

OKLAHOMA VIRTUAL CHARTER ACADEMY Special Board Meeting
October 16, 2015 12:00 pm
Location: Oklahoma Public Resource Center
309 NW 13th St #103
Oklahoma City, OK 73103

Meeting called to order at 12:10pm.

I. Roll Call

Members: Kristi Gifford, Board President; Lisa Lange, Treasurer; Pat Jordan, Secretary
Others: Sheryl Tatum, Head of School; Bill Hickman, Board Legal Counsel; Steve Huff, Board Consultant; Rebecca Wilkinson, SVCSB Director; Courtney Love, Minutes Clerk

II. Call to the public

None

III. Business

a. Discussion of contract for reauthorization with the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board

Discussion: The meeting was on Tuesday. The board was allowed to speak for three minutes each during the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board meeting. There were three big issues with the contract:

- **Testing –** OVCA Board would like to change the verbiage of the contract to state that the school will make every possible effort to have 95% participation, but the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board wants 95% participation to be a requirement. If that language remains in the contract, they would be in violation of the contract and puts the school at risk for issues with the authorizer if OVCA ever has participation rates under 95%.
- **Employment –** The contract states that OVCA would be required to report contractors, including marketing, HR, and other support contract services provided by K12. OVCA requested that their contract be changed to remove the broad language regarding personnel, but the request was rejected. OVCA doesn't have any program reporting any school personnel that directly impacts the school, but the language is so broad that it is difficult to determine where to draw the line on who should be reported to the Statewide Virtual Charter School Board.
- **Teacher Assignments –** After discussion, the Statewide Virtual School Board ultimately decided on a ratio of 45:1 for K-8 and 180:1 for 9th through 12th grade. Sheryl Tatum explained that finance is reviewing possible scenarios and will have a clearer picture of what changes would need to be made in order to meet the ratios in the contract. One option is to cut Family Support Specialists and hire additional teachers. Another options is to look at cutting out Internet Stipend reimbursement and providing computers for Economically Disadvantaged students in order to afford the staffing that is required by contract. These support changes will affect the model that is outlined in the contract, as well as affect the contract with the K12 Services Contract.
- Pat Jordan asked what happens now that the contract has been presented without the option of any further negotiation. Bill Hickman explained that other than the day at the Board Meeting, there was never any other discussions or explanations about the contract. Bill Hickman asked Steve Huff if he was aware of any other charter schools that have student/teacher ratios in their contract. Steve Huff said that he was not aware of any other Charter school that have student/teacher ratios.

b. Executive Session:

- i. Discussion and possible action to convene into executive session for the purpose of engaging in confidential communications with legal counsel pursuant to 25 O.S. §**

307.B.4 concerning a pending investigation, claim, or action if the public body, with the advice of its attorney, determines that disclosure will seriously impair the ability of the public body to process the claim or conduct a pending investigation, litigation, or proceeding in the public interest.

Action: Kristi Gifford moved to go into Executive Session with Bill Hickman, Sheryl Tatum, Head of School, and the Board Members. Pat Jordan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- ii. **Board acknowledges return to open session; and**
- iii. **Executive session minutes compliance statement.**
The board did not take any action in executive session.

- c. **Consideration and possible action to authorize legal counsel, Board Chair, and Head of School to proceed with pending investigation, claim, and/or action.**

Action: Lisa Lange moved to authorize Legal Counsel to move forward with pending investigation, claim, and/or action. Pat Jordan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

- d. **Public Participation**

None

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:29pm

Kristi Gifford, Pres
Courtney Row