

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE BOARD
CAROLINA SCHOOL FOR INQUIRY
RICHLAND COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA
June 13, 2006**

Place and Time of Meeting

The regular meeting of the Carolina School for Inquiry Board was held at Crane Creek Community Center, 7405 Fairfield Road, Columbia, SC, on Tuesday, June 13, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. pursuant to notice having been duly given to the media and to all members of the Board in accordance with the rules of the Board.

Call to Order/Roll Call

The following members were present:

Jeannie Eidson, Sue Carstensen, Trina Randle, Mark Roberts, Hans von Rautenfeld

Members absent: none

Additional attendees were: Stacie Mandrell, Verdie Samuels, Courtney Simmons, Quinton Epps, Vickie Laughlin and Martha Edwards

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve minutes from last meeting was approved as revised by Jeannie Eidson and seconded by Mark Roberts

Public Comments:

Courtney Simmons, District 6 president of the National PTA association and parent of new student, gave a presentation about PTA. She encouraged CSI to consider establishing a PTA group. In order to do so we need 10 members at \$2.75 per person. Leadership training is coming up and Ms. Simmons would be happy to help establish an active PTA at CSI.

Martha Edwards introduced herself and ideas about music education at CSI.

Officers Reports

Treasurers Report, given by Jeannie Eidson, the final \$6,000 of planning money has been requested along with \$70,000 of implementation money and will be picked up on June 15th. We are trying to avoid establishing a line of credit at this time as it will require a co-signer. We will revisit this possibility once we have money in the bank to back that request.

Committee Reports

Facility Committee – Jeannie Eidson

We have a certificate of occupancy which will be delivered to Donna Hammett on June 15th in order to have our contingency lifted. The painting is finished and the carpeting has begun. The hole in wall to office and has been framed and will be painted. Doors in the

front office area will be removed around to avoid cost of new doors. Light lens will be replaced on all lights due to some lights falling. HVAC works great. Recent rain storms showed a few leaks and roofers will come out and take care of that. Outside painting has begun.

Director report – Victoria Dixon-Mokeba (given by Jeannie Eidson)
See attached

Curriculum report – Stacie Mandrell

Text book ordering has begun and we are looking into many options to offset the cost of purchasing text books. Richland One has many professional development opportunities that they are allowing us to be a part of if we are interested.

New business

Review and revise mission statement: The mission of the Carolina School for Inquiry is to teach a diverse population of children in an atmosphere of kindness that encourages active inquiry, fosters individual growth and promotes respect for self, others and the world in which they live. Sue Carstensen moved to accept it, seconded by Hans von Rautenfeld. PASSED

By-laws

Jeannie suggested that we not change the bylaws until later in the year when the new board comes into being.

Richland District One Board Meeting

We will be going before the R1 Board on June 27th in order to have our contingency lifted. We will be presenting three items to change from our original proposal. We have made slight changes to the mission statement, we have a certificate of occupancy and we have changed our insurance companies due to a greater knowledge of services available.

Adoption of conflict of interest policy postponed until next board meeting

Budget

Finance committee met and made final changes to the budget based on current ordering and spending needs. Mark Roberts moved to approve budget as presented. Trina Randle seconded that motion. Stacie Mandrell will check with Bill Moser on the \$0 cost of the audit in the first year.

Board members

Six people were presented for nomination to the 2 open board spots. Sue Carstensen nominated Courtney Simmons from the floor. Nominations were closed and a paper ballot was distributed. Courtney Simmons and Quinton Epps were elected as the two newest Board Members.

Computers

Mark Roberts reported that 30 refurbished computers will be donated from Manning Correctional facility plus 30 more will be available for family checkout. We will need to rent a U-Haul truck to pick up the computers.

Interview Committee

Martha Edwards was presented to the board as a candidate for music teacher. The board voted to approve the recommendation. Fran McFall was presented as a candidate for the position of Physical Education Teacher. The board approved the recommendation.

Contract Issues

Sue Carstensen is making a date adjustment to contract for Stacie. Her contract will begin July 1, 2006 rather than August 1, 2006.

Announcements

June 27th is the R1 board meeting to get final approval. There will be no regular board meeting that night.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Sue Carstensen and seconded by Quinton Epps. The motion passed without objection.

**From The Desk of
Victoria Dixon-Mokeba
June 13, 2006
Director Report**

Item: 1

Interview of Special Area Teachers:

Martha Edwards (Non- certified)	Music contracted @ \$5,000
Fran McFall (P.E. and Elementary Certification)	Physical Education contracted @ \$6,000

The above salaries are part of the budget under exceptional instructional services. *Please vote for approval*

Item: 2

IT services through the district- I met with Karyn McCombs from Richland One IT services and Wesley McIver from Bellsouth to look for proper installation so that SASSI (district computerized network) can be secured/ installed at our site. I have since requested that they come back to re-evaluate the set-up, because the server that Linda has agreed for our use is on the other side of the building. I'll keep you abreast of the results.

Item: 3

Background Checks for Employees

After re-reading the by-laws, it is stated that all employees undergo background checks. Mrs. Washington, Mr. Barr, Dr. Samuels, and I were all in classrooms this past school year. Is it necessary to go through this process again? Do we only want to have background checks for new teachers and paraprofessionals? It is my effort to make sure that we are in compliance with our by-laws.

Item 4: Principal Training

The State Department of Education is offering training for Lead Teachers beginning October. I will be participating in the training offered by that state.

Item 5: Workshop- Fundamental Fundraising Tools Wednesday, June 14th at Holiday Inn CITY CENTRE @ USC from 8:30am - 10:30am.

Item 6: Opening Statement for the SC National Charter School Association.

I spoke with Dr. Church via e-mail about submitting a small synopsis on the subject of our opening of school opposed to an annual report since this is not applicable for us to date.

Item 7: Official School Start and End Time: 8:15-3:00 Hans, please post of the website

Item 8: Teacher and Student Handbooks

I have drafts available for edit and review. I will e-mail to the Board of Directors and Staff.

Item 9: Issuing of Keys

Please be reminded that the building will be available to us by the end of next week. Linda Carter dangled the keeps before my eyes. She is aware that everyone is anxious to “get in.” She has really been accommodating. Thank her as often as you see her.