

Vista School Board Meeting

October 21, 2015 Minutes

Location: 585 East Center, Ivins, UT 84738

Board members present: Neil Walter (President), Brad Owen, Gail Neumann, John Berger

Others present: Sam Gibbs (Director), Chris Barnum (SpEd Director), MaryAnn Oram (Financial Director), Troy Bradshaw (Technology Director), Britni Armstrong (Secretary), Marie Ehlers (Counselor), Twila Kay, Michelle Rowan, Jessica Staheli

5:00 PM - Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions – Neil Walter

5:00 PM - APPROVAL OF MINUTES

❖ September 16, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes

John is running late, approval is postponed, along with action items, until a full quorum is available.

6:09 pm- Brad moves to approve minutes. Unanimously approved.

5:00 PM - PUBLIC COMMENTS

❖ Aimee Hansen- update on monitors. Just putting some in the back of the school, not in the front any more. Monitors chosen is in the PTO budget.

Decided on a permanent artistic design for the front monument. Spoke with Pride Smith, he is willing to do some metal work. Cheryl Collins is willing to donate time for glass art. Need to discuss budget for the monument. Gail mentioned a fundraiser.

5:15 PM - REPORTS

❖ Director's Report -

○ Faculty/Staff Changes

Jennifer Sundin (SpEd) resigned effective October 31, looking for new severe SpEd teacher. Angela Staheli (night custodian) replaced with Fred Thomas this week.

Vice Principal, received about 30 applicants, narrowed down to 8 candidates who will take part in a side-by-side interview next Wednesday, will discuss in Directors meeting Thursday.

○ Enrollment and Lottery Update

891 as of October 1. Two withdrawals this morning. 49 students on wait list, 7 are siblings of students already attending.

○ Recent and upcoming events

Students participate in Shakespeare festival in Cedar City, ranked 5th among all schools there.

Drama competition went well, also. Students placed 7th, 8th and 21st in various areas.

4 violinists from Vista are accompanying The Piano Guys at Tuacahn.

Tuacahn cast came a few weeks ago to hold a performance assembly for 5th-8th students. Performances at Book Festival this week.

Next Wednesday- 2nd annual sports competition at 6:30. Vista staff vs. Ivins

Parent-teacher conferences week before Thanksgiving

Lion King auditions complete- 107 students in cast.

❖ Financial Report – MaryAnn Oram

○ Audit status

Have not received final audit yet, will send out to board members when she receives it. Draft report: positive net fund balance and 2 ratio being watched was positive. Days cash on hand was 70, debt service coverage ratio is good.

○ Review proposed 2016 school year budget

October 1 count came in higher than what was budgeted. MaryAnn will work with Sam to allot that money.

○ Health Insurance Update

Meeting for benefit package for next year, selected 2 plans, both with increases under 10%. Will stay with PEHP. Starts January 1. Benefits meeting coming up. Renewals for EMI (Dental and vision) came back with high % increase. Looking at switching dental to Dental Select. Still looking at vision.

○ Employee Manual/Policies and Procedures Updates

Sam and MaryAnn will work on revision, bring to board for approval.

5:40 PM - COMMITTEE REPORTS

❖ **Arts Committee – Bette Ariel**

❖ **Academic Excellence Committee – Gail Neumann**

❖ **Technology Committee – Brad Owen**

Wondered if there would be an interest in a coding camp. November 13-14. Students who know how to do it may be able to help with camp.

❖ **Audit and Finance Committee – John Berger**

5:50 PM - DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

❖ **Revisions to 2016 Budget**

Table until November

❖ **Strategic Planning and Charter Fidelity Process**

The state is in the process of re-evaluating how they hold charters accountable. Vista will be working with the state to create components of that. Meetings coming up for strategic planning- invitations will be sent out to those listed in Google doc created by Sam.

Neil went over the different metrics of Charter Fidelity Process.

❖ **Board Training--Utah Open Public Meetings Act**

Tabled for next month. Neil sent slides out in email to be reviewed.

❖ **Required Policies Overview**

Sam went through board-approved policies, missing about 10 required, and 15-20 suggested. Sam would like to bring it up in the next board meeting.

TABLED AGENDA ITEMS

❖ **Technology Course Offerings in 2016 school year**

John would like to know what the timeline would be for getting those in. Sam said January/February is when those would need to be done.

MISC COMMENTS

MaryAnn recently had a Standard and Poor's (credit analyzers) call, discussed financials, went well. Another similar call coming up. Finance committee should be involved with conference call for bondholders in November.

Medical school opening near Vista. 80 teachers, 200 students. Big impact for local community.

CLOSED SESSION (if needed)

To discuss the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of individuals.

6:30 PM – ADJOURN

Gail moves to adjourn.