

Our board operates on a consensus basis in all matters, employing the group process methodology of Formal Consensus. We do so because we believe that equality of contribution to decisions greatly increases our ability to find the best and most creative outcomes aligned with our mission, vision and values. We also believe it imperative to engage the most committed form of democracy possible to model our core value of Mutual Respect for our students and community.

In our deliberations, we recognize and remember that all participants in the process always share responsibility for the quality of our experience. Participants place ultimate reliance on the founding ideas of our school—its vision, mission, and values- rather than any personal agenda. The group’s highest intention is to guide the school toward the most profound and creative realizations of those ideas.

Mission

The Seven Generations Charter School is an academically rich educational community creating generations of stewards who embrace our world and each other. All members of the Seven Generations Charter School community are committed to a public education alternative that promotes sustainability and citizenship with an interdisciplinary, individualized, project based curriculum.

Vision

To each Seven Generations student, we pledge:

- An experiential, constructivist approach to education that encourages hands-on learning in the community as well as in the classroom
- A culturally rich atmosphere that celebrates the expansive world around us
- An environment of academic excellence that taps into the creativity and uniqueness of each child and that fosters mutual respect
- An integrated learning experience that emphasizes sustainable living practices.

Core Values

Creativity; Hands-on; Academic Excellence; Cultural Richness; Integrated; Sustainable; Mutual Respect

Business Meeting Agenda

55 min. 6:00 – 6:55

3/8/2016

The working meeting is open to the public with the exception of items labeled “Executive Session.” No decisions are made in the working meeting; all decisions are made in the business meeting.



Business Meeting Agenda

150 min. 7:00 – 9:30

	Purpose of agenda item	Agenda item	Presenter	Min.	Time
1	Assign roles	Process: Facilitator, timekeeper, note taker		5	6:00 PM
2	Discussion	Executive Session - Real Property	Board	20	6:05 PM
3	Discussion	General	All	30	6:25 PM
4				0	6:55 PM
5	Adjourn	Please remain aware of the time. Plan to Start Business Meeting on time.			6:55 PM

3/8/2016

	Purpose of agenda item	Agenda item	Presenter	Min.	Time
1	Assign roles	<p>Introduction to Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agenda review (facilitator can allow time for silent reading, then request any changes, then call for consensus on the agenda) • Reading of Mission and Vision –or, if time is short, just the Core Values <p>Reading – from Conflict and Consensus</p> <p>Formal Consensus Reading/Review (5 min) – Andy Rowan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At each meeting there should be a facilitator, time keeper and note taker. We also need to ensure the agenda is planned in advance and appropriate time is given to topics. When an item is brought to proposal and discussion arises a scribe should record concerns on large paper so all in attendance can see the notes. • Goal of formal consensus is to find the best solution for the school and the students and all voices have the opportunity to be heard. • With formal consensus we should always assume good will <p>Check in – give everyone in the room a chance to speak if possible</p> <p>Call to order/Roll call: Brian Anthony, Lori Friebolin, Courtney Kennedy, Ben Loomis, Stephen Peters, Al Russell, Christopher Sten</p> <p>Approval of Minutes from previous month (February 23rd, 2016) Approved by Consensus (Christopher Sten stood aside)</p>	Facilitator & others	20	7:00 PM 7:07 PM
2	Discussion	<p>Public Comment (<i>Facilitator: first give time to any issue on the agenda, then open to comments not specifically about agenda</i>)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern expressed about the accountability and oversight of the administration. Request for the BOT to speak directly to the staff and administrations about the daily operations of the school. Response - <i>There is a standing time for all staff members to speak to the BOT at the business meeting, this time will continue to be offered to the staff. Any staff with a grievance is provide the opportunity via the grievant policy to meet with the grievance representative of the BOT.</i> 	Anyone	15	7:20 PM
3	Proposal	<p>The Board of Trustees approves the following hire(s): Lisa Bowland Per Diem Substitute Teacher \$100.00/day All clearances have been received, Approved by Consensus</p>	Andy Rowan	5	7:35 PM
4	Report	<p>EIC report – Units in progress K – is working with a local shelter to help the homeless 1st grade – rescued a injured turtle 2nd grade - safety 3rd grade – Space 4th grade – Energy 5th grade- Starting with myself how do I impact the systems around me?</p>			

		<p>6th grade – water sheds, is looking to work with local government agencies to name the creek behind the school as it is currently unnamed.</p> <p>7th grade - Agriculture</p> <p>8th grade – Sustainability and Society</p> <p>Throughout the school we also have peer tutors in place with 4th/5th graders tutoring K-3 students.</p> <p>Elementary Student government had Dr. Seuss activities</p> <p>MS Student government is having a costume party for St. Patrick's Day.</p> <p>PSSA testing windows</p> <p>ELA April 11-15</p> <p>Math 18 – 22</p> <p>Science April 25 – 29</p> <p>Algebra 1 Keystone May 15 – 26</p> <p>Assessments will be administered 1 a day.</p> <p>Information will be send home to families prior to testing.</p>			
	Report	<p>Principals Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Attended Educator Job Fairs in an effort to build our substitute list • Interview for Reading Specialist are continuing 			
5	Presentation	<p>Admin Team Report - KAPCS Conference (Keystone Alliance for Public Charter Schools)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sessions attended on Board Governance, Budget/Finance, Special Education, and Political Action. Document was shared with the Board on roles of Board and Administration. • All charter schools needs to be politically active to ensure our futures. We need to involve all members of the community 	Paul, Jen, Lee & AI	25	7:40 PM
6	Discussion	<p>2016 - 2017 Calendar - Community Input Request</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff discussed the 2016-2017 calendar at the faculty meeting • Calendar must cover the required number of instructional hours for the elementary and secondary level. • Community input is requested. A dedicated email will be set up to receive feedback at the calendar. • 2016-2017 calendar will be presented at the April BOT meeting. 	Paul Hunter	20	8:00 PM

7	Presentation Proposal	<u>Board Committee(s)</u> Finance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bill list (Proposal to approve, 5 min) Approved by Consensus • Financial reports (5 min report) Governance and Policy The Board of Trustees approves the following amendment to our Bylaws - To add the following sentences at the end of Article IV, Section 12 of the bylaws (Tenure): "At the end of a board member's three year term, they may request an extension of their term. a 6 month extension, a 1 year extension, or they may consent to be reelected to another three year term. The member can only request one 6 month or 1 year extension. Any extension must be approved by the board." Clarifying Question – do changes in bylaws impact the charter? No Why the finite term limits? It would be better to let a BOT member extend their term based on their requested time. Approved by Consensus	Lee Merendino Al Russell	20	8:20 PM
8	Presentation	<u>School Committees</u> Development Food and Wellness Library Property and Facilities - Courtney Kennedy Seven Gen Lends Technology	N/A	0	
9	Presentation	<u>Staff-led Committees</u> Social Emotional & Academic Culture Committee EIC Sunshine Committee (Staff) Sunshine Committee (Student)	N/A	0	
10	Presentation	<u>Community Committee</u> Community Circle	N/A	0	
11	Proposal	The Board of Trustees approves Courtney Kennedy's request for a 6 month extension of her term as a Board Member. Approved by Consensus	Courtney Kennedy	5	8:40 PM
12	Discussion	Time allotted for last-minute additions and/or extensions		5	8:45 PM
13	Discussion	Public Comments (on any item relating to the school) Question <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MS Student government – parents have not yet been notified if these events. Better communication of all school events to all parents. • Will there be the possibility of a teleconference for the MS meeting on Thursday? • How is student government representative selected? Response – Elementary Student Government – 1-2 per classroom, some representatives were teacher selected, some were peer selected. Middle school – 2 	Anyone	5	8:55 PM

		<p>representative from each advisory. This group plans short term and long term events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parent concern about bullying incidents in the middle school. <i>The BOT is evaluating the MS curriculum, safety issues and daily operations of the school. Please attend the MS meeting on Thursday March 10 for a discussion. Possibility of a bystander program can be developed with the MS counselor. We encourage families to be involved. MS parents are requesting more information from the MS staff on how they can support the school. Mr. Hunter will speak to the MS staff tomorrow about this.</i> 			
14	All present have opportunity to	Evaluation of meeting General questions to keep in mind; but any evaluative comment is	Anyone	5	9:00 PM
15	Adjourn	Thank you for your time and participation in the Seven Gen. community!			9:05 PM