursements + renewals + mileage

(see balance sheet from Kesia Doucette)

\$ 197,902 carry-over (rollover came from charter monies from 2014-2015)

Awaiting contact with Fiscal Specialist, Jose Perida to review budget. (No progress)

## New Hires Update

Kesia Doucette

We are still processing teaching assistants. Need appropriate position codes to match needs.

Additional teacher will need to be hired as a Kinder teacher is leaving and we need a replacement.

We must pull from a list of pool teachers but we would prefer to wait to find a great displaced teacher than to take a "pool teacher".

We should do a hiring committee, but we need a replacement ASAP so may need to skip the committee.

## New Business

### Charter Renewal Committee

#### Christine Higgins Update (see attachment)

First meeting held August 20<sup>th</sup> lead by Christine Higgins.

Charter petition brainstorming session was held with teachers.

Hot categories: visitor music, dance, qualified assistants, teaming, visual arts, tech support, parent education, instrumental.

Parent brainstorming session to be held September 17<sup>th</sup> prior to PFRD Meeting (similar format).

Add'l actions:

Extension chords

Testing Time

Self Test / ELAC

Now that there is no PE, teachers don't have time for planning lessons.

There seems to be no big picture for enrichment activities. We need to leverage committees together for common focus.

Sybil Goodkin: Who would we bring together to decide enrichments?

Angie Ware: Maybe separate by grade level?

Concerns that there are too many kids pulled out of classes for enrichment.

Kesia Doucette: Grade level suggestions... need to have a discussion about class pull outs. Indoor: Education / Outdoor: hands on experiments.

Suzanne Eisenberg suggests violin for kinders; dance movement 2nd/3<sup>rd</sup>; Art / drama 4/5<sup>th</sup> grades. Visual arts & garden should be all grades.

Teachers are supposed to be on campus between 2:30 / 3:30. Ms. Doucette can build in time for grade level planning. Must be added to the schedule on Tuesdays 2:30-3:30.

Enrichment chairs talk to committees to talk about how to optimize enrichment times.

Sybil Goodkin will reach out the committees.

## Committee reports

### Art

Hope Cameron:

Jennie and Hope met to talk about Campus Beautification

Need to recruit members for Art Committee

Goal is to tie Art / Science together

### By-Law Committee

Christine Higgins:

See above new business

Move to consolidate into "Strategic Planning Committee"

### Campus Beautification

Wendy Thompson:

Campus Beautification scheduled for September 26, 2015 9am – 3pm

Sanding down handball courts

Artist to paint handball courts

Monica will do a mural

Volunteers from CPK and OSH to assist.  
Many beautification projects in the plans.  
All the trees have been trimmed except for Ms. Lowe's.  
One dead tree needs to be managed.

### **Curriculum**

Sybil Goodkin:

Looking into umbrella Curriculum Committee with sub groups of Math, Literacy and Writing.

Science is its own group because of labs / own entity. (Sybil)

### **Service Learning (was community outreach)**

Hope Cameron:

Meeting soon

### **Budget**

Kesia Doucette:

Reported above

Move to consolidate into "Strategic Planning Committee"

### **Grant writing**

No Report

Science grants

### **Safety**

No Report

### **Technology**

No Report

### **ELAC**

Sandra Rodriguez:

Ms. Arnell – noticing an ELAC meeting – low turn out (5 people). One reason people might not attend is language barrier. Find voluntary interpreters to help build community. Bad public relations with ELAC.

Ms. Doucette: Wonders about the potential in the parenting community to send someone to translate.

ELAC – difficult to accept that ELAC is ok. Stigma if ELAC is involved. Parents may not speak English at home.

### **Science**

Hope Cameron: Grade level mixers. Pro Grant writer at coffee mixer.

Ilra Wi: Meeting – science lab going well between teachers / labs.

Lab seats 40 students.

Ms. Morgan is taking care of the lab / supplies.

Jennifer Roosevelt joined: found a grants... many grants available.

LAUSD – Next Gen science standards are coming. Teachers should get together and figure out how to implement fluency in Next Gen. Teachers need to review standards. Teachers can contribute to writing grants once they're fluent in new standards because they can help explain the needs for the grants. We need feedback from Teachers on Science curriculum. Need 2 or 3 teachers under curriculum committee to concentrate on grants / and renewal. Think beyond the lab into the STEM learning.

Sybil Goodkin: Should science collaborate with curriculum committee?

Ilra Wi: Requires influence of teachers and parents, not the science committee. We need to talk about science to be part of the curriculum. (Christine)

Susanne Eisenberg: All the committees feed into one another... everyone needs to talk to everyone else. There must be crossover. There must be brainstorming. Committee chairs need to work together.

Sybil Goodkin: What is the timeline for NGSS (goal 2016)? What do we need to do: link science and curriculum? LAUSD is going to give us a curriculum.

Kesia Doucette: We'll need to look at standards and come up with lesson plans that fit the standards.

Need to get Science Committee / Curriculum Committee together (ACTIONS)

Sandra Rodriguez: How much time commitment for committees. - 1 hour per month.

All science labs have been contacted. Reach out to other schools (Sybil)

Carpenter has a credentialed science teacher.

Colfax has an aid like Ms. Morgan who's been there for 15 years, teaches science.

Collaboration with other schools is a possibility.

Ira Wi: We can't hire a science teacher here. We need to create a curriculum internally with a rigorous committee.

## PFRD

Hope Cameron:

PFRD Meeting Sept 17<sup>th</sup>

30min 5<sup>th</sup> Grade planning / 30 min normal PFRD meeting

Fall Festival Schedule for October 17<sup>th</sup>

## Attendance committee

No Report

## Public Comment

Next meeting October 14<sup>th</sup>.

Damon Johnson would like better definitions of committees / time commitments.

Discussion of multi-language availability for meetings to encourage ELAC participation.

Committees do not have committee chairs.

Some committees are very active. Others aren't. Trying to build up committees.

Catherine Wygal may have furniture to donate to the school. Will work with Ms. Doucette on availability.

## Adjourned 4:35pm

## Action Log Summary

New actions this meeting:

Carryover actions from prior meetings:

- **Kesia** will email charter review self-evaluation to the council
- **Art and Curriculum Committees** need to meet to discuss the larger arts in the classroom options with regard to electives.
- **By Laws Committee** - Change By Laws wording for the hiring committee to upper grade rep or lower grade rep rather than specific grade level reps.
- **Curriculum Committee, Governance Community Involvement Committee, Grant Writing Committee and Awards Committee and Kesia:** need to collaborate on student character building program possibilities.
- **Kesia:** Find out from LAUSD what happens if our school hits capacity in the near future.

Completed since last meeting:

No Report