

**APPROVED MEETING MINUTES
PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL COMMISSION MEETING
THURSDAY, JULY 8, 2010
700 W. STATE STREET, BOISE, IDAHO
JRW WEST CONFERENCE ROOM**

A special meeting of the Idaho Public Charter School Commission was held Thursday, July 8, 2010, at 700 W. State Street, Boise, ID, JRW West Conference Room. Chairman William Goesling presided.

The following members were in attendance:

Brad Corkill (via telephone at 9:20 am)	Gayann DeMordaunt (via telephone)
Nick Hallett (via telephone at 9:25 am)	Gayle O'Donahue
Alan Reed (via telephone)	Esther Van Wart (via telephone)

Chairman Goesling (via telephone) opened the meeting at 9:10 a.m.

1. STEM Academy Introduction Webinar

Russ Mickelson provided an overview of STEM Academy.

2. Compass Public Charter School (Compass) Fiscal Status Update

Bridget Barrus, Board Chair; Chris Yorgason, Counsel; Gary Luke, Special Counsel; Kelly Trudeau, Administrator; DeAnn Simmons, Board Treasurer; Dini Moorhouse, Board Secretary; and Doug McCarter, Board Member; represented Compass.

Ms. Barrus indicated that the school has taken steps to cure the defect with regard to fiscal instability, including lease negotiations with the landlord, restructuring the middle school program, reducing staff, reducing salaries by 5%, doubling a 4th grade class, and freezing discretionary spending. On Tuesday, July 5, 2010, the final facility purchase agreement was signed.

Commissioner Reed asked how a reduction of teachers was combined with additional classrooms.

Ms. Barrus said the restructuring of the middle school program reduced staff by two teachers. One of those teachers was reassigned for a total reduction of one teacher.

Commissioner Reed asked when the closing date was for the bond.

Ms. Barrus said September 30th is the closing date for the purchase and bond. A conference call was held yesterday with R.W. Baird and they indicated that closing is on schedule.

Commissioner O'Donahue noted that, despite increased enrollment, there appears to be a decrease in special education budgets.

Ms. Trudeau indicated there was no reduction in special education budgets from FY 2009/2010 to FY 2010/2011. In fact, there are additional ARRA funds included and

Compass may apply for Title I funds. A part-time speech therapist was hired at a cost of \$30/hour, versus contracting at \$80/hour, resulting in the apparent reduction.

Commissioner O'Donahue noted that transportation listed revenue as \$120,000 and purchased services listed as \$160,000. She inquired whether the difference is based on reimbursements.

Ms. Barrus said that is correct, and the figure also reflects a 10% cut for the coming year.

Commissioner DeMordaunt said she would prefer to receive CAP updates until closing is completed.

Ms. Barrus indicated that not lifting the NOD would jeopardize the school's ability to close on its bond.

M/S (DeMordaunt/O'Donahue): To remove the notice of defect from Compass Public Charter School regarding failure to demonstrate fiscal soundness as defined in I.C. 33-5209(2)(d).

Commissioner Reed said budgets are in line and, with close monitoring, Compass appears to be fiscally stable.

The motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Goesling opened discussion on the proposed charter amendments.

Ms. Barrus summarized proposed charter amendments including inclusion of transportation, addition of a lunch program due to construction of a commercial kitchen, and various operational changes.

M/S (O'Donahue/Reed): To approve the proposed charter amendments as submitted by Compass Public Charter School. *The motion passed unanimously.*

Ms. Baysinger indicated the amended charter now states the school may increase class sizes and double some grade levels. These enrollment increases must be approved by the charter authorizer and the Compass board of directors. She inquired by what process the PCSC wished to approve such increases.

Commissioner DeMordaunt said stakeholders should have a voice in the changing of charters.

Chairman Goesling clarified that all information regarding requests for changes in enrollment, once approved by Compass' board of directors, should be submitted to PCSC staff. PCSC staff will determine whether or not the requested changes are significant, at which time changes would require PCSC approval.

Chairman Goesling adjourned the meeting.