

Questions for Young, Minney, & Corr for FPCC

1) Is it legal for a teacher to serve on the budget and finance committee as long as they abstain from voting on any financial decision that directly affects their own paycheck? For example, could they be a committee member and vote on giving scholarships to students for busing, purchase technology for students, or items like making decisions of faculties improvements?

*From the PCHS Charter:*

*The Budget and Finance Committee shall be open to all non-employee stakeholders of PCHS.*

2) Can parents vote in Board or committee meetings on issues that affect themselves, their child or a friend/family member? If not, should a statement be read at the beginning of each meeting reminding members when to abstain to legally protect themselves?

*PCHS Recusal Policy:*

*Non-employee Board members may not participate in open or closed session discussions of the Board involving any of the following topics:*

*Discussions or actions as to transactions or contracts in which the Board member, or his or her spouse and/or children, has a material financial interest.*

3) Can students who are non-voting board members or other students serve on the budget and finance committee or any other committees given that they are under 18 or can they just participate in meetings but not be on committees? Can they vote on any items or do they need to abstain from voting for items that affect themselves, their family or friends?

*From PCHS Charter:*

*The Budget & Finance Committee will consist of the following composition:*

- *parents*
- *students*
- *community members*
- *a member representing the Booster Club and a member representing the PCHS Fund and Development Committee – these may be either parent or community members.*

*Students currently serve and vote on the B & F Committee.*

- 4) Is there any problem with members of any committee or the board itself abstaining from a vote when they think there is a conflict of interest, or should the chairperson ask certain people to abstain if they think there is an issue? (Does the decision come from the individual or the school?)

*Any committee member may abstain/recuse themselves if they feel there is a conflict of interest without direction from the Chair.*

- 5) As an independent charter school, what are the steps that we need to take in order to grant a student representative the right to vote in Board and Committee meetings? How would age affect this process? In our Charter, the ASB President is written in as a non-voting member of the board, how long will this affect the process?

*From the PCHS Charter:*

*The ASB Student Body President shall serve as a non-voting member of the Board of Trustees.*

*Our Charter applies through 2025 so we have to wait until that time to change anything.*

- 6) Can the Student Representative on the Board attend Closed Session? For Board Committees does this same principle apply? Why or why not?

*Closed session occurs when an employee or student issue arises, or some type of litigation, which would preclude employees or the student representative on the board from participating in these meetings. Committee meetings do not have Closed Session.*