Elkton School District #34
Charter Council Meeting
June 22, 2026

Charter Council Members: King Phelps
School Board Representative: Randi Smith
Staff Present: Sam Tupou, Melissa Whitley

Meeting is called to order at 6:02 p.m.

Review and Acceptance of Agenda

Recruitment of New Charter Council Member

- Randi Smith shared that Selena Roloson is interested in serving on the Charter Council
- Melissa Whitley will consult the order of business to move forward with approval of the new member to the Charter Council

Charter School Update

- The School Board has adopted the McGraw Hill social studies and the Live Well middle school and high school health curriculum.

Oregon Interim Assessments

- MAP is our new interim assessment provider. It was originally designed by the Northwest Educational Assessment and was later purchased by Houghton Mifflin. The handout provided shares the requirements of 3 assessments per year K-8. We must share the interim data with the board and the public. Best practice recommendations are to avoid testing fatigue.

Employment

- We currently have three open positions in the district: K-8 PE Teacher, Middle School Football Coach and Middle School Volleyball Coach.
    - Sam Dooley resigned as K-8 PE teacher. We are in the process of collecting applications.
    - Randi Smith asks if the new PE teacher will become homeroom teacher for the 7th grade. Mr. Tupou shares that it depends on the skillset of the one who is selected.
    - Mr. Tupou shares that we are looking to fill the middle school volleyball and football coaching positions.
- Rod Wilgus and Duane Madison have retired. We had a very nice send off for both Mr. Wilgus and Mr. Madison. I would like to ask student body to provide both retirees

with an annual athletic pass so they can continue to be a part of the school community.

Advanced Placement (AP) Program at the High School

- Advanced Placement is an idea that was discussed over the past few months. The plan is now in place to implement with AP classes added to our schedule. We are in the process of trying to recruit to the AP program. I think it will take 2-3 years to really get it going but the groundwork is now in place.
- We will create a capstone diploma and also to take our senior project and morph/marry with the AP capstone diploma. You add the rigor and it will meet the standards for the senior project as well as the AP capstone diploma.
- 11th/12th graders are offered the AP classes at this time, but then during the 27/28 school year we will offer the AP classes and diploma track to the 9th and 10th grade students.
- Randi Smith asked if the senior project research paper would fall under the AP seminar requirement? Mr. Tupou stated, yes.
- King Phelps stated that you need to tell people who are going into the trades the importance of math courses.

Natural Resources

- Mr. Tupou states: I'm excited to bring in people with muscle to make this happen. I believe we were trying to do so much combining the house system with the natural resources. My hope is when/if Selena is approved, we can have some subcommittee meetings and move forward.
- Randi Smith states: I think that's how it worked before is they had someone from outside the school that was coordinating the natural resources piece.
    - King Phelps asks, "Are they still using the house system?" Sam Tupou replies that at the grade school, yes. At the high school it did not work so well. At the high school the kids really love identifying with their classes. The house is not by class, it is random. If you can't do both things right, do one thing correctly.
    - King Phelps states that maybe it's just for grade school right now.
    - Sam Tupou shares that maybe a bit down the road we will be able to revive it. The house system is there in name only, in terms of activity wise. Halfway through the school year we decided to stay with the class system.
    - Sam Tupou stated that when we look at the charter that recommended the system it was that they stay in the house and not change once they get to high school. King Phelps says they should change houses when they become a freshman. Sam Tupou shared that it was on the table and we discussed it. We found out it didn't finish strong and perhaps in the fall with the new student body we will see how we can marry the two.
    - King it's a big change when they go from 8th grade to 9th grade, socially and academically, and they would be the ones to tell you for sure.
    - Sam Tupou states that he will come up with some ideas for it for the fall.

Summer Rental Program

- This is our 3rd year running the summer rental program. When the ECEC has activities, they use our stuff mostly canopies and coolers and chairs. Not so much the fishing poles and vests. We just started that up again this last week. I have a former student working with the ECEC running it this summer. They're off today, so tomorrow I will get together with him to see how they did over the weekend.

Safety Meeting

- The school tried out a new radio system, and it seemed to work great. I believe that we will move forward with the new system for this next school year.

Professional Development Focus

- The professional development focus will continue to be with the developing good relationships with the kids and that ties into the classroom and behavior management and then into student engagement. It starts with relationship development.
    - Randi Smith asks if we are opening our waiting list to out of district students for this school year?
    - Sam Tupou and Melissa Whitley explain that the K-8 are remaining closed at this time and we will preview the waiting list with Mr. Boe in August. Mr. Tupou is looking at the waiting list for the high school monitoring the designated criteria examining transcripts, attendance rates and behavior records. We are currently up 5 students at the high school for this school year.

Mr. Tupou asks if there are any questions or anything to add?

- Randi Smith stated that it sounds like it's plugging along. Natural resources is still on the charter mission and we need to work on that and I think we will need some outside help.
- Mr. Tupou states, yes, that he will seek some outside help and then bring ideas to the staff.
- Randi Smith asked what year did we become charter?
- Melissa Whitley says that the charter application was approved in January of 2009.

Meeting Schedule

Future Charter Council meeting schedule will be October 21, 2026, February 17, 2027, June 9, 2027 and October 20, 2027.

Meeting is adjourned at 6:50 p.m.