

**James Madison Charter Academy**  
**MINUTES of the Board of Directors**  
**Special Meeting**  
**(22 May 2008)**

- Call to Order** Mrs. McNelly, Board of Director's President, called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM.
- Pledge to Flag** Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll Call** Board of Directors Members Present:  
Mr. Donald Staton, Mrs. Vernell Murphy, Mr. Lawrence Marcus and Mrs. Kathy McNelly. Mrs. Lucy Stewart absent  
Dr. Anne Shearer-Shineman, Mrs. Donna Smith
- Recurrent Business** None
- Opportunity for the Public to be Heard** None
- Recommended Actions**
- A. Act on Renewal of Contract of DR Anne Shearer-Shineman (Dr. S) for 2008-2009 school year.  
Motion made by Mr. Staton, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mrs. Murphy  
Discussion:  
Mrs. McNelly – The BOD used the teacher surveys/comment, parent comments, and the district evaluation.  
Mr. Marcus – In order to help out DR S, the board is going to re-look the contract and the Principal duties, to focus and help set achievable goals.  
Vote: All aye
- B. Act on Contracts for School Success.  
Motion to table the item in order to review and evaluate what language the board will place into the policy made by Mr. Marcus. 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr. Staton  
Discussion:  
Mrs. McNelly, BOD needs a copy of the Contract for Success  
Dr. S, “The policy should put some teeth” into the Contract in order to be able to non-renew students for failure to comply with the contract. Recommends that the board review the technology statement for a sample of the language that may be used.  
Vote: All aye
- C. Non Agenda Item: Act on 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade combined or separate classes  
Motion made by Mr. Marcus to combine the 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade classes for the 2008-2009 school year. Mrs. Murphy 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
Discussion  
DR S. Worried about amount of students going to be available for 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade. Mrs. Smith called to verify, and will have max 13 students, realistically 10. If we dispense with 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade, we would also lose 7 siblings, which makes it not cost-effective to not have the 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade. Curriculum would be 8<sup>th</sup> grade, math at grade level, and then next year do 7<sup>th</sup> grade curriculum.  
Mrs. McNelly – what about teacher qualifications for the grades  
Dr. S – 7<sup>th</sup> Grade can be taught by elementary certified teacher, 8<sup>th</sup> grade should be taught by Specialized subject teachers. JMCA does not have anyone certified at secondary level

in subjects, but JMCA can get by for a year with what we have, before the district/state catches up with us.

Mr. Marcus – If we do that, will we break the law/rules?

Dr. S – Since we are a Charter school, we do not need to have secondary certified, however we are trying to follow district/state guidelines as to teacher certifications.

Mr. Marcus – Based on pure numbers and teacher qualifications, do you recommend that we combine the classes.

Dr. S – Yes. Right now we do have to add some staff (teachers), so we will be looking for people that have that certification. We can do the combined classes if we do some schedule shifting, and use teachers that have minors in subjects needed.

Mrs. McNelly – What more education do teachers need to get certified? How much more college/certifications?

Dr. S – Some teachers are almost there, so they do not need much – less than 24 hours mostly.

Vote: All aye

**Next Board Meeting** Tuesday, June 24th at 7:00 PM – Board work session will be at 6:00 pm.

**Adjournment** Meeting adjourned at 7:27 PM.

**Meeting re-open** Meeting re-opened at 7:29

D. Non agenda item. Mrs. Moses letter to the board.

Mrs. Moses wrote a letter to the board expressing concern over the BOD election. She asked about how many parents voted, the sign in sheet, who counted the votes, when and where the votes were counted.

# parents voted: 29

The board acknowledged that there was no sign in roster, but has worked to fix that for the future.

Donna Smith (school administrator) and Mrs. Lorraine Walter (WD3 representative) counted the votes on Friday morning, 8:00 in the school admin office

**Adjournment** Meeting adjourned at 7:36 pm