



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

5/10/2016

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.

	Purpose of agenda item	Agenda item	Presenter	Min.	Time
1	Assign roles	Process: Facilitator, Timekeeper, Note taker		5	6:00 PM
2		Open Door - any staff member can come to speak to the board about concerns	Anyone	10	6:05 PM
3	Discussion	Executive Session – Litigation	BoT / Admin	40	6:15 PM
4	Discussion	Discipline Data – how would we like this shared in the future? Ethnicity? Grade level, location, type of infraction. MTSS behavior team meets to look at behavioral data to determine systemic challenges and what can be done to benefit the school.			



Business Meeting Agenda
170 min. 7:00 – 10:00
5/10/2016



	Purpose of agenda item	Agenda item	Time		
1	Assign roles	Introduction to Meeting • 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 Value • Reading • Formal Consensus Reading/Review (5 min) • Check in – give everyone in the room a chance to speak if possible • Call to order/Roll call: Brian Anthony, Lori Friebolin, Courtney Kennedy, Ben Loomis, Stephen Peters, Al Russell, Christopher Sten Approval of Minutes from previous month (April 12, 2016) Approved by Consensus	Facilitator & others	20	7:00 PM
2	Discussion	Public Comment (<i>Facilitator: first give time to any issue on the agenda, then open to comments not specifically about agenda</i>) No comments	Anyone	15	7:20 PM
3	Proposal	The Board of Trustees approves the following hire(s): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brian Christensen as Per Diem Substitute at a rate of \$100 per day • Bethany Hoover as Per Diem Substitute at a rate of \$100 per day 	Andy Rowan	5	7:35 PM
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liz Donham, 5th Grade Long-Term Substitute Teacher, prorated annual salary of \$30,000 • All necessary pre-hire documentation have been accepted for these hires. Approved by Consensus			
4	Proposal	The Board of Trustees approves to renew the contract for the school's website. Proposal tabled - Contract with a new service provider is being reviewed by finance committee and will be reviewed at the June BOT meeting.	Paul Hunter	5	7:40 PM

5	Presentation	<p>EIC Director's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PSSA are completed, Keystone exam for Algebra i will be given to select group of 8th graders • Title I monitoring will be held later this month • May 25th – Mad Science will be at school for a parent night • Gallery Walk - May 18th 6:00 – 7:30 • 5th Grade Graduation June 8th • 6th, 7th and 8th grade graduation - June 9th – this will take place at Emmaus community Park Amphitheater • SEER evaluation will be happening • Tomorrow is the 7th anniversary of Seven Gen's charter approval. Students will have a spirit day to celebrate. 	Jen Hersh	20	7:45 PM
6	Presentation	<p>Principal's Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EPSD Board Meeting Update from 5/9 <p>Mr. Hunter presented information on the proposal to suspend enrollment for our Middle School to the EPSD Board. This was the same information shared at community meetings in March to the EPSD board. The EPSD will vote on the proposal at their next meeting on May 23rd.</p>	Paul Hunter	20	8:05 PM
7	Proposal	<p>The Board of Trustees approves the following recommendations of the Ad Hoc Strategic Enrollment Committee:</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Suspend enrollment in grades 4th and 5th for the 2016-2017 school year. Approved by Consensus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Give the authority to the Administration Team to make a determination on the number of classrooms in each grade level as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kindergarten to not exceed 5 classes- class size maximum of 18 students • 1st grade to not exceed 4 classes – class size maximum of 18 students • 2nd grade to not exceed 4 classes – class size maximum of 18 students. • 3rd grade to not exceed 3 classes – class size maximum of 20 students. • 4th grade to not exceed 3 classes - class size maximum of 23 students. • 5th grade to not exceed 3 classes – class size maximum of 23 students. <p>Discussion Points: These numbers are class caps not enrollment goals. The BOT is aware that enrollment is fluid and these numbers may need to be revisited on a yearly basis as needed if enrollment warrants.</p> <p>Approved by Consensus</p>		25	8:25 PM

7 Discussion and Proposal

"Adoption of a 403(b) plan as the retirement plan for employees hired beginning July 1, 2016."

Due to increasing costs and a desire to seek a personally owned retirement plan for our employees, we evaluated a range of options for current and future staff. We had hoped to offer this alternate benefit plans as a voluntary choice for current employees. However, due to state regulations, we cannot offer this plan as a choice for current employees, as they are required to stay in PSERS. We are able to offer this alternative retirement plan as the only available plan for new employees beginning July 1, 2016.

Approved by Consensus, Christopher Sten stood aside

8	Presentation	<u>Board Committees</u> Finance • Bill list (Proposal to approve, 5 min) Approved by Consensus • Financial reports (5 min report) • Approval of Budgets (30 min) Two budgets were presented, one for a K-8 scenario and one for a K-5 scenario, pending approval of proposal to suspend Middle School enrollment. Proposal to approve both budgets Approved by Roll Call, Both budgets will be available at the ES office and be posted on the school website for a 30 day review.	Lee Merendino Chris Sten	40	8:50 PM
9	Proposal	Governance and Policy The Board of Trustees approves the following new/updated policies & procedure relating to purchasing functions and management of Title 1 funds: New policies 610 – Purchases Subject to Bid , 611 – Budget , 612, 613, 625, 626, 626.1 and procedural attachments 626A-626E.	Al Russell	10	9:30 PM
10	Discussion	Time allotted for last-minute additions and/or extensions		5	9:40 PM
11	Discussion	Public Comments (on any item relating to the school)	Anyone	10	9:45 PM
12	All present have opportunity to	Evaluation of meeting General questions to keep in mind; but any evaluative comment is	Anyone	5	9:55 PM
14	Adjourn	Thank you for your time and participation in the Seven Gen. community!			10:00 PM