



PALISADES

CHARTER HIGH SCHOOL

Charter Committee Meeting February 22, 2019

Attendees:

Susan Ackerman
Paula Anderson
Tami Christopher
Daphne Gronich
Monica Iannessa – Absent
Keri Kraft
Pam Magee
Lisa Saxon
Allen Schultz
Maddie Stein
Larry Weiner

Paul Mittlebach – Absent

Dara Williams - Absent

Attendees Volunteering for Committee Membership

Susan Ackerman moved to approve the minutes from the January 25, 2019 meeting.

Daphne Gronich seconds the motion with the amendment of spelling Keri Kraft and Monica Iannessa.

Discussion about opening enrollment for feeder schools.

Daphne shared that she had received three calls from PRMS parents who are concerned about possible changes in the enrollment priorities. Parents were informed that this is a discussion for the future that involves LAUSD approval.

Pam Magee and Tami Christopher shared that they are engaged in dialogue with the PRMS administration.

Tami Christopher shared highlights from preparation period meetings with PCHS teachers held on February 19 and 20.

1. Governance: Teachers can still have a voice through these possibilities:

- a) serve on an appointment panel*
- b) serve as a nonvoting member*
- c) serve as a board committee member*
- d) vote for a teacher/staff board member--like the community seat*



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2. Attendance/Admissions

- a) Automatic Fails put into IC after a certain amount of time
- b) Detach Fails from lack of attendance and assign additional Community Service Hours or Saturday School
- c) PCHS alumni in its own admissions category (OVERWHELMINGLY POPULAR)
- d) Open feeders too all LAUSD middle schools or all schools
- e) Create an open lottery for everyone other than residents, sibs, and employee family. Preference given as more entries per name
for example: PCHS or PHS alumni (4 "balls" in lottery draw), Paul Revere (3 "balls" in lottery draw), LAUSD (2 balls), and Non-LAUSD (1 ball)

3. Educational Program

- a) Possible Expansion of Virtual Academy Program enrollment- more definition about the program needed
- b) PLCs are still our through line!
- c) No one opposed using Equity Plan, LCAP and WASC writing to be woven through the narrative.
- d) Pali Academy was not represented; however, we probably need language in the charter about them.
- e) Growth of collaborative classes
- f) Socioemotional Learning
- g) Response to Intervention

4. Policies

- a) Summer Work- teachers, especially AP teachers were for keeping Summer Work; however, there would be advanced notice of the work and different ways to make-up the work if students were enrolled in the course late. General agreement that it should be worth no more than 3% of the overall semester grade.
- b) Homework- stating an average per course or an average per night was accepted. However, AP teachers wanted average homework hours to be specified and differentiated to reflect college-level work and reading.
- c) AP policy- AP teachers wanted a waiver procedure for students to waive out of testing.
- d) AP policy- AP teachers wanted a recommendation of number of APs per grade level.

*Issue with parent members on the board representing "parent" interest and not school interest
Revising the attendance policy to create a possible support period, extending the number of days before F, Saturday school and IC automatic assign grade
Paul Revere does not have a feeder school, either Resident or Lottery (perhaps we do the same)*

Students in the meeting shared that teachers are not consistent about applying the attendance policy. Suggested that the attendance policy be explained in detail during the registration.



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Susan asked how many students fail a class due to the attendance policy. Discussed how the policy was created. How does this policy impact students? Reviewed the Manhattan Beach USD attendance policy. \$47 loss of state funds per day when students are absent.

Students requested that there be another way to clear absences. Lisa suggested that the Attendance Office be consulted about their preference on best ways for students to clear absences. Email?

Tami explained the Swipe system that has been implemented.

The committee asked if Tami saw a need to change the policy. Discussion about teachers being hesitant to enforce the policy and being inconsistent about reporting absences. A default system to a failing grade at 7 absences with a clear explanation of steps to clear is needed.

Some teachers are in favor of no connection to grades and attendance. Santa Monica College and other post-secondary programs that offer courses at Pali have very rigorous attendance policies.

Recommended that the PCHS Attendance Policy be brought to staff. Ask UTLA to create a short survey to determine if faculty want to revisit and revise the policy.

Governance Board composition
Gov't Code 1090 – Conflict of Interests

Questions about the parent positions. Why are 9th grade parents not allowed to run for the Board?

Poor participation in elections is a concern. Low number of candidates and low voter turnout. PRMS elects parents at their spring parent meeting.

Who might be on the Board? Community members, professors, professionals, non-voting teacher advisor, retired teachers/staff

TO DO –

- Bring ideas from attorney Lisa Corr and proposals from other schools as alternative. Invite her to be part of this meeting in person or on a call.
- Department chair duties could be negotiated to include Grade Appeal Committee.
- Academic Component –
Review of graduation policies – Bring information to the group
- Review the current charter on the Governance section of website
- Convert charter to a Google doc



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- Get the PRMS magnet enrollment data from magnet office
- Bring discussion to Curriculum Council
- Review the PRMS enrollment/preferences language in their charter

Priority Areas of Discussion and Research

Attendance

Admissions

Governance

PA Academy

VA Academy

Next Meeting: March 22 Library at 3:30

Adjourned at 5:20pm