



Board Meeting Minutes

Meeting Information	
Date:	July 29, 2015
Time:	7:00pm
Location:	Renaissance Academy, 3435 North 1120 East, Lehi, UT. 1 st floor, Room 112, Claudio's Studio
Next Meeting:	August 26, 2015

Attendee Information			
Board Members		Invited Guests	
Attended	Name	Attended	Name
x	Carolyn Bayly, Board Chair		
x	Jared Barfuss, Board Vice Chair	Public in Attendance	
x	Ryan Hunter, Board Member	Attended	Name
x	Mike Bentley, Board Member		
x	Jennifer Orten, Board Member		
x	Monnica Wonnacott, Board Member		
	Chris Wareham		
Schoolhouse			
Attended	Name		
x	Mark Ursic, Executive Director		
x	Holly Lyons, Executive Assistant		

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#	Motion made by	Motion	Vote
1	Ryan Hunter	Ryan moved to table the approval of the minutes from the June 27, 2015 Board Meeting.	Monica Wonnacott seconded. All voted in favor.
2	Ryan Hunter	Ryan moved to go into closed session.	Monica Wonnacott seconded. All voted in favor by name.
3	Ryan Hunter	Ryan moved to close the meeting.	Monica Wonnacott seconded. All voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 10:49 pm.
Time			
7:15 pm	Welcome and Call to Order		
7: 18 pm	Approval of Minutes Ryan moved to table the approval of the June 27, 2015 Board Meeting Minutes. Monica seconded. All voted in favor.		
7:20 pm	Executive Director Update The State requires a final upload of school numbers (staff, students, etc) in July, and that was completed on time. The K-3 Reading Achievement report was done by Tracy Scott, well before the deadline, which was in June right after final Dibels scores. The final budget filing that must be done with the State, for this year and last, has been done by Red Apple. Mark also had to complete a survey		

	<p>about the programs that the school offers. That report includes an aspect on the governing school board (how many on the board, how many with a background check, etc.). August is a light month for reporting, there is just the monthly enrollment report.</p> <p>Ryan asked if we were able to bump up the audit, and Patti answered that it is scheduled for August 3rd.</p>
7:24 pm	<p>Space Center Update</p> <p>The goal was to have construction completed by July 24th. Mark was gone for two weeks, and although he was in contact with the contractor while he was away, when he arrived back in Lehi and came to check on the progress, very little had been done. The completion date will likely be another 3 weeks out. Dal, the contractor, is now on vacation, and will be gone for 2 of those weeks. Not much is different in the space center from the tour during the previous month's Board Meeting. Some details have been put in, but there is no furniture or carpet.</p> <p>Mark said it is unfortunate that it won't be done for a summer event or showing, but that it's no longer necessary to leverage it to boost enrollment for the year (enrollment will likely exceed the cap). Mark said there should still be a kick-off, but it will happen after school starts.</p> <p>Ryan suggested posting progress photos to the Facebook page. Or at least a link to Victor's blog on the Facebook page.</p> <p>Carolyn asked what about the Space Center might be exclusive for Renaissance students. Carolyn also said there were a lot of plans to make the Space Center useful to the teachers in a way that they could tie in curriculum, and she asked to hear about those plans as soon as they come to fruition. Mark said those things would be decided once the ship is finished. All the other ships are built for 5th grade and up. The ship wasn't necessarily built for use during the day, except to function as a computer lab. Running the missions for various grade levels would require a lot of training for the teachers. Carolyn suggested using the Center for Socratic workshops or Wonder Days, and the middle school students could run it for younger grades.</p> <p>Construction costs are reaching \$116,000, not including the equipment number. Carolyn asked if the Space Edventures Foundation would provide any funding. Mark said they had, but that he wasn't certain it would help the school budget for the project, because the school doesn't carry money from year to year. The simulator costs will definitely hit the budget ceiling regardless. Mark and Ryan discussed possibilities for fundraising and spending, and Mark summarized for Monica the two main annual budget reports, explaining how the simulator construction costs will affect them.</p>
7:54 pm	<p>Enrollment Update</p> <p>Mark presented data on enrollment and re-enrollment. He handed out a presentation (included in the Board Meeting archive folder). He said the school has seen an up-tick in interest- eight middle school students were added this week. The enrollment total may end up anywhere between 727 and 790, and extended offers as well as families with incomplete paperwork are a hedge against the students who will un-enroll from this week until when school starts. Monica asked what class sizes would be like if enrollment did reach 790. Mark responded that the classes in grades 5-9 would still not reach the maximum of 26 kids. The school space in certain grades and classes is underutilized until those spots are filled.</p>
8:21 pm	<p>HR Update</p> <p>Mark talked about the new CTE teacher, who he believes will add a lot of personality to the MS. The Middle School Language Arts position is still open, and Mark and Stephanie are conducting interviews</p>

	<p>for it. They have made a few offers to candidates they were excited about, but all have been turned down. There is also a 5th grade candidate, and they are hoping to find someone who can help phase in a gifted and talented program. Mark, Stephanie and the Board discussed the potential Gifted and Talented program. Stephanie said she would like it to be a differentiated learning program, not an accelerated program that just gives kids more homework. It should cater to the specific needs and talents of the individuals. The Board discussed the 6th grade, and Mark talked about past iterations of the program. Jennifer said it would be a good retention method to include the 6th grade in the gifted and talented agenda.</p> <p>Mark talked about the recent hires and mentioned that the school counselor resigned last week, so he and Stephanie have been interviewing candidates for that position as well.</p>
8:42 pm	<p>Master Calendar Stephanie and Holly presented the 2015-2016 master calendar design, which will be available for order at Back to School Night.</p>
8:50 pm	<p>Carolyn recommended moving land purchase to closed session, and the Board agreed.</p>
8:50 pm	<p>Renaissance Academy 10th Anniversary Jared talked about his ideas for the school's 10th anniversary. He said it would be great to play up a new identity. The ideas Stephanie and the Board mentioned in this discussion were a Phoenix Pride Celebration week, a newsletter about RA graduates from 10 years ago (a "Where Are They Now?" type article), and a 10th anniversary logo/announcement on the calendar, on banners, handprints, and window clings. Ryan suggested creating a committee. Jared asked if it could become an FEC project, and Stephanie said the ideas could be carried out by select contributors, because the FEC is very booked this year.</p>
8:58 pm	<p>Arabic program Mark distributed Jared's proposal for the Arabic program (copy included in Board Meeting archive folder). Mark started by saying that the primary issue affecting the program this year was staffing. They were able to find one acceptable candidate to carry the program. Belal Joundeya left to take a position in another state, and Lindsey Mabey no longer holds the qualifying licensure. The decisions made for the program this year also were affected by scheduling, which the Administration prioritized and finished before the end of school. Carolyn said her only concern would be if Arabic were cut with no transition for the students who have been in the program. Mark said prior to Belal leaving, there was no thought of ending the program. But now, if they were to shut down the program due to staffing roadblocks, there would be plans in place to phase it out and to conduct a legacy program for those students already in Arabic.</p> <p>Mark said he has always been on the side of keeping the Arabic program. Jared asked why the program should stay if there is no community or parent interest. Mark responded that he thought the value of the program to the school and community could lie outside of a marketing aspect, but that school and community interest level were important to take into account. Jennifer asked how many students choose Arabic. Mark said about 7 out of 200. Of the current students going into 1st grade, 4 listed Arabic as their first choice. Mark talked about the World Language team full-time employees and the complications of balancing their classes and scheduling. Ryan suggested a work session to discuss World Language as a whole. Carolyn asked if another language would be added if Arabic was phased out, and the Board continued to discuss how to plan for the World Language Program. Carolyn asked that the topic be revisited, and Ryan suggested the World Language team come up with the plan.</p>
10:06 pm	<p>Motion. Ryan made a motion to go into closed session described under Section 52-4-204, held for: (a) <i>discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual and (d) strategy session</i></p>

	<i>to discuss the purchasing, exchange, lease or sale of real property.</i> Monica seconded. All voted in favor by name.
	<i>Closed Session.</i>
11:08 pm	Motion. Ryan moved to close the meeting. Monica seconded. All voted in favor. The Board Meeting was adjourned at 11:08 pm.