

**Thomas Edison Charter Schools
Governing Board Meeting
July 18, 2018**

In attendance: Brian Hirschi, Emily Buckley, Kyle Hancock, Audra Parent, Heather Knight

Excused: Chris Johnnie

Welcome/Conducting: Audra Parent

Pledge: Brian Hirschi

Adoption of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda: Audra Parent

Second: Kyle Hancock

Yes: Brian Hirschi, Emily Buckley, Kyle Hancock, Audra Parent, Heather Knight

Public Comment:

Chad Albrecht is following up from last month. He appreciates it being taken to the next level. He loves the dress code and thinks it should remain, but wants to see it be simpler, such as a required uniform. He feels now the enforcement distracts from work, time in class and confidence. His wife, Jan agrees and thinks it needs to be simplified.

Approval of Minutes - Tabled

Procurement Training – Steve Finley:

Purchasing is needing or wanting a good or service and placing an order. Procurement is the same thing except you are using public funds.

Code, rules and administrative rules are not all in one place. If you were to buy one Chromebook you can buy from any vendor without a 2nd bid, legally. If you were to buy up to \$4,000 worth, you still don't need to do anything, except buy where you think is wise. If it goes over \$5,000 you need two bids. You can use the state purchasing website at purchasing.utah.gov to find state approved vendors. If you require items available from a sole source, such as Apple or Spalding that can also be done. Each school has a procurement officer that can do a write up stating why staying with a certain vendor is good for the school.

RFPs – It is legal to ask a vendor to lower their bid. You ask for their best offer or a discount, but it is unethical to let one vendor know what another one bid. The RFPs should be evaluated by using a rubric. The rubric can be included with the RFP so vendors know how they will be judged. You do not need to pick the vendor with the lowest price, but the best value.

Five year contracts with an annual renewal are permissible. Keep a copy of the RFP and where it was posted. You can use a screenshot if it is on your website. Keep all bids and the statement of justification explaining why it was the best value. The first thing the auditor will ask for is a recording and minutes of the meeting where the decision was made.

Follow up from public comment in June – Audra Parent:

There has been discussion since the last meeting. The dress code is considered part of management, not governance. From the complaints, it seems to be part of a procedural issue on how it is being enforced. Administration is coming up with a more standardized way of dealing with dress code and parents are aware of the procedures.

Chad does not feel it is an interpretation issue, but feels the dress code needs to be simplified and feels the public should be involved in creating the dress code. He feels that it could be fixed and never be looked at again.

Jim shared his experience noting that dress code is a divisive issue in all schools that have a dress code. Before the school opened, a dozen people, who pretty much agreed on everything met to discuss dress code. There was about a 50/50 division. Some wanted a strict uniform, others wanted few restrictions. No one was willing to compromise.

Steve works with 44 charters and has attended many meetings. He reiterates what Jim said. There can be a five hour conversation with no good end. It is better to tweak the existing policy.

Emily feels that there are huge changes in a girl's body from K-8. She feels girls are told they are fat, don't belong and don't look good if their clothes become too tight. She feels the dress code should not specify fit.

Heather would like the board to focus on oversight, not management.

Kyle Hancock was excused from the meeting.

Vendor Approvals:

Brad Larsen:

There are issues with Katie's room. Things have been fixed in the roof and the wall, but the room still has water leaking into it. It may be the height of the asphalt on the ground outside the room. It was put out to bid and it is recommended that Lundahl's try to fix it by cutting out the asphalt, digging 4 or 5 feet down and filling with a material that expands and seals itself. It will be covered with concrete.

Motion to approve Lundahl's to fix Katie McKay's room: Audra Parent

Second: Emily Buckley

Yes: Brian Hirschi, Emily Buckley, Audra Parent, Heather Knight

Personnel Requests: None

Insurance Discussion:

Major Medical with an 8.9% increase, which comparatively very much lower than other organizations. Coverage is the same with Cigna.

Motion to renew the major medical: Emily Buckley

Second: Audra Parent

Yes: Brian Hirschi, Emily Buckley, Audra Parent, Heather Knight

The second policy is a little harder to understand and has to do with cyber coverage. There is \$50,000 coverage with a cyber-endorsement. The premium is \$892. It also includes cyber coverage outside of a data breach.

Motion to approve renewal with Hanover with increase of coverage to \$50,000: Emily Buckley
Second: Audra Parent
Yes: Brian Hirschi, Emily Buckley, Audra Parent, Heather Knight

Finance Report – Jim Peterson:

Jim explained the monthly expenditure sheet to the new board members. Both schools ended up in the black. The new budget will not be final until around November when the state finishes their calculation. The cash surplus amount floats.

Loan Overview and Status – Jim Peterson:

There were three major loans. The loan to purchase the Bullen land at Edison north was paid off last month. The board has expressed a desire in the strategic outcomes to pay off the remaining loans early.

Steve thought that the schools should put more in the PTIF account. The interest could help pay off loans.

Updates on parking lot progress at North and South:

Shem: Asphalt should be laid the first week in August. There was a problem with the sprinklers and creating additional landscaping. The water main that comes in was only 1 ¼ pipe, but with current zones there was not enough time to water. Two options: tap into road or tear up and replace with 2" pipe to gain the needed pressure.

Brad: There seems to be new costs regularly. The first parking stall as come into parking lot sank and needed to be fixed. The larger issue is that 12th West is not up to par and needs to be for us to connect to it properly. One recommendation was that Logan City, Nibley and Edison South each pay 1/3 of the upgrade. This would add \$8,000. There may be similar watering issues.

Charter & Bylaws update – Audra Parent:

Audra feels that the policy committee and administration need to meet again to finalize the charter submission.

Jim let the board know that the subcommittee did finish their work and had a recommended charter.

The bylaws also need to be changed, but that can be done without state involvement.

Motion to go to closed session: Audra Parent

Second: Brian Hirschi

Brian Hirschi - Yes

Emily Buckley - Yes

Audra Parent - Yes

Heather Knight - Yes

Closed Session:

Reconvene Open Meeting:

Vote on Principal Bonuses for the 2017-18 year:

Motion to approve a \$1000 bonus for Shem Smith: Audra Parent
Second: Emily Buckley
Yes: Brian Hirschi, Emily Buckley, Audra Parent, Heather Knight

Adjourn