

Emergency Vista School Board Meeting

August 27, 2019 Agenda

Location: 585 E Center Street

Board members present: Matt Middione, Michelle Root, Eli Milne, Michelle Walter, Dave Hunter (Board Chair- arrived around 4:15) Josh Aikens (arrived at 4:31 pm)

Others present: Sam Gibbs (Director), Marie Ehlers (School Counselor), Britni Armstrong (Board Secretary), Chris Barnum (VP), Kelly Geary (VP), Twila Kay, Troy Bradshaw (IT/HR), Bruce Hatch, Abe Nickel (Arrived at 4:54)

4:03 PM - Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions – Matt Middione

ACTION ITEMS-

- **4:09- Financials-** Sam reviews debt guideline given to him from financial advisor. Goes over revenues and expenses projected in budget for next 5 years. Built off 1200 students. Required to maintain a minimum of 60 days cash on hand. 1.1 debt service coverage ratio required, we currently have 1.93. New debt built off \$13.5 million as target. 4.25% interest rate. State and Federal funding generally stay the same throughout the years. Eli asked what concerns Troy has- Troy says he doesn't have concerns as long as revenue continues. We have a strong school and strong numbers so he's not really concerned. He *is* concerned about the current state of teachers and what they are working with, that they need better facilities and a better place to build their programs. He thinks the budget looks good for what we want to expand. Sam has a few reservations to bring up. The number of students (WPU) is how you fund the school (a FULL school), Vista has the highest entry salary in this area which comes out of enrollment. We need to be sure to maintain enrollment to fund the expansion. Would need 220-240 more students (mid 1100) to maintain programs and manage debt load. Eli asks when we can start adding 9th grade- Sam says next year if we wanted (or the year after- if we pass accreditation). We can add more students starting next year but we don't have the space. Sam mentions that we have not put much effort into advertising the past few years- coming up next year we would start pushing that out again to bring in numbers and projects we could be fully funded for the expansion. Dave agrees- that concern is in any business but feels that it's a great concern to have. Michelle Walter agrees- she is comfortable with enrollment. She's wondering what other options there are other than bonding because the fees are so high. Sam mentioned all the other options- those fees are all included in the projected budget.
- **4:45- Land-** Matt wonders if we have the land to build it- Sam says we are sitting on almost 8 acres currently. All the potential builders and architectures have been sending out drones to make sure it will all work out. Michelle W asks about maximizing green space as much as we can. Sam agrees. Where the building is projected to be built, students do not generally play over there. It can be a place where students go to get in trouble.

- **4:50- Construction Safety-** Students will be here while building is being built- the construction company will have to address safety adequately or else they will not be a candidate. Many prospective companies have already built in the same situation.
- **4:52- Traffic-** And parking- Matt asked if we have a committee on traffic and parking, There was one last year, Sam says he can always create a committee for that. Michelle W is concerned about construction going on while parking and traffic needs to be going on. One option would be to try and buy a smaller amount of land for these purposes. Matt asked if there are any incentives for carpooling- Sam thinks it is a good idea to look into. Michelle W asked about the price per sq- seems high. Sam agrees it's high- mostly because of *what* we are building. The technology and music and dance rooms are extremely high cost to build and build good. Black box theater would be repurposed for 6 classrooms- 3 state of the art science rooms upstairs, 3 technology rooms downstairs. Michelle W also mentioned that the portable is not the best choice- Sam agreed- hoping to eliminate it but the cost of new building is about 3-4 times more than using the portable. Sam asks board for permission to move forward- Michelle W and Dave both say they feel much better about going forward. 8 builder bids on Thursday to be reviewed and broken down to 3, then more groups next Tuesday to discuss those 3. Josh notes that communication has gotten better between Sam and board on expansion and as communication improved board become more in line with project.
- **4:05- Approve Literacy Plan-** Sam discussed changes that were requested by the state- minor changes such as the specific names of things. Still same plan that was previously approved. Michelle Walter moves to approve, Michelle Roots seconds. Matt says "Aye.", Michelle R says "Aye.", Eli M says "Aye.", Michelle W says "Aye.",

CLOSED SESSION

To discuss the character or competence of an individual. Requires Roll call vote.

5:12- ADJOURN

Dave moves to close meeting, Josh seconds. Josh says "Aye.", Eli says "Aye.", Matt says "Aye.", Dave says "Aye.", Michelle R. says "Aye.", Michelle W. says "Aye."