

**FAME Public Charter School  
Board of Directors Regular Meeting  
3300 Kearney St., Fremont CA  
Thursday, January 13, 2011, 6:00 PM**

*Reasonable accommodation for any individual with a disability -- Any individual with a disability who requires reasonable accommodation to participate in a Board meeting may request assistance by contacting us at (510) 687-1500, ext. 120 by 3:00 P.M., Wednesday, January 12, 2011.*

**Minutes**

**1. CALL TO ORDER & APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

1.01 Call to Order

Mr. Naeem Malik, Board President, called the meeting to order at: 6:07

1.02 Roll Call

<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Mr. Kastriotis</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Mr. Khattak</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Ms. Iqbal</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Mr. Malik</b>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Mr. Rasheed</b>	<b>X</b>	

Mr. Khattak read the FAME mission statement. He asked that the meeting be paused for a minute of silence in memory of those that perished in the recent Arizona shootings.

**2. Approval of Minutes**

2.01 Approval of minutes for regular meeting November 18, 2010

Mr. Malik called for the motion to approve the minutes for the regular meeting of November 18, 2010

Moved: Mr. Kastriotis      Second: Ms. Iqbal

Ayes: Mr. Kastriotis, Ms. Iqbal, Mr. Malik

Noes: None

Abst: Mr. Rasheed, Mr. Khattak

Absent: None

**Motion Carried**

2.02 Approval of minutes for regular meeting December 9, 2010

Mr. Malik called for the motion to approve the minutes for the December 9, 2010 regular board meeting.

Moved: Ms. Iqbal Second: Mr. Kastriotis

Ayes: Mr. Kastriotis, Ms. Iqbal, Mr. Malik, Mr. Rasheed

Noes: None

Abst: Mr. Khattak

Absent: None

**Motion Carried**

**3. COMMUNICATION FROM PUBLIC** *(Limited to 3 minutes per person (or as established by the Board President), up to a total of 15 minutes, but there is no limit on the number of members of the public who may speak. At a special board meeting there will be no public comment on matters NOT on the agenda.)*

3.01 Public comment regarding matters ON the agenda

Julie Mirshad: Ms. Mirshad commented on the school uniform policy. She stated that FAME is a school of choice and since families choose to send their children to the school they must respect the school's policy. She commented that uniforms are a social equalizer and helps put students on an equal level.

Ms. Alaiwat: Stated that a few parents had asked her to let the board know that they felt administrators were not enforcing the policy and indicated that they would like it enforced. Mr. Khattak questioned whether or not FAME would be breaking any state law in enforcing a uniform policy. Mr. Kastriotis asked what the procedures were to implement the dress code. Ms. Alaiwat said that there is no law against a uniform policy and that each campus had their own procedures but they had not been enforced consistently.

3.02 Public comment regarding matters NOT on the agenda

None

**4. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

4.01 Board members may make a brief announcement or make a brief report on his or her own activities.

None

**5. OFFICER /ADMINISTRATOR/PTO REPORTS**

5.01 CEO – Maram Alaiwat

Ms. Alaiwat provided a report for the board that will be attached to the final board minutes. She provided a summary of what has been happening on the school campus and upcoming activities. She provided an update to the Arabic Immersion program and the "Arabization" of campuses and also stated that she was working with the San Leandro PTO to help them incorporate and to determine how the PTO can best connect with the site leadership. She also commented that she was continuing

to meet with the teacher committee to work with them on issues related to teachers and classroom activities.

5.02 PTO Report – Kearney St.

Tahani Abraham gave an update of activities for the Kearney PTO. She stated that they are supporting a spirit fundraiser in which students are creating Falcon logos that will be put on t-shirts and sweatshirts for sale. They are creating a teacher supply donation list and stated that they had a goal to make \$1000 on box tops. She stated that the PTO is excited to be meeting with Mr. Fobert and working with him. Regarding uniforms; she said there does not appear to be any consensus. Some parents want to keep the uniforms, other do not.

5.03 PTO Report - San Leandro

Linda Mohamad stated that they had met with Ms. Alaiwat to work on PTO incorporation and that they are planning a book fair, Chuckee Cheese fundraiser, teacher appreciation week, classroom supply list and that they wanted to start a garden. Regarding uniforms, she indicated that the San Leandro parents are split on this topic as well.

Mr. Malik made the determination to address items 6.05 and 6.06 first on the action items since they were most relevant to the audience.

**6. ITEMS FOR BOARD DISCUSSION/APPROVAL**

6.01 Acceptance of resignation of board member

Discussion: Mr. Malik stated that he had received an email from Dr. Chisholm stating that he was formally resigning from the board of directors. Mr. Rasheed requested that Mr. Malik ask for a formal letter of resignation for the board file.

Mr. Malik called for the motion to accept Dr. Chisholm's resignation with the condition that the board receive a formal letter of resignation.

Moved: Ms. Iqbal Second: Mr. Rasheed

Ayes: Mr. Kastriotis, Mr. Khattak, Ms. Iqbal, Mr. Malik, Mr. Rasheed

Noes: None

Abst: None

Absent: None

**Motion Carried**

6.02 Correction of election of Board Secretary conducted during the October 21, 2010 board meeting

Discussion: Mr. Malik stated that he believed the correction was required because at that time Ms. Iqbal was elected as Board Secretary, Mr. Kastriotis was both the Board Treasurer and the Secretary and that in order for Ms. Iqbal's placement to be valid Mr. Kastriotis would first need to formally relinquish the Secretary position. Mr. Rasheed indicated that he believed that the election of Ms. Iqbal happened per due process and that if some members were not aware that Mr. Kastriotis held both

positions was not relevant. Mr. Malik's opinion was that Ms. Iqbal could not be elected to a position while another sitting board member held the position. Mr. Rasheed asked for legal counsel to respond on the issue. Mr. Minney stated that by electing Ms. Iqbal as Secretary it was implied that Mr. Kastriotis would be relinquishing the Secretary position and that Board members are elected to new positions during an annual meeting and members need not first resign from a prior position. Counsel recommended that no revisions be made to the original action to elect Ms. Iqbal as Board Secretary. Mr. Malik stated that no action would be taken on the agenda item and that item 6.03 and 6.04 of the agenda items were no longer relevant. Ms. Alaiwat indicated that since they were agenda items each item needed to be addressed separately.

6.03 Acceptance of resignation of Treasurer

Discussion: Mr. Malik indicated that there was no resignation of the treasurer pending. Mr. Malik stated that no action would be taken on the agenda item.

6.04 Election of new board Treasurer

Discussion: Mr. Malik indicated that there was no nomination of a treasurer pending. Mr. Malik stated that no action would be taken on the agenda item. Mr. Rasheed stated that he would be interested in taking the Treasurer position should there be an opening.

6.05 Approval of Absence and Truancy Policy

Discussion: Mr. Rasheed wanted to know what the issues were with student attendance. Ms. Alaiwat stated that some of the students were formally in the independent study program and do not take the requirement to attend school daily seriously. She said that students who do not attend school impact instruction and disrupt classroom activities and a policy was needed to provide guidance to principals in dealing with students who are habitually tardy or absent. She stated that San Leandro typically has the lowest attendance rate; the site is full to capacity and students are on the waiting list but many students are not coming to school every day. Mr. Rasheed clarified that the policy is only for those students who are expected to attend in a full time site based program. He questioned if students want more flexibility could they transfer to Independent Study. Ms. Alaiwat confirmed that students could move to the Independent Study program and that the policy is to empower the Principals with a tool to hold students accountable. Mr. James Young stated that this is a typical policy that most districts adopt.

Mr. Malik called for the motion to approve the Absence and Truancy Policy

Moved: Ms. Iqbal Second: Mr. Khattak

Ayes: Mr. Kastriotis, Mr. Khattak, Ms. Iqbal, Mr. Malik, Mr. Rasheed

Noes: None

Abst: None

Absent: None

**Motion Carried**

6.06 Approval of Uniform and Dress Code Policy

Discussion: Ms. Alaiwat stated that she had discussed the uniform issue with the site principals and that they are in general supportive of a school uniform. Mr. Rasheed stated that in earlier discussions it was mentioned that one problem with the policy was that administrators and teachers were spending a lot of time policing students thus distracting from classroom instruction. Ms. Alaiwat said that some of the issues were that the original dress code was too strict with the requirement for the collared shirt and also because students are required to take PE and needed some flexibility in what they were allowed to wear. Mr. Rasheed wondered about differentiation between elementary and high school dress codes. Ms. Alaiwat said that the policy does not differentiate between grade levels. Mr. Rasheed stated that the Board had been talking about the issue for three or four months and that he wanted to have this item finalized and not have to address it again for at least another year. Ms. Alaiwat said that she agreed; either way the board wanted to go a decision needed to be made. Mr. Khattak stated that he believed that uniform meant one form of clothing. The policy really calls for a multi-form. If the School wants a uniform policy it should be "uni"; one color top and bottom. Mr. Kastriotis stated that two years ago the PTO did an extensive survey and there were 350+ surveys turned in that favored school uniforms. Mr. Rasheed stated that based on what he was hearing the majority of people were in favor of uniforms. Ms. Alaiwat corrected him saying that from the information she has the community is split on the topic and that she met only with the principals and a few of the parents and the feedback she received from them was that they were in favor of the uniforms. Mr. Rasheed said that people who want the uniform are looking for a higher level of accountability and those that don't are trying to relieve a burden of having the purchase and comply with limited dress options. The biggest thing for him was that originally he thought the enforcement of the policy was affecting classroom activities. As long as it is not affecting the teachers' ability to teach and not becoming a policing issue then he was in favor of a school uniform. Mr. Rasheed asked that in March the principals give an update on how the implementation is going. Ms. Iqbal said that the school really needed the support of the parents to implement the policy. Mr. Rasheed asked that the PTO also help support the implementation.

Mr. Malik called for the motion to vote on the revised Uniform and Dress Code Policy

Moved: Mr. Rasheed Second: Ms. Iqbal

Ayes: Mr. Kastriotis, Mr. Khattak, Ms. Iqbal, Mr. Malik, Mr. Rasheed

Noes: None

Abst: None

Absent: None

**Motion Carried**

Mr. Malik stated that the meeting would now convene to closed session to discuss the following matters described in Section 7.

Mr. Kastriotis stated that he was recusing himself from the closed session portion of the meeting. Mr. Malik stated that the board would take a 5 minute break before going into closed session.

## **7. ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION**

7.01 Conference with legal counsel –Anticipated Litigation: Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9: multiple cases

## **8. REOPENING IN OPEN SESSION**

Announcement of action taken in closed session (if any).

Mr. Malik reported that no action was taken during the closed session.

## **9. MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 PM.

*As required by the Brown Act, in CA Government Code Section 54969, notice of this regular meeting was posted, delivered, and received at least 72 hours before the time of the meeting. None of the agenda items will begin earlier than the posted opening meeting time. The Board may alter the sequence of the agenda items at the meeting.*