

RINCON VALLEY CHARTER SCHOOL
Regular Executive Committee Meeting
District Office
1000 Yulupa Avenue, Santa Rosa
November 8, 2011

MINUTES

Present: Mrs. Cathy England
Ms. Lynette Beam-Cheney
Ms. Lynn Ruebush

Administrators: Dr. Casey D'Angelo, Superintendent
Mr. Joe Pandolfo, Assistant Superintendent for Business
Mr. Matt Reno, Principal

Teacher: Ms. Erin Rittenhouse
Student: John Diez

Absent: Mrs. Mary Beth Salmon
Ms. Gerri Penny
Mrs. Mary Lee Jones, Vice-Principal

**1. OPEN SESSION: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE,
CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m.

2. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS/ADDITIONS
None

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS AND CALENDAR

December 13, 2011

Meeting cancelled

January 10, 2012

Charter Executive Committee Meeting
4:00 p.m., District Office

4. PUBLIC AND EMPLOYEE REQUEST TO ADDRESS THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
None

5. INFORMATION

5.1 Student Council Report

Student Council President, John Diez, gave a report on the current curriculum and student activities at the charter school.

- The 7th grade students are studying “genes” in science and are reading Where the Street had Names in language arts.
- The 8th grade students are studying “atoms and elements” in science, “slopes” in math, and the “constitution” is history.
- The Student Council hosted games on Halloween.
- The volleyball team received the first place trophy.
- Cross country won first place in all categories.

5.2 Administration Report

Ms. Rittenhouse, science teacher, reported on the following:

- October 21 was Game Night. It was a huge success, so they will probably hold another Game Night after the holidays.
- Student led conferences were held November 3 – 4. These conferences are for the purpose of allowing students to “brag” about their work. Teachers are available for parent conferences on Wednesday mornings and by email if they have a concern about their child’s progress. Teachers wrote a comment on each child to give to parents when they came to their Child’s conference.
- The Charter School is participating in Sonoma County’s Hearts Program to help needy families.
- The new overhead structure at the charter is completed and everyone loves it!

Mr. Reno, principal, reported on the following:

- Dr. D’Angelo will be conducting a part 2 Edusoft training for the charter teachers on November 9th. Teachers will be able to utilize this efficient assessment tool. Erin will be attending a 2-day workshop.
- The charter is holding an after school Algebra clinic for students struggling and receiving a “C” or lower on their tests.
- The “California Shakeout” emergency drill went well.
- Sequoia and Charter had a real fire drill on Halloween.
- A lock down drill will be held on November 30.
- The 8th grade drama team will be putting on skits for the Sequoia students highlighting the Toolbox Program.
- 7th grade students will review the “Firebird Honor Code” highlighting the Charter’s high academic and behavior standards. 8th graders will receive this review in a few weeks.

5.3 Superintendent's Report

Dr. D'Angelo gave an update on current district issues. The first topic was an explanation of the district's proposed plan to implement a transitional kindergarten program. A team of Rincon Valley administrators will be visiting the three districts in the county that presently have a T-K program and will then start outlining a plan us.

Two parents from the charter met with Dr. D'Angelo, Mr. Pandolfo, and Mr. Reno to discuss facility improvements for the charter. He shared that the option of building a gym t the charter was brought back to the Board of Trustees to seek a plan and funding. Mr. Pandolfo is researching this potential project which would then provide office space on the charter campus. A few other requests included outside speakers for announcements, a flag pole installed in from of the charters, and benches. Dr. D'Angelo recommended that graduating classes possibly donate a bench each year.

5.4 Character Education

Ms. Rittenhouse reported on the Charter School's Character Education Program. The faculty focuses on four characteristics at the charter.

1. Technology
2. Project-based Learning
3. Scholarly Traits
4. Character Education

Each homeroom emphasizes one trait each week such as respect, citizenship, courtesy, etc. Students who demonstrate these traits are recognized at an assembly every 6 -8 weeks. Anti-bullying and respect to other people are emphasized.

6. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE COMMENTS/QUESTIONS

None

7. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

8. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Mrs. Cindy Mendenhall
Assistant to the Superintendent