

**Lanikai Elementary Public Charter School
Board of Director's Meeting
Lanikai School Library, 6:30pm
Wednesday, June 18, 2008**

Minutes

Board Members Present

Zachary Stankovits
Louis Saint-Cyr
Phil Whitesell
David Saucedo
Paul Vierling
Darraghlynn Lee

Board Members Absent

Roni Willkie

Community Members Present

Kim Simunovich
Laurie Ahlgren
Don King
Julianne King
Beau King
Kathleen Thomas
CJ Bhear
Ruby Edwards
Fred Birkett
Mari Ligsay

- 1. Call to Order** 6:44 p.m.
- 2. Community Input**

The Kings expressed their thanks to the board for their service. They referred to an email that accused board members of a conflict of interest and wanted to clarify and share their perspective of history on the situation. The SPED department had a classroom taken away and the trailer was part of the solution to providing SPED with needed space. There was nothing that took place about the trailer behind closed doors. The Kings expressed their desire for the FSC class to have a space that can serve the students and community through reverse inclusion. They request all to work together respectfully.

Zachary Stankovits shared his written statement regarding the accusatory email referred to by the King family. It reads:

“A statement that I made on June 4th was misunderstood by a parent. This became evident in an email I received from her on the 5th where she mistakenly misquoted me – and to which I promptly sent clarification.

The intonation of the misquote is that Kathleen Thomas used her position as a BOD member to place fulfilling her own child's educational needs above the needs of others. This is not true and a simple review of the minutes clearly documents Mrs. Thomas' selfless service to LEPCS.

I am sure this was not the intent of the parent and I am sure that she would never support such action, but the body of her email has been posted on the anonymous blog that consistently propagates grossly inaccurate and divisive statements.

For the record, Kathleen Thomas joined the Lanikai BOD in August of 2006. She used her experience and expertise to further the cause of all the children of Lanikai. She faithfully served as a trusted partner and fellow member. She maintained confidentiality, practiced equity in attitude, was trustworthy in stewardship, behaved honorably, had integrity of character and was fully committed to the service of Lanikai PCS. In short, she successfully executed the code of ethics all BOD members are required to uphold in order to maintain their position of service.

It has been my distinct pleasure to serve with her.”

Past Principal Fred Birkett added some insight to the history of the trailer purchase. He explained that Lanikai Elementary PCS was scheduled for renovations in Fall 2007. The renovations were supposed to impact four classrooms at one time. The school was already using all classrooms and spaces and there was concern about where students would be relocated during renovations. The trailer was intended to meet the anticipated emergency space needs caused by renovations.

3. Student Governance – No Report

4. Approval of Minutes from May 14, 2008 Meeting

Louis Saint-Cyr moved to approve the minutes, Zachary Stankovits seconded.

Unanimously approved.

5. Comments from Board Chairman

The board has a vacancy for Vice President, Paul Vierling was unanimously elected to fill the vacancy.

6. Principal Report

I have now completed a full year of service at Lanikai Elementary. Lanikai is a dynamic school environment that has many different people with different backgrounds working, as employees and as volunteers, for the school. During my first few weeks at Lanikai I was

approached by many people who felt the need to tell me about how “things work at the school.” Many different views of Lanikai were shared with me at that time.

Over the year I have confirmed that Lanikai is a special place. However it is often plagued with slanderous rumors that develop mistrust and focus energy on goals that are not in the best interest of the school as a whole. People are not working together toward a unified goal. In order to help lead the school toward unified goals I would like to ask for the Board’s support in directly addressing misinformation, focusing on the global picture and developing a consensus and understanding about “how things work at Lanikai.” With your support I will do everything to ensure our families and mostly our children are safe, nurtured and empowered to learn.

- New staff hired:
 - Katie Morton – Kindergarten
 - Morgan Purtell – 2nd Grade
 - Meghan Arban – 3rd Grade
 - Ann Pederson – PCNC
- Early Childhood Program Update
 - The screening process will be three days.
 - Mrs. Van Gorder is completing her national board certification this summer. She will be teaching junior kindergarten.
 - Ms. Ramos will be teaching kindergarten.

- Finances

I am happy to report even with budget shortfalls stakeholders have a sincere desire to find creative solutions to further children’s progress without jeopardizing programs such as art and music. We will need to continue to find ways to supplement the budget either by donations, grants or both.

- Staffing

During the May grade level chair meeting it was determined that it was a priority to have 2 adults in the JK through 1st grades with an approximate 12:1 student to teacher ratio. It was also determined that grades 2 through 6 still need support. We will find creative ways to share the resources.

As determined by the board; Product, People, and Place are the cores of the school. I want to ensure our commitment to focus on the quality of support for upper level students. Most of our students transfer to private schools and many who attend KIS are accepted into the GT program.

- Enrollment
 - 317 students enrolled for the 2008/09 school year.
 - 60 students are on the waiting list – we could potentially open a 3rd Kindergarten class.

7. Standing Committee Reports

a. Health & Safety Committee

b. Enrollment Committee

Question: What is the basis for determining maximum enrollment? Is it fire code, maximum capacity of bodies or some other reasoning? This needs to be explored to clarify reasoning behind related enrollment decisions.

c. Policy Committee – submitted by Phil Whitesell, acting Chair

The Policy Committee has completed its draft of the Administrative Enrollment Guidelines and Procedures and forwarded it to the Enrollment Committee for its review. The two committees will write a final draft for administrative review.

d. Strategic Planning Committee – submitted by CJ Bhear

The Strategic Planning Committee has prepared a document outlining the scope of work for hiring a strategic planning consultant to work with Lanikai in developing a strategic plan over the next 4 to 5 months. The document is inclusive and includes stakeholder interviews. Although this is costly the committee believes that having an outsider involved is essential. The committee requests that the board review the document over the next week.

e. Facilities Committee – submitted by David Saucedo

- Wheelchair Ramp – to the administration building for health room access, July 08 installation. DOE is paying for the installation from the repair and maintenance funds; \$17,000.
- Servco is volunteering to help beautify our campus this summer through landscaping and light painting. Mahalo to Servco!

- DOE will be installing ceiling fans in the entire A Building during September and October.
- Portable Classroom – at this time continuing with the purchase of the portable classroom is not a viable option. Hawaiian Modular has agreed to take back and sell the portable. Mr. Saucedo recommends that we accept HMs offer allowing us to return and sell the portable until we can afford to accommodate it in the future.

f. Finance Committee – submitted by Louis Saint-Cyr, Treasurer

The finance committee is putting together a draft proposal budget based on stakeholder feedback. The committee plans to present the proposed budget to the community before presenting it at the next BOD meeting. Some information to note about end of the year funds.

- We are allowed 10% of our yearly budget as carry over for the following year. This is money needed to cover expenses at the beginning of the school year.
- An additional \$200,000 that is carried over is actually allocated for benefits – we do not actually touch the money.

At this time we are planning to have approximately \$394,000 at the beginning of next year. This is \$80,000 short of the cap that we could carry over for the year. In the future we should be seeking to maximize this amount.

The finance committee will also be consulting with the Charter Schools Chief Financial Officer in order to determine the appropriate amount of public budget disclosure through the year.

- A target student count of 325 would solidify the school's financial situation. This would mean adding an additional 8 students to our current count.

g. Technology Committee – no report

- Cynthia Fong is requesting \$10,000 funding in order to maintain the mobile computer labs.
- It was noted that the board should consider starting a new committee. The current technology committee already exists and focuses more on internal technology education, curriculum and network related issues. The second committee would be more focused on communication issues. This will be further explored.

8. Adjournment 8:05 p.m. – Paul Vierling moved the meeting be adjourned, David Saucedo seconded. Unanimously passed.