

# Ka'ōhao Public Charter School

## Minutes of Board Meeting, May 23, 2018

### Board Members present:

Phil Whitesell, Vice President  
Ed Noh, School Director  
Oz Stender  
Espie Chapman  
Kim Hanson, Treasurer  
David Root, President - Absent  
Eun Strawser  
Judy Farnham-Pao, Secretary  
Todd Cullison  
Brian Canevari

### Community members present:

Callie Lewis, Scribe  
Celia Minor – potential board member via Skype

### 1. Call to Order and Approval of Minutes of April 25, 2018.

- Meeting was called to order at 6:40pm by Phil Whitesell.
- April Minutes were not received by the Board, so approval will be postponed to the next meeting.

### 2. Rain Garden Update: Todd Cullison

- A rain garden is a constructed depression in the ground to intercept storm water before it runs off. This imitates the action of the storm water prior to any human land improvements. The gutters from the A building were trenched into the 4' depression. The 5<sup>th</sup> graders then planted native Hawaiian plants in the area, which culminated a lesson called "Follow the Drop". Dr. Noh thanked Mr. Cullison for the huge amount of time that he devoted to this project. Dr. Whitesell explained that this is a great example of our project-based learning. The Board then walked outside to tour the new garden.

### 3. Nominating Committee Report: Eun Strawser, Chair

- Dr. Strawser moved that the Nominating Committee is recommends approval of Ms. Celia Minor and Dr. Cindy Hunter. Mr. Stender seconded and the Board approved unanimously. Dr. Whitesell announced that their 3-year terms will begin on July 1, 2018.

### 4. Director's Report: Ed Noh

- Dr. Noh discussed the cancellation of the annual 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Big Island trip. Many alternatives were discussed, but on Monday prior to the trip, an alternative trip to Kauai was planned. Parent Mr. Derek Esibill was key in planning the logistics and itinerary for our 4<sup>th</sup> graders. The group used minivans rather than a charter tour bus, which worked well for Kauai's geography and allowed for a closer relationship between the chaperones and their groups. Parent response to the new trip was very positive. Mr. Cullison asked about the cost and Dr. Noh explained that it was significantly less per student. Dr. Noh thanked all of the staff and chaperones for stepping in and making it such a great trip.
- The progress on the shade structure has slowed. The Commission is working to convince the DOE that we are exempt from the state procurement process per state law. Concurrently, we are continuing with the DOE procurement process just to cover all bases. The earliest build time is looking like Fall 2018 at this time. Ms. Chapman asked if a letter will go out to the parents explaining the progress of the project. Dr. Noh said yes.
- Central Pacific Bank representative John Hulihee has approached the school regarding switching from Bank of Hawaii. He assures it would be a smooth transition and we would see benefits from the switch, like higher interest rates on our balance and a more personal

relationship with our bank. If we decide to move forward, we will make a formal motion to the board.

**5. Finance Committee Report:** Kim Hanson, Chair

- We are budgeting for a loss of \$136K. We estimate that we will have a surplus for this year even though we budgeted for a loss of ~\$60K. Ms. Hanson explained that this is likely due to fundraising which is not budgeted and is recorded in the books when collected. Dr. Whitesell asked if the per pupil funding for this year includes bargaining unit salary increases. Ms. Lewis explained that this is unclear. The salary increases have been negotiated for almost a year, so they should know about them, but the per pupil allotment that the Commission has given us was determined in June 2017. Dr. Noh has heard from another schools' board member that a higher per pupil allotment has been announced by the Commission. The school is looking in to this. Dr. Whitesell recommended approval for submission to the Commission. Ms. Hanson moved, Ms. Pao seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

**6. New Business:**

- Dr. Whitesell read an email from Mr. Canevari about writing a letter to the C&C regarding the dangerous sidewalk on Alala Road. The Board moved to defer the issue and proposed that Mr. Canevari compose a letter for Board consideration.
- Ms. Chapman said that the school received the balance \$65K from Castle for the STEM project in the Learning Lab. The project's final report is due July 2019. The timeline revolves around shipping times for furniture and equipment. Dr. Noh clarified that the project is not so much the "stuff", but rather changing the functionality of the space.
- Ms. Chapman hosted the volunteer luncheon today. 130 people were invited, 75 RSVP'd. Staff cooked, and some food was ordered. She hopes that our volunteers felt the aloha from our school. Many went home with leftovers. Hawaiian Host donated individual chocolates for take home treats.
- Ms. Pao announced the election of the new Student Council Board. Representatives will be elected in the Fall. Dr. Noh thanked Ms. Chapman and Ms. Pao for setting up the election process.
- Ms. Chapman brought up a parent concern about the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade math curriculum. The Board directed Ms. Chapman to refer the parent to Dr. Noh with curriculum concerns.

**7. Adjournment:** Members adjourned at 7:50 PM.

**Next Meeting Scheduled for July 25, 2018, 6:30pm in the Ka'ōhāo School Library**

Submitted by Callie Lewis, Scribe

**Be it resolved that:**

- The Board approves the nomination of Celia Minor and Cindy Hunter as Board Members.
- The Board approves the submission of the proposed budget to the Commission.

In witness thereof, the undersigned members of the Board have duly executed this resolution on May 23, 2018.

*Todd Cullison, Philip Whitesell, Kim Hansen, Judy Farnham-Pao, Oz Stender, Espie Chapman, David Root, Eun Strawser, Brian Canevari.*