

**Rocklin Academy Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Meeting Held at 6532 Turnstone, Library
6:30 p.m. April 21, 2008**

RA Board Members and Staff Present:

Voting Members: Chairwoman Wendy Boyd, Executive Director Dr. David Patterson, Steven Carney, Linda Schwartz, and Stephen Siler.

Non-Voting Members: Pat Teilh and Jillayne Antoon.

Staff: Mary Decker, Mary McGown and Robin Stout.

RA Board Members Absent: Theresa Lunsford and Jeff Nicolaysen

Visitors: See attached.

I. Call to Order: Wendy Boyd, Board President, at 6:32 p.m.

II. Article Review Improving School Board Decision Making: Discussion of Chapter 3.

III. First Grade Presentation: First grade students from Mary McGown's class read poems about the earth.

IV. Board Member Comments: Chairwoman Boyd reminded the Board and audience members of the need to keep the library clean during meetings.

V. Hearing of Visitors: None

VI. Approval of Meeting Minutes of April 7, 2008

The minutes for April 7, 2008 were approved. Carney/Patterson (4-0, Siler Abstain)

VII (a) Consent Agenda - Enrollment Update

The Consent agenda was approved. Patterson/Schwartz (5-0)

VIII Administration Report

- (a) WASC Update
- (b) STAR Testing Update
- (c) Parent and Student Surveys Update
- (d) End of Year Professional Development Report
- (e) Hiring Update

IX. PAC Report

Report was given by Megan West. She submitted a written summary of activities of PAC. In addition, West reported that PAC has approved additional spending to be granted for first grade seat packs, the Art Docent appreciation lunch and the school talent show.

Information/Action:

X (a) Organizational Structure of 5th & 6th Grade

Based on the discussion at the last Board meeting, administration updated the Board regarding the planning for the organizational structure of 5th and 6th grade next year. Consistent with Board direction at the last meeting, scenarios B-1 and B-2 are being considered.

Scenario B-1 There will be four self-contained classrooms (except for math) with the option of team teaching within grade level. In this plan, the fifth grade teachers may share the subjects to be taught to the fifth graders and the sixth grade teachers may share the subjects to be taught to the sixth graders. Note that some students may have a third teacher for math due to our ability math groupings.

Scenario B-2 There will be four self-contained classrooms (except for math and science), with the option of team teaching within grade level. In this plan, the fifth grade teachers may share the subjects to be taught to the fifth graders and the sixth grade teachers may share the subjects to be taught to the sixth graders.

Disadvantages to scenario **B-2** are that we would require an additional sixth grade classroom. Therefore, the specialty science teacher would no longer have a dedicated classroom, requiring the science teacher to transport materials on a cart to each fifth and sixth grade classrooms. The other disadvantage is financial. This option would require the cost of an additional sixth grade faculty member.

In light of the pending budget constraints, administration's current position is to eliminate the position of specialized science teacher.

Public Comments:

- The Board was urged to keep a designated science teacher especially for the incoming 5th grade class who were the first class of Kindergarten at Rocklin Academy.
- Suggested that RA administration consider personalities of teachers when teaming teachers in grade levels.
- Commented that RA administration and Board members make decision without involving the parent community.

- Commented that three principals are too many for a school this size.
- Comment in support of the concept of one principal and two vice principals for training purposes. Also, support of that a science teacher is necessary.
- Request for an all school meeting to be held in the multi-purpose room to discuss all of the issues and their impact on the budget.

Board members responded to the public comment:

Based on a Board consensus, Board President Boyd requested that administration structure a budget input process for our stakeholders, to be held in the next few weeks. It was also noted that new budget information will be available with the release of the Governor May Revise Budget Proposal that will be released on May 14, 2008.

IX (b) Parent Partnership Committee Report

Parent Partnership Committee Chair Megan West reported that the Committee is continuing to work with an extensive set of recommendations, reviewing and discussing how each will contribute to effective Parent School Partnership.

The Committee will be meeting to further discuss and refine the recommendations, as well as discuss issues with RA faculty, prior to bringing the Committee’s report to the Board. Boyd requested that the committee prioritize each issue in their report.

X (c) RA at Meyers St Expansion Plan

Parents of Meyers Street will have the opportunity to attend a Parent Welcome Night on Thursday, May 22, 2008 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. At this meeting, parents will learn more about the sequenced Core Knowledge curriculum, meet the 2008-2009 faculty and staff, and have a mini tour of the campus. Board members are requesting RA administration report specific information regarding the expansion of the school at Meyers St. as details become available.

X (d) Performance Based Compensation & Evaluation

Administration presented the specific items, and the Board had an extended conversation. Specific items discussed were Statement of Purpose, Seven Performance Areas for Teacher Evaluation, Rocklin Academy Teacher Self-Evaluation Form, Salary Structure, and Placement of Teachers on the Salary Schedule (New Hires).

There was general concurrence by the Board with the Statement of Purpose.

There was general concurrence by the Board with the Seven Performance Areas, with the recognition that some limited additional changes may be made.

There was extensive discussion regarding the Teacher Self – Evaluation form. The Teacher Self-Evaluation Form will have a comment section added to each item. There was active discussion regarding issues such as the creation of a rubric for each score level and what might constitute appropriate evidence. The Board's comments will be shared with the Committee and a revised form, with additional documentation will be brought back to the Board.

There was general concurrence by the Board of the Draft Salary structure. Dollar amounts will be added in future discussions.

Carney asked about RA's ability to afford the personnel costs if most teachers are at the top of the salary structure. Administration responded that it is anticipated that teachers would be at various levels and the top level of Master teacher would come with additional responsibilities.

X (e) Literature Selection Policy Adoption – Tabled.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tammy O'Brien