



Board Meeting Minutes

MEETING INFORMATION

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| Date: | August 22, 2012 |
| Time: | 7:00pm |
| Location: | Renaissance Academy, 3435 North 1120 East, Lehi, UT. 1 st floor in the Rousseau (southwest corner classroom) |
| Next Meeting: | September 26, 2012 |

ATTENDEE INFORMATION

| Board Members | | Invited Guests | |
|---------------|------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Attended | Name | Attended | Name |
| x | Carolyn Bayly | x | Thomas Burton |
| | Mariah Fralick | | |
| x | Chris Wareham | | |
| x | Cameron Sabin | | |
| x | Heather Miller | | |
| x | Ryan Hunter | | |
| x | Mark Ursic – Executive Director | | |
| x | Emily Simons – Executive Assistant | | |
| | | Public in Attendance | |
| | | Attended | Name |
| | | x | Aunalia Rasmussen |
| | | x | Cyndy Garrison |
| | | x | Teri Simpson |

MOTIONS AND APPROVALS

| # | Motion made by | Motion | Vote |
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| 1 | Cameron | Motion to approve minutes from previous meeting. | All voted in favor. |
| 2 | Heather | Motion to approve the Grading Policy with the changes suggested by Cameron. | All voted in favor. |
| 3 | Cameron | Motion to table all other policies to a later date. | All voted in favor. |
| 4 | Ryan | Motion to move to closed session. | Heather Miller seconded the motion. All voted by name. Chris Wareham, yes; Ryan Hunter, yes; Heather Miller, yes; Cameron Sabin, yes; Carolyn Bayly – yes. |
| 5 | Ryan | Motion to approve settlement. | All voted in favor. |
| 6 | Heather | Motion to close board meeting. | All voted in favor. |

| TIME/PRESENTER | TOPIC/SUBJECT DISCUSSION |
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| 7:07 pm Carolyn | Welcome |
| 7:08 pm Cameron | Motion to approve previous minutes. All voted in favor. |
| 7:09 pm Thomas | Red Apple Update. |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thomas gave an update on the 401K training. He said that an expert came in and talked to all of the teachers and explained all of their options. He wanted to change America Funds Growth to the JP Morgan large cap growth fund, which we did. - He also talked about different laws and wanted us to make sure there is a new law, which is not into effect, which says that different 401K providers need to let participants know what fees they are charging them. Nation Wide will be sending that to all participants. - He wanted us to review a draft and vote upon a proposed investment policy statement introduction. He said that is what all great plans have in place if we were to ever get audited. |
| 7:18 pm Mark | AYP/CRT Update. |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The state is not doing AYP this year. - They have applied for a waiver from “no child left behind.” Though the waiver was not approved, they did get some comments back from the government on their plan. They did get the waiver from the AYP part of the requirements. - CRT comparisons with the state: Language Arts, we are 6 points better than the state; Math, we are 11 points better; and Science, we are 17 points better. - CRT comparisons with the Alpine District: Language arts, we are 1 point better; Math, we are the same; and Science, we are 8 points better. - Mark would like to see a greater margin in Language Arts. Given the struggle that we have had with Math, the fact that we have met Alpine’s average. - The changes we have made for this school year will help a great deal. Math has been a weak point in our scores for a number of years. That should be part of our focus with our strategic plan. - From 2010 on, you can’t compare those scores to any previous scores because the trends will not match up. They reset the cut scores for math starting in 2010. Most schools dropped between 2009 and 2010 a fairly significant amount because of that. CRT Scores meaning: if a child scores between 3 and 4 they are considered proficient, if they score between a 1 and 2, they are not. What happened with Math in 2010 was they changed what qualified as a 3 and what qualified as a 4. - Of all of the comparisons, there are only two schools (Lehi Jr. and Traverse Mountain) that we don’t do better in at least two of the categories. When you compare us to almost all of the other schools our numbers are higher in at least two of the three categories. Traverse Mountain is the curve killer. That is where our focus should be. - Math: Between 2009 and 2010 there is a drop from 84%-81%. There was a bump in 2011. Between 2011-2012, our scores dropped from |

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| | <p>83% to 80%.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Language Arts: We have steadily increased. We had some great Middle School Language Arts scores in which one class scored 100% proficient. Our Language Arts program is strong and growing in its level of proficiency. - Science: Science is the same trend – growing over 5 years. Since 2010, we have out-performed our peer schools and the state. Not only are we improving but our gap between their performance and our performance is increasing. Our science scores are strong leading up to middle school and through middle school. |
| 7:38 pm Public Question | <p>Question: In the past, volunteer hours were recorded and the state gave funds for volunteer hours. Last year there seemed to be no way to record that?</p> <p>Answer: We have never been funded for volunteer hours. However, we do want to track the hours and know how much time the volunteers are putting in.</p> |
| 7:43 pm Mark | <p>One Point. We switched to One Point from SIS to provide better management across the enterprise. SIS had a number of very limited features. It is designed by the state and is free and allows you to give the state the information they need from you.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - As we were looking for other solutions we came across One Point at a charter conference. One Point had been working with another charter school in the state to modify a program that they have in two very large districts back east for charter schools. - We were hoping to have One Point ready for parents at back to school night but that wasn't able to happen. We are hoping to have it ready in the next month or so. - With One Point, parents can look in one place and have a calendar and homework list for all of their kids. They have been on site every day training teachers and being available to answer questions. - The lunch module is what has the most work to be done as they are building it from scratch. |
| 7:53 pm Public Question | <p>Question: How do parents track homework, grades and lunch balance in the meantime?</p> <p>Answer: The teachers are going to have to communicate that on their own. They can do it by email or have their own web page where parents can look.</p> |
| 7:57 pm Brenda | <p>Grading Policy. Brenda talked about the whole policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Brenda read through the list of standards that are included in the Grading Policy. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The first standard is that students may repeat assignments a second time and if they score below a 70% or receives an (I) Incomplete, the teachers will provide instructional interventions to facilitate student learning. There are grade level aids for three teachers and are here four days a week where they could do pull out groups and be a part of the re-teaching. We have a certified librarian who has two afternoons a week where she is going to go start talking to the teachers who have students that are struggling. Our whole focus in the grading policy is for students to learn the content. The communication is on the shoulders of the |

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| | <p>teachers. The goal is to catch students who are struggling right away.</p> |
| | <p>2. Students receive Incompletes if they do not turn work in.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Personal story told by public: in one of the classes her child was in, it was all or nothing. If they had a packet to do and they completed 90% of it, they would receive a 0 because they didn't complete the whole 100%. This was a grading issue because they were still scoring above the school average in CRTs. They ended up doing summer school to make up for the class. - Cameron said he would prefer to have written policy that is a default so that parents know that if their child is in this situation, how long they have to fix it and if they do not, what the consequences will be. - Brenda said she is not comfortable with an Incomplete turning into an F but she is comfortable with an Incomplete turning into a "no grade." |
| | <p>3. If a student scores below a 70% or receives an Incomplete, the teacher will notify the parents. This was asked in our One Point training, and he said that he could design it so that if a student receives a 69% or below, an automatic email will go out to the parents.</p> |
| | <p>4. Communication between teachers and parents.</p> |
| | <p>5. A focus on formal and informal assessments.</p> |
| | <p>6. Grades being posted to grade book and student information system no less than once per week.</p> |
| | <p>7. All grades must reflect student comprehension of course specific instruction during that term. We want to make sure that students are assessed on what they learned and that teachers don't expect them to have learned the material beforehand or know it already.</p> |
| | <p>8. All grades will measure growth. There are three ways to grade:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - On a final product. These could include projects, exams, homework. - On a process. The process a child went through for 9 weeks. It could take into account attendance, behavior, tardiness, lack of motivation etc. along with academics. - On their progress. Where do the students start and finish. |
| | <p>9. The lowest grade given will be 50% for work submitted.</p> |
| | <p>An implementation plan has also been written. The first part of the plan is done which is to hold a meeting for the staff. Brenda went over the second point in the plan which is to create goals for new policy to achieve goals for new grading policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To ensure grades measure learning. We want to know that when they leave RA, their grades accurately represent their comprehension of the content area and the next school will place them accurately. - To address learning challenges and provide interventions immediately. Right now, this is not happening and kids are falling further behind. Teachers Assistants will be expected to be in the classroom during class time in order to help any students. - To ensure grades hold teacher and student accountable. We want communication and we don't want students to have an easy way out. - To include parents in the learning process. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To more closely align grades with CRT scores. - To balance the equation with earned F grades. - To provide consistency in practice from teacher to teacher. |
| | Ryan asked how they would implement a grading policy since the year has already started. Brenda said that some teachers have sent out a disclosure statement. |
| | <p>Cameron suggested changes:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. "All grades must reflect student comprehension of course specific instruction during that term" 2. "All original and make-up assignments must be completed by the last day of each term." This sentence was moved from the second point to the first. 3. "If a child scores below 70% or receives an (I) Incomplete, the teachers will provide instructional interventions to facilitate student learning" and "If a child consistently scores below 70% or receives an Incomplete, the teacher will notify the parents by email, telephone call, or automated letter through our student information system." 4. "If a child receives an incomplete, they can complete that assignment up through the end of the term. If they fail to turn in an assignment by the end of the term, they will receive a zero for that assignment." |
| 9:15 pm Heather | Motion to accept the grading policy with the changes that Cameron suggested and make it policy for this coming 2012-2013 school year and be assessed. All voted in favor. |
| 9:19 pm Cameron | Motion to table all other policies until a later date. All voted in favor. |
| 9:20pm Ryan | Motion to move to closed session. Ryan made a motion to move to close session. Heather Miller seconded the motion. All voted by name. Chris Wareham, yes; Ryan Hunter, yes; Heather Miller, yes; Cameron Sabin, yes; Carolyn Bayly, yes. |
| 9:20-9:35 pm | Break. |
| 9:35 pm Carolyn | Brought closed session to order. |
| 10:30 pm Cameron | Motion to go back to open session. |
| 10:30 pm Ryan | Motion to approve the settlement. All voted in favor. |
| 10:30 pm Heather | Motion to close Board Meeting. All voted in favor. |