

**Garden City Community School
Board of Directors
Regular Meeting
Agenda**

January 25, 2010

LOCATION:

GCCS

9165 Chinden, Garden City, ID 83714

[Executive Session started at 6:05 pm.](#) Open Session at 7:00 pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (Closed to the Public).

Pursuant to Idaho Code Section 67-2345(1):

(a) to consider hiring a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent. This paragraph does not apply to filling a vacancy in an elective office;

(b) to consider the evaluation, dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent, or public school student;

(c) to conduct deliberations concerning labor negotiations or to acquire an interest in real property which is not owned by a public agency;

(d) to consider records that are exempt by law from public inspection;

(f) to consider and advise its legal representatives in pending litigation or where there is a general public awareness of probable litigation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION ITEMS MAY BE DISCUSSED AND ACTED UPON, IF APPROPRIATE, IN OPEN SESSION.

Open Session (to follow Executive Session)

6:00 Meeting opened by and adjourned to executive session.

The meeting was called to order by Laurel York Odell for the purpose of considering A & B from the list above.

Jan Thomas moved and Laurel seconded that the meeting be closed. All agreed and the regular session adjourned to the executive session at 6:06 pm.

Those present: Laurel York Odell, Jan Thomas, Matthew Shapiro, Lisa Courchane (teacher), Michael Tetrault, Tim Richey, treasurer, via teleconference, Sara Covington, Marti Monroe and Cindy Hoovel

7:07 pm resumed open meeting.

1.

Check-in and agenda adjustments. Each person present was asked to say what they have done in the time since the last meeting to promote the school.

Cindy asked that there be an agenda adjustment on teacher evaluation policies.

Tim asked to give his report out of order because he was on conference phone.

2.

Vote on closed session items (if any) Michael T moved and Sara Covington 2nded that Cindi Groth Landis be released from her contract. All agreed and wished her the best.

3.

Minutes from 11/16/09 regular board meeting – Marti

#5 on school director report. Please add that the report is attached each time it is mentioned in the minutes.

In #8 in fund raising “Cindy says Sara’s been running everything through her and is working very hard with the crew.”

Sara C moved and Matthew S seconded that the minutes be accepted as revised. All were in favor of approval.

4.

Election of Interim Officers - Jan T moved that we nominate as interim officers, Laurel YO as president, Matthew S seconded. All in favor. We have a new resolution, created by Matthew S. for creating a new position

Whereas an orderly process of succession for board leadership is found to be desirable for skill development and familiarity with our role and the responsibility of the office, the Board of Directors of Garden City Community School hereby resolves to create the position of President-elect whose duties will be to assume the duties of President when the President is not available and to succeed as President at the end of the current president’s term. Jan T moved that we adopt Matthew S’s resolution. Michael T seconded. The motion was unanimously carried.

Jan T moved that we nominate Sara C as the president elect, Matthew S seconded. This motion was carried.

5.

Treasurer’s report/Finance Committee – Tim Richey

a. Cindy is thinking the budget will come out at about break even at the end of the fiscal year.

b. It is estimated that the State support will be about \$100,000 less than budgeted. However, with lunch expenses being lower than expected and enrollment fairly high, the budget should be fine.

c. Federal money is on a reimbursement basis.

d. Recently a letter went out to parents regarding keeping ADA and preventing tardiness and a letter also went out regarding activity fees that are still to be paid.

6.

Policy Committee report - NONE

7.

School Director report – Cindy passed out information and strongly urged us to talk with our legislators and advocate for schools and for charter schools. Please refer to attached Director’s report at the end of the minutes.

8.

Governance committee report – Jan - We will be recruiting applicants for future board members. We want to sell people on the idea of the honor and pleasure of serving on the board. Laurel offered to help out on the committee now that they are down to 2 members since Bill Ramey resigned from the board.

9.

Community Council report – Mike T reported that parents will be trained at the next Community Council meeting on “The Bridge” method of conflict resolution. Standard meeting dates in the future might be the Thursday following the board meeting. Meeting begins at 6:30 this Thursday. Michael plans to have the schedule for the rest of the year at the next board meeting. Laurel YO is requesting the Community Council help the board out with the year’s calendar for the board. This way we can list it on the web site as soon as possible, also.

9. b Cindy reported that she is doing teacher evaluations the way that the state department of education is requiring. We have adopted the Charlotte Danielson model of teacher evaluation. This will be a policy change that is likely to come up in April. Cindy has added things that are specific to our charter, which the state Department of Education does expect of charter schools. Jan T moved that we accept the Charlotte Danielson model of teacher evaluation and include the uniqueness required for our charter. Michael T seconded it. All in favor.

10.

Fundraising report – Sara

She brought the tickets and the fliers for the Applebee's fund raising breakfast February 20th. Staff and board are welcome to work as servers.

The Fundraising Auction for the school is March 19th. There is a committee of 6 which has been working consistently on this. They have collected some and, we have some promised pieces of art work. They also have an intention to auction off baskets.

We received a check from \$1,000 Wayne Ernst the last two years at the end of each year.

11.

Community Relations Committee – Laurel Marti suggested we look into having a Vista volunteer – blog might be an add on also. There was very mixed reactions to social media communications. The recent report of the Community Relations Committee is attached at the end of these minutes.

12.

Laurel YO asked that we have all committee reports submitted in writing to the board in advance of the meetings.

Her request is based on considering 3 primary responsibilities of the board.

Budget

Board Succession.

Director evaluation and contract.

We need time in to have meaningful conversations in the board meetings. At the next board meeting she hopes we'll discuss what is meaningful about serving on the board. Board responsibilities vs. administrative responsibilities.

Other board members suggest other meaningful topics for March board meeting.

Laurel said we need to have a committee meeting evaluating Cindy's performance.

Laurel YO would like to change the annual meeting from July to August.

Meeting Evaluation (5 minutes)

We met in open meeting less than 2 hours.

We stuck to the agenda. Did we stick to our mission? We all agree it might be wise to review what it is in future meaningful discussion. Mission discussion might be one meaningful conversation for next meeting.

Most time spent on the future and the present. 30 past 70 future and present.

There was equal participation this time more than ever. We felt the meeting was very effective and we commend Laurel YO for managing her initial meeting as she did.

Submit committee reports to Laurel YO no later than Wednesday preceding the board meeting.

In the schools recruitment workshop that she recently attended Laurel YO said she heard that it might be wise to add something seductive to our name that says more

about the school. This might also be up for a meaningful discussion by the board. MS mentioned it might also be a contest. What is the essence of the school? There was concurrence by several other board members who have heard this more than once. There seems to be a prejudice by many Idahoans about the reputation of Garden City itself and that the location might be a deterrent to potential enrollment.

9:00

Adjourn Jan T moved, Matthew S seconded. We all agreed and adjourned at 8:48 pm.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT to the BOARD

Garden City Community School

January 25, 2010

NOTE: This report covers November 16, 2009 – January 22, 2010 due to the change of the December 2009 meeting format.

CURRENT ENROLLMENT: 133 (Latest report shows ADA is 127.81 – 96 %!)
Elizabeth(K): 20, Marti (1/2): 16, Marin (1/2): 18, Lisa (3/4): 14, Tawnia (3/4): 21,
Ben (5/6): 21, Brenda (7/8): 23

RECENT SCHOOL EVENTS

- 11/19/09 – “Family Fun Math Night” huge family response with staff and volunteers facilitating fun math games in each classroom available through a grant received from Micron.
- 11/24/09 – GCCS sponsored Idaho Charter School Network Executive Board meeting
- 12/1/09 – Lions Club tested all students’ sight and hearing
- 12/3/09 – Garden City Tree Lighting. Thanks to Marti and her ½ class for attending and singing songs to add to the holiday festivities.
- 12/12/09 – Brenda’s Robotics Lego Team participated in this completion at Mtn View High School and did great – in addition to enjoying the chance to meet other students and share inventions! Thanks for all her extra efforts to make this happen for the students!
- 1/14/10 Artists’ Reception at GC Library – Brenda’s 7/8 class has their art from their African unit on display in the GC Library for the month of January. From 6-7:30 they presented their art processes to the crowd, served African food they had prepared and taught visitors how to make African prints on bookmarks. It was a fun night of celebration sharing the incredible things they had learned! (Brenda was dressed as an African queen!)
- 1/18/10 – Charter School Day at the Capitol – thanks to the few GCCS stakeholders who attended!

All-School Meetings - Community Circles (Date/Class/Highlight)

- 11/18/09 – Tawnia’s 3/4 class created a presentation about the Constitution to celebrate the date.
- 11/31/09 – Tawnia’s 3/4 class, Former Governor Cecil Andrus shared stories about his life as a child and in politics. He was very caring, understanding and appreciative of our students and their questions! Thanks to Tawnia for her efforts to get him to GCCS!
- 12/9//09 – The “Lego Team” for the Robotics Competition (through Brenda’s efforts from the grant she received) gave a presentation to the entire of their incredible inventions using legos

- 12/16/09 – Brenda’s 7/8 class sponsored an All-School Talent Show. Everyone enjoyed watching the amazing talents of our students which included singing, dancing, piano, science experiments, head standing, string tricks and circus talents.
- 1/6/10 – Lisa’s 3/4 class gave a presentation on Martin Luther King and Civil Rights
- 1/13/10 – Ben’s 5/6 class gave a reader’s theater following a mural they created share their learning about Native American tribes in the history of the USA

CURRICULUM (*also see Professional Development*)

Core All staff has been involved in an immense amount of professional development! The skills they are gaining in assessment, data, differentiation and basics for all exceptional teachers are showing up in their classrooms to add to their already super teaching!

Art Studio

Student teacher, Monica Galvan, was a great addition to our staff in November and December. She helped Cindy teach the students some basic visual art skills in addition to collaborating with teachers to integrate the arts into their curriculum. All students were also able to benefit from Monica’s Spanish lessons and activities.

Director Cindy taught Brenda’s 7/8 class how to create window designs. They painted these throughout the school windows and the Dept. of Motor vehicles. (They also found how “fun” they were to clean after the holidays!)

Healthy School Program – staff continuing Great Body Shop health curriculum, PE & Great Morning Starts

Environment All classes decided to have one tri-mester’s theme dedicated completely to the environment. Stay tuned for more sharing of these!

SPECIAL SERVICES

Angela Banning and her staff of Pat, Susan and Linda have been doing a great job helping students and teachers in reading and math. We are seeing data proving the results of their good work and see several children with special needs happier to come to school as they become confident with their reading and math skills! Each of these support service staff members also help with recess and lunches so teachers have more preparation time in their day.

It was decided to discontinue the “tech” one-on-one services we’d been contracting for one of our special needs students due to their inconsistency of attendance and documentation being provided. Melissa Rupe was hired for this position and started 1/4/10. She has been an excellent aide for the child and we have already seen impressive improvement in the child’s learning!

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 11/09 – Ben & Brenda attended a Saturday science workshop and have received supplies to help with class lessons
- 11/17/09 – Brenda & Cyndi G-L attended workshops on Adolescents
- 11/18/09 – Jan Thomas attended Charter Training at ANSER
- 12/2/09 – “The Bridge” Conflict Resolution Training attended by Cindy, Marti, Marin, Lisa & Tawnia. These teachers trained the remaining staff in January.*
- 12/3-4/09 – All certified classroom GCCS teachers, Special Services coordinator and Cindy H. attended the “Differentiation Workshop” by nationally renowned teacher Charlotte Tomlinson

- 12/9/09 – Staff workshop on “Continuing Differentiated Instruction” facilitated by Cindy
- 12/17/09 – Staff shared “artifacts” (great teaching ideas) with each other during staff meeting
- 1/07/10 – “The Bridge” training for all staff*
- 1/12/10 – Counselor Cyndi attended the “Start Strong Idaho” conference
- 1/14/10 – “Data Driven Dialogue & Gap Analysis” training by Joanie & Kathleen (Title IA Capacity Builders for School Improvement)
- 1/19/10 – Idaho Charter School Leadership Council meeting(SDE) & Recruitment Workshop (ICSN) attended by Director Cindy and volunteer Patricia Angel. Laurel joined the workshop via teleconference.

EVALUATIONS

Director Cindy is currently completing certified staff’s “formal” evaluations. The evaluation process is on-going, but this is where the timeline stands. All schools in Idaho are now required to turn in a report in February showing all their evaluation templates, documents and processes and prove they have policies including specific evaluation requirements following the “Danielson” method. The exciting part is the method GCCS has used since 8/07 is identical to what the state is now requiring of everyone! More on this will be explained at the board meeting.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

School tours are being given by Director Cindy on a regular basis. She also visited a head start family night to share information with their families. Laurel O’Dell and Patricia Angel have been very active on the Community Relations committee and will present a more thorough report.

FINANCIAL & LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION*

School administrators are being updated weekly by the Supt. of Education, Tom Luna regarding legislation that affects us – especially finances. (Current legislative bills that are on the docket for this year’s session will be provided at the board meeting.). There is nothing definite until laws have been passed, but there is the strong possibility of cuts taken during this fiscal year in education. Current 09-10 school year details for GCCS will be given during the finance committee report.

LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION*

Combined above. It’s important for everyone to let their legislators know how they feel about discussion and potential legislation affecting schools.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Through January 30 - Brenda’s 7/8 class African Art Show on display. Be sure to stop by before it’s over!
- 1/28/10 – Community Council 6:30-7:30PM. Agenda will include teaching families how to use “The Bridge” for conflict resolutions.
- 2/4/10 – completion of Charlotte Danielson “Frameworks” class for staff (by Title IA/Capacity Builders grant)
- 2/15/10 – No School due to Presidents’ Day
- 2/19/10 – end of second tri-mester

Respectfully submitted, Cindy

Cindy Hoovel, Director of Garden City Community School

**Garden City Community School
Community Relations Team Meeting Notes
1/07/2010**

Present: Patricia Angell, Cindy Hoovel, Laurel York Odell

Next Meeting: February 7, 9:00 – 10:30 am

Action Items:

- Ask Brenda about student development of video and audio PSA's – Laurel.
- Work w/Cindy on promotion of Brenda's project– Laurel.
- Attend 2010 Charter School Day at the Capitol – All
- Attend GC Chamber Meeting - LYO
- Attend GC Rotary Meeting – Cindy/LYO

Discussion Points

I. Activity List & Work Plan

Work plan reviewed and updated.

Team Lead	Activity	Status
Patricia	Develop schedule/calendar for community service organization presentations and/or GCCS community event participation i.e., Elks, Kiwanis, Rotary, Optimist & Soroptimist, TOPS, Lions, Eagle Chamber of Commerce, Boise Chamber of Commerce, Meridian Chamber of Commerce, Garden City Chamber of Commerce, Idaho Charter School Network, tree lighting, parades, Others....	Attended & represented GCCS at TriCa event, GC Holiday Tree Lighting & GC Library as well as GC Chamber After Hours.
Laurel	Develop distribution network for brochures and posters. Develop recruitment message for TVTV ad, and Northgate Reel Theater.	In process...

LYO w/Brenda	Have students produce video for infomercials (TVTV) and PSAs focused on student/family recruitment .	In process
Patricia	Build relationships with Central District Health, Head Start, self-sufficiency programs.	Presentations scheduled with – Head Start – Kindall 1/14 1/20 GC Senior Center & Madison Head Start. 1/21 Meridian HS 5:30
Laurel	Work w/Garden City Chamber to promote recruitment through business billboards in Spring.	In process....
Jeanna	Develop contact list of realtors, Neighborhood Associations libraries, pre-schools etc., for promotion (posters, brochures, speaking...)	
Jody	Identify and assist with student involvement (or their art) in public art shows/displays, senior centers, etc.	

Other ideas to follow up with -

- Continue relationships with Idaho Statesman & Idaho Press tribune reporters. Work with Michelle Edmonds and Don Nelson, Channel 6 TV.
- Build relationships with corporate recruiters (Saint Als, St. Luke's, HP).
- Explore possibility of Ameri-corp intern.
- Press releases on events & activities.
- Facebook page for school.
- GreatSchools.net
- PSAs in movie theaters

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