

PUBLIC EDUCATION COMMISSION
RETREAT
MINUTES
May 26, 2010
DRAFT

1. Retreat Call to Order
The retreat of the PEC began at approximately 9:15 am. at the Open Space Visitor Center, 6500 Coors Blvd NW, Albuquerque, New Mexico

2. PEC Members Present

Mrs. Millie Pogna, Secretary, District, 2, Albuquerque
Mr. Eugene Gant, Member, District 7, Las Cruces
Mr. Vince Bergman, Member, District 8, Roswell
Ms. Carla Lopez, Member, District 4, Santa Fe
Ms. Carolyn Shearman, Member, District 9, Artesia
Ms. Kathryn Krivitzky, Member, District 3, Albuquerque

3. Charter School Division Staff Present:

Sam Obenshain	Rudolph Arnold
Michael C de Baca	Dr. Robert Olix
Marjorie Gillespie	Karen Ehlert
Corina Chavez	Don Duran

4. Guest Observers:

Dr. Lisa Grover	Rick Rios
David Harrell	David Craig
Mark Tolley	

5. Sam Obenshain, Charter Schools Division Program Manager, introduced the presenters for the workshop:
William Haft, Vice President for Authorizer Development at National Association of Charter School Authorizers (NACSA)
Doug Thaman, Director of Professional Services NACSA
Susie Miller Baker, Performance Measures Director NACSA

6. NACSA Staff outlined the Goals and Expectations for the Retreat
 - Discussion and common understandings of charter priorities
 - Discussion of authorizing roles
 - Initial development of Operating Principles

7. A Review of the Authorizer Evaluation Report presented to the Commission on March 15, 2010
 - Application Decision Making
 - School Operations
 - Accountability Decisions
 - School Autonomy
 - School Quality
 - Evaluation System

8. An Overview of the Commissions Responsibilities for authorization with emphasis on:
- High standards (improve student achievement; accountability for educational and fiscal standards)
 - Autonomy (teacher responsibility for education program, site based budgeting)
 - Transparency (public meetings, state reasons for decisions)
 - Community involvement

9. A discussion on the Common Authorizing Challenges
- Maintain long term vision
 - Prioritize outcomes
 - Avoid one-off reaction
 - Define board-staff roles

10. NACSA Staff addressed best practices of Authorizers that:

Prioritize

Results

What schools actually do (practice)

Long term view

Minimize

Process focus

What schools say they do (paper)

Short term reaction

11. NACSA Staff outlined the work they have been involved with Performance Management and how they are supporting the New Mexico Charter Schools Coalition as they work with charter schools throughout New Mexico.
12. NACSA Staff reviewed the issues of autonomy in the context of material violations. A discussion followed with Commissioners on what constituted major material violations to the charter. The CSD staff agreed to place amendment guidance for the PEC to consider at their June 11, 2010 meeting.
13. The Retreat ended at about 3:30 pm.