

Vista School Board Meeting

January 15, 2020 Agenda

Location: 585 East Center, Ivins, UT 84738

Board members present: Matt Middione, Dave Hunter, Eli Milne, Michelle Walter, Josh Aikens

Others present: Sam Gibbs (Director), Chris Barnum (VP), Britni Armstrong (Board Secretary), Troy Bradshaw, Jeremiah Riley, Drew Williams, Michelle Boroff, Lacey Young, Kyle Lewis, Aubrey Johnson, Kent Brown

5:02 PM- CALL TO ORDER: Welcome and Introductions- Dave Hunter

5:02 PM- APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

Eli moves to approve minutes, Matt seconds. Dave says "Aye", Matt, Eli, Josh

5:02 PM- PUBLIC COMMENTS

Drew Williams (Principal at Tuacahn)- approaching board a Vista parent. Drew has always supported Vista and Mr. Gibbs but has some concerns. Drew wrote a letter to the Vista board 2 months ago. Josh and Matt responded. Drew finds it troubling that only 2 board members responded due to the severity of what was addressed. Drew surprised that his candid feedback was not taken seriously. He would rather not address these issues in a public meeting. Eli asked if everything was ok at the beginning of the year. Drew responded with "Yes" because he was trusting the relation as it was. Sam attended March board meeting @ Tuacahn. Sam addressed board and Drew supported what was said in that meeting. Hyrum Smith had said he talked to am about a cross pollination of board members between Vista and Tuacahn. Sam agreed to it and said he kept 7th seat open with Tuacahn in mind. Wants to know why 7th position wasn't discussed during any board meetings or during board elections. Drew and Sam visited faculty meetings at each school, expressed vision. Drew was operating out of the idea that the arts and technology would be filled. Teachers at Vista are telling students @ Vista and Tuacahn that Tuacahn does not have a proper education to offer students. Drew is not happy that his 11-year-old his coming home and questioning the comments made. Just as recently as 2 weeks ago a teacher leader walked into an audition class and said there was no other schools that offered an opportunity like Vista. And it was said if they left and didn't go to 9th grade that they would regret that decision because they would not get back in. Drew feels this is manipulating and has continued to happen. Drew attended the open house and of the 20 electives offered, 15 ½ are arts, 3 ½ are robotics, which is not what was discussed in the initial conversations. 9th graders filling those arts spots will take away opportunities from 7th graders. Drew was under the impression that 9th grade would offer coding, robotics, and engineering. He has 4 questions:

Why was there no response to his email about the demeaning emails between Vista Staff?

Why is Drew being told one thing and another thing is actually happening?

Why was the cross pollination of board members never discussed?

Why are educators being allowed to manipulate students and give the wrong information?

Dave thanks him for his words, and says they will address it. Michelle mentions that the reason why Vista started 9th grade was mainly about funding to get the facilities that Vista needs for the performances. Drew says he was not told that. He understands the need for a building, but if that was what it was about it should have been said from the beginning. Michelle says Neil Walter (former board member) tried really hard to get a Tuacahn board member on Vista's board and nothing came to fruition.

5:22 PM- BOARD CALENDAR

Next Board Meeting- Wednesday, February 19 @ 5:00 pm (SEP's)

5:22 PM- REPORTS

Director's Report – Sam Gibbs

5:22- Faculty/Staff Changes

Leaving: Claudette- Retired at Age 87, Kristina Buck- Promoted for USDB, Lori C- Transferred to USDB

New Hires; Loren Magnum- Part-Time Custodian, Heather Shaw- Substitute Bus Driver, Sadie Lewis- Special Education Paraprofessional, Tayna Krenn- Substitute Bus Driver

Potential losses: Potential Resignation Family reasons, 6th/science/History Replacement, 6th/science/History, Potential secondary Science licensing reasons

5:40- Enrollment and Lottery Update- Dave Hunter left at 5:40

Currently enrolled- 931. Added some kids after the break due to others exiting the school. Waitlist is cleaned up- current waitlist- 107, 2020-2021 waitlist- 205 Sam addressed Drew about the 9th grade enrollment- he said majority of them are technology students. The 9th grade electives are the same offered to 7th & 8th so that he can trickled them into the classes already offered.

5:46- Recent and upcoming events

Next week: Tuacahn open house next week, Dixie, Snow Canyon, SGA and other schools offering open houses or parent nights throughout the week.

VEX teams leaved for Snow College Comp, Science Fair, Community forums.

Kindness Week is last week of January.

SUPAF is all over February.

Literacy Night- Feb 6th

Daddy Daughter Dance- Feb 7th

-Board Training

-Update on Expansion

-Update on Vista Foundation

5:51-Student Performance Data

Sam went over school report card with board members. Vista earned a C with 77 points in 2017-2018, and a C equivalent with 71 points in 2018-2019. ELL students have all passed the reading portion but not math and science. Sam says this is due to our focus on language acquisition for ELL's. In order to receive and A we would need about 80-85% passing rate on end of level testing.

6:05-Financial Report – Troy Bradshaw

6:05- Financials and Budget Review

Troy went over audit with board before reviewing budget. School is in a strong position, we meet all requirements from the state. BBB- evaluation from Moody's which will help us work towards credit enhancement and getting our interest rate on the bond down. Board will need to accept audit.

Ahead of target on total budget. We still need to receive SpEd, IDEA and Title I services. Once those funds come in we will present a new budget with those included.

6:23 PM - DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS- Eli Milne left at 6:26

-FY SY Budget

6:23- Fee Schedule

Needs to be in board meeting at least twice before voting.

-2020-2021 school calendar

Coming soon. Aligned to Washington County School District.

6:29 PM- COMMENTS FROM THE ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

none

MISC COMMENTS

5:25- Jeremiah Riley works with Ivins city, noticed there is no sidewalk on Puerto, it is a safety issue. Ivins is creating a sidewalk for Ivins City. Wondering how to get some extra funding to Vista. Would like to get this on Vista's radar and see if there's anything they would like to get into the initial proposal. Matt asked about bussing and transportation funds available. Dave asked about playground equipment. Chris has been working on making the playground IDEA accessible. Jeremiah asked about physical security. Sam says we have done a few small things like locks, security system, etc. Sam mentioned school resource officer is shared with THS, and crossing guards would be a good addition. Jeremiah asked about STEM program. Troy says it is not where we want it to be and could definitely use more funding for that always. Would like to see more STEM right in the regular ed classes. Jeremiah will look into it in the next few days and try to find some alignment for the needs.

TABLED AGENDA ITEMS

Approve Audit

6:30 PM – ADJOURN- Josh moves to adjourn, Michelle seconds. Josh says "Aye", Matt says "Aye", Michelle Walter says "Aye".

CLOSED SESSION

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