

James Madison Charter Academy
MINUTES of the Board of Directors
(23 March 2009)

- Call to Order** I. Mrs. McNelly, Board of Director's President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.
- Pledge to Flag** II. Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call** III. Board of Directors Members Present:
Mrs. Kathy McNelly, Mrs. Vernell Murphy, Mrs. Deborah Moses, and Mr. Larry Marcus.
- Approval of Agenda** IV. Write-in – Approve minutes from February 23, 2009
Vote – All ayes.
- Unfinished Business** V. Approval of new Board Member
- A. Nomination form from Lynn Eischens to be on board. Larry Marcus -Motion to approve Mrs. Eischens as fifth board member. Mrs. Moses - seconded motion. Vote - All ayes.
- B. Elections in May, 3 seats are up, Mrs. McNelly, Mrs. Moses and Mrs. Eischens. Mr. Marcus and Mrs. Murphy have another year.
- Committee Reports** VI.
- A. Principal's Report
Finances - House voted last Thursday to go back to 50% in Capital Construction Funds instead of 25%. No word on what the Senate is doing.
- Stimulus package – There is money for public schools K-12 and well as higher education. Over \$100 billion dollars for education in the recovery act. Colorado will receive \$893.7 million to be spent over 2 years. Money will be in the form of divided between state, district level and competitive grants. Programs such as IDEA (Special Education) and Title I will get money. The district will get money but we won't since we aren't Title I and pay for SPED to the District. This money will not sustain programs for long term. The state will receive 67% of the funds by mid April; if the state applies they will get it. Money should bring schools up to the level they were at in SY 08/09 or SY 09/10, which ever is greater. This may affect Capital Construction funding as well.
- School news – We are finished with CSAP. The 6th grade went to Cave of the Winds today. April 15th – Student orientation (all prospective families) are invited to visit the school. They are allowed in classrooms and given information on the school.

Action Alert Letter– Letter should be sent to the Governor and State Representatives about money to help charter schools. Dr. S will give copy of the letter to our parents asking them to send the letter.

B. BAAC – No report

C. Fundraising

Candle fundraiser ends March 24th. Pizza nights are on Wednesday nights, averaging \$100 – 150 per event. Theme days make an average of \$50 – 100 depending on participation. Skate City is on March 24th at 6:00 -8:00 pm, with “Hat Day” as theme. Car washes and outdoor events are also scheduled for later in year. “Barnes and Nobles Day” is at the Citadel, on April 15th from 10:00 -6:00 pm. JMCA book sale on March 27th along with “Soup night”. Garage sale is on April 4th headed by Ruth Matthew. Poker Run is well under way with participants of the cheerleading clinic doing cheers to send off the riders. “Night of the Arts” will be held in May. It will include a music concert, art fair and silent auction.

D. Public Relations

Staff distributed flyers in the community, and got an article in the Fountain Valley News with a picture of our students. Sign on building to be completed during Spring Break.

E. Financials report and approval

Report on unusual expenses for the month. Expenditure and Encumbrance Report has information on budgeted items, expenditures, year-to-date expenditures and remaining balance for the year. This month we spent \$64,613.73. Deborah Moses made a motion to approve February spending. Motion seconded by Larry Marcus.

Discussion – Mr. Marcus suggested we get rid of the Mobile Mini and put things into empty classroom to save money. Dr. S - There is a lot of stuff in the unit and the only empty classroom gets a lot of use. However, we are getting rid of some of the things at the garage sale. Mrs. Smith – Discussed getting rid of the unit, but budget constraints this year prohibited it until next year. Mrs. Moses – Can we look at getting it after the garage sale? Mrs. Smith – We need to inventory what we have. Mrs. McNelly – We can revisit it after the garage sale and see if we can get rid of the unit. Mrs. Moses – Is Lewan the copier and do we always spend the same amount? Mrs. Smith – We are charged by the amount of copies we make and it varies monthly. We made a lot of copies for CSAP, usually more copies at the beginning and end of year.

This price includes maintenance and toner for the copier. Vote to approve expenditures \$64,613.73. All ayes.

New business

VII.

A. Budget affairs

Mr. Marcus – We are looking at cutting another \$20,000 depending on what the state does. We are hearing good news about getting capital construction and PPR monies back. Mrs. McNelly – The district is pleased with our progress. We are not ready to make any additional cuts until we hear from the state.

NOTE: Recording cut off after these comments; the remainder of the meeting is derived from notes.

Election – Mrs. Smith will get the nomination forms out after Spring Break with voting to be held on May 14, 2009.

B. Opportunity for the Public to be Heard

Don Staton asked where the JMCA signs are that were on the fence. Dr. S – They were removed because of the wind.

Next Board Meeting VIII. Monday, April 27, 2009 at 7:00 PM

Adjournment IX. Meeting adjourned at 7:43 PM.