

Renaissance Academy

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Board Meeting Minutes

April 25, 2012

7:08 pm

Location: Renaissance Academy; 3435 North 1120 East, Lehi; 1. floor in the Rousseau Room (southwest corner classroom). Public Welcome.

Board Members in Attendance: Mariah Fralick, Ryan Hunter, and Carolyn Bayly.

Welcome and Call to Order: Carolyn Bayly, Chair

Advisory Board: Mark Ursic, Executive Director and Brenda Hedden

Executive: Thomas from RedApple.

Public In Attendance: Ethan Michaelis, Kathie Michaelis, Blaine Hawkes, Trevor Plaisted, Thomas Burton, Raquel Timpson, Bryanna Raff, Kimberly Brown, Jennie Robbins, Cyndy Garrison, Cameron Sabin and Mrs. Holmes.

Public Comment: Trevor Plaisted (father) of the girl who was hit crossing the street a few weeks ago. Wants to see more parent/faculty and students trained in safety procedures. He commented on the great outpouring of support of those who stepped forward and showed such care for his daughter. Jennie Robbins is in agreement with Trevor and supports his statement.

Approval of Minutes: Mariah Fralick motioned to approve the March 7 & 13, 2012 minutes and Ryan Hunter seconded the motion. All voted in favor of approving the board minutes. Approved unanimously.

Items of Business:

New Board Member elections – Carolyn passed out closed ballots. Cameron Sabin was voted in closed ballot. Heather Miller made a motion that Cameron Sabin due to the number of votes he has received be brought on as a new Renaissance Board Member. Cameron will begin his training immediately and will be able to vote in June 2012. Ryan Hunter seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion passed. Cameron

came to the table and shared information about his qualifications.

Board Roles/Positions for Upcoming Year – Carolyn explained that the closed ballot voted her as Chair of the Board. Chris Wareham made it clear that he will not be vice chair due to his travel and has asked Mariah Fralick move to Vice Chair, Ryan remain as treasurer and Heather Miller remain as board secretary. Ryan Hunter motioned that Carolyn Bayly as chair, Mariah Fralick as Vice Chair, Ryan Hunter as treasurer and Heather Miller as secretary. All voted in favor of Board positions.

Working Calendar for Board Policy Review and Action Items- Mariah presented a two sided sheet of policy review for the year. It refers to most things that should be discussed at each Board Meeting. This is the Board's Annual calendar. It holds ourselves accountable for the school. Heather Miller made a motion to accept the Board of Directors Annual Calendar as a working document. Ryan Hunter 2nd the motion. All voted in favor of the motion.

School House Update Items:

Red Apple:

Thomas reviewed the budget with the board. He commended the school for staying within budget. How much money do we use a month? Approx. \$2200. See attached financial record. Still behind on receiving our federal money but it should come in next month. Thomas has highlighted the Aides category which seems to be a bit high. Carolyn asked why the Aides budget is high. Comparing year to year, we are doing better this year than last year. Office supplies seem to be higher also. Budgeting for next year needs to be reviewed. How involved does the board need to be? Charter schools are exempt from budget hearing. Carolyn asked that Red Apple prepare a budget and have it presented to the parents 2 weeks prior to our June Board meeting. Ryan and Mark will work on the budget and have it ready to give to the parents by the end of May.

Lottery & Re-enrollment Update

Thanks to the board members who have helped with the enrollment process. Things are going well. We don't take students after October 1 however students may leave after that time. 695 students + 25 seats + the projected reenrollment+ higher retention. How do we do Chinese immersion? We go through the remaining openings and contact those who put Chinese as their second choice. The elementary school has over enrolled by 1 student. For middle school, we have 44 kids who enrolled for 8th grade. It is a stronger response than last year. Deciding whether to offer 1 or 2 sections in 9th grade. Get up to speed with RA junior and follow up on the packets and get them

enrolled. There is a new enrollment person – Suzy Blackhurst. She is doing a great job.

Math Recovery - Alex Program:

Lots of interest from the parents. These were programs subsidized by the Land Trust Funds. Brenda is trying to get kids set up with math recovery. This took much longer than what she had planned. The goal is to focus on Math recovery and our efforts to improve failing grades. As with any program, it takes a while to get 60 students up and running with the program. The more we work through the program, the more beneficial it will be. School House has not made a decision to offer the program during the summer as a fee based program. Carolyn asked Mark for an update of this program at our next board meeting.

School Safety Plan:

Mark handed out an arial map showing traffic patterns and crosswalks. Mark met with the teachers and asked them to educate their students on the safety plan. Teachers spent some time showing their classes what to do when walking home, etc. Brenda spoke to the aides and explained traffic duty – be on time to their assignment, to wear bright vest and carry appropriate safety equipment. But what if there is a substitutes? How can they be trained? Trudy will be responsible for training them. Mark has gone to the city and has asked them for traffic markings on the street as well as signage. Mark has asked for 2 clearly deliniated cross walks with flashing lights and signage with the appropriate markings. Mariah asked about the School's Emergency/Safety Plan and how effective is the plan. The school no longer maintains kits for every student.

School House Calendar and Scheduling Update

Great deal of discussion with the School House about what could be done with the calendar this next year. Brenda has been talking about the different school breaks throughout the year and she is concerned for the lack of continuity in teaching and instruction. This is a very challenging year to calendar and helped attendance and preserved the level of instruction. School House has decided to stick with Alpine School District's calendar. Professional development days will be different. Must teach 180 days according to Alpine School District. There is a committee working on the school schedule.

Grade Leveling for grades 1st -6th. Sixth grade will be the transition year and they will work primarily in the trailers. To teach on the block schedule you have to be trained to know how to teach on the block. The hope is to make it happen in a year from now. The school house is hoping to attempt to do that next year. They are looking to provide

an Honors track beginning in 7th through 9th grade. So the classes will be offered as credit courses and they create better alignment in our sequence of classes.

Expansion Plan for 2012-2013: making language portable to the kids. Bringing the language instruction to the actual classroom to save time and effort. Most likely be reducing World Language room. The transition of getting the lower grade kids up to the World Language Room takes time and energy.

School House Policy Review Schedule – Update: Carolyn will meet with Mark and discuss the School House Policy Schedule and bring it to the board next month.

Strategic Plan – Mark would like to work within the Strategic Plan by setting goals. See the attached sheets Mark included in this file. Charter, plan for Academics, School House Initiatives (improve climate, more parent involvement). There have been a couple of revisions in the charter and by-laws. Mark would like to incorporate all of these things in to a Strategic Plan. It all has to tie back to something – it attempts to cast a broad enough umbrella for support. This is the starting point. There needs to be a relationship between items. This is Mark's attempt to say what are our values that we have. We value our learning, character development, staff, community at large. He then showed a graphic in triangles. Please see the graphic divided into the separate colors. The overall goal is to provide Superior Student Achievement. It is broken down into three separate triangles: Quality Instruction (red), Quality of Relationships (green), Quality of Learning Environment (blue). A similar plan should be developed for the school. Then those values are ranked and it shows parents and teachers what the school as an organization values.

Item of Discussion:

Survey- Parent and Teacher Initial Planning Stages: Mark will be sending out a survey to the parents and it will be the same survey which was sent out last year. The reason for doing this is to compare results from last year and make improvements, changes and also to compare results.

Evaluation Tool: Mark would like to have 2 reviews a year. One should be scheduled with his personal review and the other should be how the board evaluates his accomplishments and successes. It is important that he knows what he can do to improve in the next 6 months at his annual review. This will be shared on Google Docs where each board member can add or enhance these tools.

FEC Report from Kaylene Jackson. Fantastic job... 5K race is coming up on May

15. The carnival chair backed out and so there won't be a carnival this year. The T-shirts look amazing and there are 2 couples working on the planning of the 5K. They will be doing a raffle also. If you are running, you get a raffle ticket. This will be the last fundraising event of the year. There will also be a "Thank You Breakfast" the second Friday, May 11 in the gym at 8 am. The board will serve breakfast to the parent volunteers. FEC give back this year is a school marquee. It will have our school logo and it will have red letters and there will be three lines. It is wired for light (120 volts). Patti will be in charge of uploading the schools calendar and information on to the marquee. Classroom coordinator and training meeting will be held this summer. Kaylene wants classroom coordinators to be trained on the necessary responsible. There will also be an FEC presidency training meeting by Patti in August. The Parent meeting will be moved to the school instead of a park. It will be held the same time as the "Meet and Greet". So as families come to the school in the late summer, they will learn who their new teachers are for the year and meet them and have the school carnival all on the same day.

Kaylene has dual parking permits at Learning Dynamics and Renaissance. She wears her Renaissance Academy T-shirt and asks parents not to park in the Learning Dynamics parking lot. She is making it safe to cross. The FEC gave teachers \$1,000 for supplies for the school.

Mariah Fralick made a motion to go into closed session: "A closed meeting described under Section 52-4-204 will be held for: (a) a discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual."

We voted by name: Mariah Fralick – yes, Ryan Hunter – yes, Heather Miller – yes. Carolyn Bayly – yes.

The time is 9:30 pm.

Back to Open Session 10:27 pm. Ryan Hunter adjourned the meeting. The board voted in favor of closing the board meeting. The next Renaissance board meeting will be held May 30, 2012 beginning at 7 pm.