

JOINT SCHOOL BOARD-GOVERNANCE COUNCIL CHARTER SCHOOL CONTRACT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES April 27, 2023 – 1:00 p.m.

Waupaca High School Community Room and Live Stream

Welcome and Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chairperson Dale Feldt at 1:05 p.m.

Roll Call:

Present in the WHS Community Room: Chairperson Dale Feldt and Committee members Betty Manion, Megan Sanders, and Sandy Robinson. Additionally, Board members Ron Brooks and Lori Chesnut were present.

Excused: Committee members Steve Klismet, Autumn Beese, and Becky Lange.

Also Present:

Present in the WHS Community Room: Sandy Lucas, Mark Flaten, Laurie Schmidt, and Carrie Naparalla.

Approval of Agenda:

A motion was made by Ron Brooks and seconded by Betty Manion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.

Review of Committee Meeting Norms and Commitments:

The Committee reviewed their collective norms and commitments.

Review and Revise Draft Multi-Year Contract:

Section 3.2b:

Chairperson Feldt suggested that instead of Administrative Services being in Section 9, it should be in Section 3.2b, and it should just state that the services will be provided by SDW, but continue to list them out in Section 9. However, Mr. Flaten commented that since CEC is part of SDW, it is not necessary to list examples of work provided. So the Committee agreed that Sections 8.5 and 9.5 of the redline contract be stricken.

After some discussion, it was also agreed to change the word "more" to "different" in regards to services/support that the Charter School requires.

Section 3.3a:

Chairperson Feldt suggested using the heading from Section 3.3 of the WRCCS model contract, and then continue from page 5 of the redline contract as the description.

Discussion was had regarding offering a choice to "area" or "all" families. The Committee wanted to make it clear that anyone who wants to go to the Charter School is welcome, but using the word "all" may not be appropriate due to staffing. So the Committee decided to not use either word.

Committee member Sandy Robinson asked why PBL was being based on SDW and Wisconsin state standards. Mr. Flaten advised that the learning expectations at CEC are the same as other SDW schools, but the how and measures could be different. Committee member Megan Sanders added that the ability to go from PBL to other SDW schools and get the same education may add stress to CEC advisors. However, Mr. Feldt pointed out that when CEC students come to WHS they will need to meet SDW WHS targets. Ms. Sanders agreed that for math and literacy, CEC students should be on target, but science and social studies are so different from a legacy to a PBL target.

Much discussion then continued regarding CEC students taking the same state assessments and SDW assessments, as well as regarding the statement that learning will be "based on" SDW learning targets. CEC Principal Carrie Naparalla pointed out that learning targets prioritize what needs to be taught at each grade level, and Mr. Flaten advised that the phrase "based on" was intentionally inserted.

In response to an inquiry regarding the purpose of the last sentence, Ms. Sanders advised that it was added because parents/community members questioned whether math and reading were being taught at CEC, so they wanted to explicitly state that they were. Discussion then continued as to the placement of the last sentence as many of the Board and Committee members believed it should be stated earlier in the paragraph for more clarity. It was decided to highlight this paragraph green so the Committee could wordsmith it.

In the second paragraph of Section 3.2a, the Committee agreed to change the word "encourages" to "integrating" relating to 21st Century Skills.

Sections 3.3b and 3.3c:

Chairperson Feldt advised that Sections 3.3b and 3.3c were added and come right from the WRCCS model contract. The Committee agreed to the additions, however changing Governance "Board" to "Council".

Section 3.4 – Methods:

Chairperson Feldt suggested they use the title as indicated in Section 3.4 of the WRCCS model contract.

PBL, Teacher-Led PBL vs. Student-Led PBL:

Using the language in the redline contract, there was much discussion regarding whether to leave the word "may" in the last sentence of this section, because not all students will be at the same level.

Ms. Sanders then noted that the underlining in the redline contract was meant to highlight pieces that are meant specifically for parents rather than using bullet points.

Ms. Naparalla commented that she prefers that the word "the" not be used in front of CEC (the school should just be referenced as "CEC" not "the CEC").

Multiage:

Chairperson Feldt questioned what exactly is the meaning of multi-age and what the purpose is academically to have multi-age classrooms. Ms. Naparalla explained how CEC classrooms are set out: 4K and K are not multi-age; homerooms are mixed; grade levels 1-4 have math and ELA separate and then become multi-age in grades 5-8; each grade is multi-age for social studies and science.

Ms. Sanders advised that the purpose of multi-age is if a student is struggling or excels, they can be given an opposite role – to encourage kids to have a growth mindset, to make sure all are successful, and to push students that excel to a higher grade level.

Pursuant to Mr. Feldt's request, the first sentence was revised to include academics along with social and emotional.

Social and Emotional:

Chairperson Feldt commented that this paragraph jumps around, so as a homework assignment, he asked the Committee to wordsmith it. It was also noted that the terms "mindfulness" and "passion project" need clarification.

Ms. Sanders pointed out that the purpose of this section is mental health well-being, and that mindfulness is a calming reset before learning again.

It was noted that the bullet point above this section is not followed, but that there is SDW Student Services support provided to CEC.

Adjournment:

A motion was made by Betty Manion and seconded by Dale Feldt to adjourn the meeting at 2:29 p.m. The motion carried unanimously on a voice vote.