**May 8, 2014, 6:00 PM**

**5328 Brann Street, Oakland, CA 94619**

**Conference line:** (559) 546-1000, 864506#

**Minutes from the Special Meeting of the Urban Montessori Charter School**

**Attendance:** Falilah Bilal, David Castillo, Tony Emerson, Daishi Harada, Peter Laub, Dr. Nancy McAfee Flemming, Hae Sin Kim Thomas (arrived at 6:44), Randy Weiner.

**Guests:** Jill Stansbury, Dana Hull

6:05 – Mr. Laub performed roll call.

6:08 – Public Comment

There was no public comment.

6:09 – Approval of Transitional Assessment & Accountability Plan

Ms. Stansbury reported that the writ scores were confusing. She revised that to say “cohort growth” and revised the timeline to the spring. She revised the schoolwide improvement goal rubrics. The plan is now more specific about how students are expected to score on the rubrics.

Mr. Harada asked a couple questions about ELL growth – he noted what appeared to be a cut and paste error, which Ms. Stansbury concurred with. Mr. Harada also thought the notion of baseline and growth was a little ambiguous. Mr. Harada suggested adding “annualized growth” to the plan so it is clear what the revised baseline would be.

He also noted that the 14-15 baseline included a world language growth target, and he wondered if that made sense since the school is not currently offering world language. Other board members concurred.

Mr. Emerson asked in that context if the arts curriculum and technology curriculum might be in the same category. Ms. Stansbury indicated that the arts and technology is much farther along at the school and plans are in place for continued growth there.

Mr. Harada noted that it ELA and Math were the only subjects where we were taking multiple assessments during the year, and therefore the only subjects where we could objectively demonstrate growth. He suggested that we only show baseline levels for arts and technology, which will give the school time to develop the measurable and repeatable rubric.

Mr. Weiner questioned whether the arts could be pushed off another year given that they were central to our charter. Would it cause issues at renewal if we don’t have measurable growth in the arts.

Mr. Castillo added that the school needed to carefully balance what it said in the charter and what it measures.

Ms. Stansbury indicated that the county was encouraging the school to simplify the goals and assessments.

Mr. Castillo and Mr. Harada clarified that foreign language was not being removed from the long term goals, but it would just be phased in later.

Ms. Thomas added that she thinks we haven’t fully articulated what some pieces of the program, such as design thinking, look like at full implementation.

Ms. Stansbury shared that the plan was put before the staff this past week, and shared that some of the teachers felt overwhelmed by the idea of offering world languages next year, and others were not as worried about it.

Mr. Harada questioned whether we should be going deep on a few categories or broad on a lot of categories.

Ms. Thomas added that we should have two years of data demonstrating growth before renewal. She felt that we cannot have a baseline year next year because we need to show growth next year. She suggested that for everything in the transitional assessment plan should show growth.

Ms. Stansbury added that Ms. Greely suggested adding world languages and design thinking to our rubric.

Mr. Harada made a motion to approve the Transitional Plan with the correction of the cut-and-paste error, the change of “annualized growth” language referenced above, and the removal of the benchmarks for world language.

Vote:

Ms. Bilal – yes

Mr. Castillo – yes

Mr. Emerson – yes

Mr. Harada – yes

Dr. McAfee – yes

Mr. Laub – yes

Ms. Thomas – yes

Ms. Weiner – yes

7:52 – Discussion of 2014-15 Budgetary Process

Ms. Stansbury reviewed student data and the priorities as outlined in her report.

Ms. Stansbury shared her analysis of the data as well, noting there needed to be more emphasis on serving students requiring Tier II intervention.

Ms. Thomas shared that the Finance Committee was working with Ms. Stansbury on the budget priorities, but it was an iterative process because data supporting the needs was still coming in. Plans around interventions, administrative staffing, and SPED were evolving.

8:14 – Closed Session – Public Employee Performance Evaluation – Head of School

8:28 – Closed Session adjourned. No reportable action.

8:29 – Meeting Adjourned.