

Board of Trustees, Ridge and Valley Charter School
Regular Meeting Minutes

The Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Ridge and Valley Charter School was held on November 19, 2009 at 1234 State Route 94, Blirstown, NJ 07825. The meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm by Dave McNulty, Facilitator. The Trustees operate on a consensus basis in all matters. We choose to dispense with Robert's Rules of Order and Conventional Parliamentary Procedure. Our intention is to affirm the mission of the school. Ridge and Valley Charter School offers an integrated, experiential course of study in the context of the universe and its interrelationships.

Adequate notice of this meeting had been made in accordance with the provisions set forth in the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, Laws of 1975 in the New Jersey Herald, the County superintendent's office and with the County Administrator.

Roll Call	present	absent
Voting Members		
Jay Bacco	X	
Kerry Barnett	X	
Donna Best	X	
Tom Kelleher	X	
Andy Marancik	X	
Dave McNulty	X	
Dave Paulson	X	
Pati Uzar	X	
Non-voting members:		
Nanci Dvorsky, Administrative Coordinator	X	
Lisa Masi, Integration Guide	X	
Rowena McNulty, Differentiated Learning Coord.	X	
Traci Pannullo, Curriculum Coordinator	X	
Charles Knopf, School Business Admin.	X	

Facilitator: Dave McNulty Guardian: Traci Pannullo Recorder: Nanci Dvorsky
Also in attendance: Megan Bubalis, Cathy Barbier, Susie Wright, Melissa Browns, Brian Doherty, Kris Kelleher, and Cheryl Paulson.

Trustee Circle Opening: convened 6:05pm

Notices: None

Public Participation: Kris Kelleher and Cheryl Paulson gave a Harvest Festival report and also presented a potential format for the Solstice Celebration on December 23rd at 9:05a.m. Kris Kelleher has agreed to be the Special Events Volunteer Coordinator.

Correspondence: None

Approval of Minutes: Approval of the October 15, 2009 minutes.

Business Administrator: Charlie Knopf reported that we will be receiving a revised budget from the DOE in December based on the 10/15/09 charter school enrollment count. Charlie said we may see some changes in the 2010-2011 budget based on the recent Gubernatorial election results. Charlie said he is working to get grant money through the NJSmartStart program for the new HVAC units.

Resolution 11.19.09.c To approve the Board Secretary and Treasurers Reports for October 2009 and to certify that no major account or fund has been over expended and to confirm that sufficient funds are available to meet the schools financial obligations for the remainder for the year. Approved unanimously. **Resolution 11.19.09.e** To accept the the 2008-2009 audit and to note that there were no recommendations so there is no action plan except to file the reports to the state to that regard. Approved unanimously.

Resolution 11.19.09.f To approve the Cooperative Pricing System with Middlesex Regional Educational Services Commission as attached. Approved unanimously.

Resolution 11.19.09.g To approve participating in the Alliance for Competitive Telecommunications with the Monmouth-Ocean Ed Services Commission. As attached. Approved unanimously.

Leadership Team Update:

Administrative Coordinator: **Resolution 11.19.09.a** To approve payment of bills in the amount of \$176,254.52 which includes payroll. Approved unanimously. **Resolution 11.19.09.d** To approve the 09-10 Resolution Advisory Committee (Grievance Committee) consisting of Donna Usinowicz, Sundae Younkers, Gina Barkovitch, Cheryl Paulson, and Diane Hynes. Approved unanimously. **Resolution 11.19.09.h** To approve Lauren Settembrino as a substitute guide for the 2009-2010 school year. Approved unanimously. A lottery drawing for 1st grade out of district students for the 2010-2011 school year was held. Nanci reported that she had completed the Fall Survey Report, Charter School 10/15 Enrollment Count, NJSmart SID management and 10/15 report, and she also attended the Memorandum of Agreement Between Schools and Law Enforcement where a presentation of the ongoing concern of children abusing prescription drugs was the focus. Nanci reported she had received two student requests to ride their bicycles to school and Charlie Knopf offered to contact Board Attorney William Gold on the matter. She also brought a request to the Trustees for partial funding of a winter overnight trip for the Galaxy Team to Fairview Lake Camp in Stillwater. The Trustees are generally supportive of the request and more details will follow from the team regarding the trip. She also mentioned that the New Jersey Charter Public Schools Association Conference is scheduled for March 18th and 19th and the Leadership Team may present a request to attend once the financial information is online.

Curriculum Coordinator Report: Traci Pannullo reported that she has been working with Brian Doherty to implement the formal Guide observations, working on the curriculum writing review with Lisa Masi, the Certificated Staff report for the DOE and the Professional Development Plan. She also will begin work on an orientation check list for new Guides which might be able to be used as a format for a school community informational piece as well.

Integration Guide Report: Lisa Masi reported she has been working on the Student Led Conferences, Whole Student Reports, Wednesday assemblies, and family communication. She also continues to work with Traci Pannullo on the Wednesday Independent Projects.

Differentiated Learning Coordinator Report: Rowena McNulty reported she completed the 10/15/09 NJSmart special ed report, visited alumni at Hopatcong high school, went to Morris Tech High School with a group of 8th grade students to tour the school, attended Child Study Team meetings, Volunteer Coordinator meetings, and has been working on the December 5th Community Service Day as well as the Medicine Wheel behavior program.

Committee Reports:

Finance Committee: The committee will be meeting Sat Dec 5th to look at the updated budget from the DOE and to consider IT and staffing needs.

Technology Committee: The committee reported that a new tech support email box has been created and new student notebooks were purchased. Tom Kelleher reported that a new static IP address was set up with Embarq.

K-12 Committee: No report.

Peace Core Committee: No report

Communication Committee: No report

Facilities Committee: Dave Paulson and Jay Bacco presented an inventory of facility upgrades and repairs for consideration.

Fundraising Committee: Kerry Barnett and Nanci Dvorsky reported on the Annual Appeal.

Land Care Committee: No report.

Other Business: Melissa Browns has applied to the Trustee Application Committee for consideration in joining the Board of Trustees. She chose to be present at the public session to respond to the following questions:

What is your personal intention for wanting to be part of the Board of Trustees?

What is your confidence level in the ability of the current Board of Trustees?

What do you feel your ability is to prioritize the needs of the school over personal needs?

Kerry Barnett reported that the Leadership Team Review process for 08-09 was being completed and that a format for the 09-10 review was in process as well.

Jay Bacco is working on an RVCS Code of Ethics.

Kerry Barnett reported that she is working with Andy Marancik on organizing a Trustee retreat for January 23, 2010.

Executive Session 9:15pm for student and personal matters

Return to Public Session 11:55pm

The Trustees regretfully accept the resignation of Donna Best from the Trustee Circle for personal reasons.

Meeting Adjourned 12:00pm

Nanci Dvorsky, Board Secretary