

**APPROVED MEETING MINUTES  
PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2012  
650 W. STATE STREET, BOISE, IDAHO  
THIRD FLOOR, ASSAY CONFERENCE ROOM**

A special meeting of the Idaho Public Charter School Commission (PCSC) was held Friday, October 19, 2012, at 650 W. State Street, Boise, ID, Room 150. Chairman Alan Reed presided via telephone.

The following members attended via telephone:

Brad Corkill	Nick Hallett	Gayle O'Donahue
Brian Scigliano	Esther Van Wart	

Absent: Wanda Quinn

PCSC Director Tamara Baysinger was present at the meeting location.

Chairman Reed called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

**1. Chief Tahgee Elementary Academy New Charter Petition (CTEA) – 2<sup>nd</sup> Hearing**

Nancy Eschief Murillo, Board Chairman; Cyd Crue and Joel Weaver, Authorized Representatives; Sherice Gould, Board Treasurer; Velda Racehorse, ex-officio Board Member represented CTEA.

The petitioners said they addressed the concerns raised at the September 20 meeting regarding: Board of Trustees/Directors; voter eligibility; amount budgeted for professional development; MOU with ISU; and attendance requirements.

Mr. Scigliano said he is concerned about the school's ability to find and retain enough qualified teachers in the Shoshone-Bannock language and culture.

Ms. Crue indicated that there are many individuals fluent in Shoshone, some of whom are interested in teacher certification. Additionally, the school will be recruiting teachers from other reservations and tribes. When the school is at full immersion, in 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grades, they expect to only need a total of five teachers.

Commissioner Hallett expressed concerns that the current MSES in the charter may not be attainable and realistic.

Ms. Crue said the projections and standards are based on other native language immersion schools with similar populations. She believes the standards set are attainable.

Commissioner Hallett cautioned that a principal in a language immersion school cannot be using their time on fiscal aspects, but must focus on the instructional side. A good business manager will be important.

Commissioner Hallett recommended that the school better define “stakeholder” for purposes of the bylaws. He also said the board chairman’s duties should be edited to clarify that the chair will not vote in cases of conflict of interest. He noted that these issues are not significant enough to hold up approval, but they should be addressed.

The petitioners agreed to make these changes.

Commissioner Corkill emphasized that charter schools are held under more scrutiny than traditional public schools. He reminded CTEA that the school will be held to a high academic standard.

Chairman Reed is concerned that, with the limited time spent on English, the students will not become fluent readers and writers in English.

Ms. Crue said there has been much research in other full language immersion programs. CTEA’s goal is to have students’ performance improve over its current levels.

Commissioner O’Donahue cautioned the school to be sure background checks are completed on all volunteers for the safety of students.

**M/S (Hallett/O’Donahue): To approve the petition for Chief Tahgee Elementary Academy. *The motion passed unanimously.***

**M/S (Corkill/Scigliano): To adjourn the meeting. *The motion passed unanimously.***

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 a.m.