

MINUTES
Arizona Ball Charter Schools
Mission and Vision Work Session
March 13, 2015

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Melissa Flint, Board Secretary, at 12:40 p.m. on March 13th, 2015 in the conference room at Dyer & Ferris, LLC, 3411 N. 5th Avenue, Suite 300, Phoenix, AZ 85013.

Present:

Mike Dyer, Board Member

Melissa Flint, Board Secretary

Michael Larrabee, Board Member

Michael Sobieski, Board Member

Pam Rebel, Executive Assistant

Others Present:

Michelle Hart, Director of Curriculum

Gaye Leo, Hearn Academy Principal

2. Mission Statement

Melissa Flint reminded the group that this was a topic at the fall 2014 Board Retreat. As a result, the Planning and Development Committee presented three draft statements to the Governing Board at the November 17, 2014 regular meeting, where the item was tabled. Board members discussed time spent on this endeavor so far and the need for changes, as well as how often to change a mission statement.

Melissa Flint provided handouts with the draft mission statements as well as the current one. The group then discussed the length an organization's mission statement should be for it to be memorable, yet capture all aspects. Various organizations statements were reviewed. Our tagline "Where Children are the Priority" was discussed.

The group discussed what differentiates AZ Ball Charter Schools from other schools. Responses included: parental involvement/collaboration, back-to-the-basics traditional education, child as a person not a number, personalized education for each student, academic excellence, and safe environment. Michael Larrabee asked the group to consider our current statement mentions most of these priorities already. Mike Dyer commented that some board members thought adding extracurricular offerings to the statement would help us to be competitive in the field.

Michael Sobieski asked to discuss how we are providing highly personalized education to all students. Gaye Leo and Michelle Hart shared examples and all agreed this is an area for continued growth.

The group was willing to consider a new mission statement, but after detailed discussion decided to tailor the existing statement. A final draft statement to present to the board is as follows:

Arizona Ball Charter Schools provide a personalized education to all students emphasizing comprehensive academic excellence in a safe, nurturing environment through partnering parents, students and staff.

3. Vision Statement

The group briefly discussed the vision of AZ Ball Charter Schools. Bullet points mentioned were: producing high school ready, well-rounded, excelling students; students with strong character; growth/replication of school model; consistent offering of curriculum to fit the needs of each community; being the best at what we do; meeting state standards in academics; remaining non-profit. These ideas will be further discussed at the next board retreat. Other topics briefly discussed were target zones, criteria for expansion, and centralized office.

4. Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Approved by Ball Charter Schools Governing Board

Board Secretary

Date