

**APPROVED**

**Rocklin Academy Board Meeting Minutes  
Meeting Held at 65  
6532 Turnstone Way, Office  
6:30 p.m. August 18, 2008**

**RA Board Members and Staff Present:**

**Voting Members:** Chairwoman Wendy Boyd, Executive Director Dr. David Patterson, Steven Carney, and Jeff Nicolaysen.

**Non-Voting Members:** Pat Teilh and Jillayne Antoon.

**Staff:** Mary Decker, Robin Stout and Melissa Tritle.

**RA Board Members Absent:** Stephen Siler

**Visitors:** Wendy Lang and Barbara Patterson (who joined later), and Joanne Moody

**I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by Wendy Boyd, Board President, at 6:32 p.m.

**II. Adjourn to Closed:** The meeting was adjourned to closed session at 6:34 p.m. No action was taken

**III. Return to Open Session:** The meeting returned to open session and was called to order by Wendy Boyd at 7:02.

**IV. Hearing of Visitors:**

**V. Board Member Comments:**

President Boyd reported that PAC President Diana Higashi would not be able to make the meeting, but that the PAC is doing nice job with the campus at Meyers and at building the community.

Wendy reminded the Board that the September 2, 2008 meeting will include a parent partnership workshop at 5:30. She also reminded the Board that teacher selections to the Board will be made at the September 2, 2008 meeting.

Patterson discussed a DVD entitled "2 Million Minutes" which reinforces WSCA's concerns about the future of America in terms of preparation of children to take leadership roles in the world community.

## **VI. Consent Agenda:**

Items (a) Enrollment Update and (b) Meeting Minutes of June 16, 2008 were approved. Patterson/Nicolaysen (4-0) Item (c) was moved from consent and acted on separately.

### **VI. (c) Consent Agenda: Parent Handbook**

Updated pages were provided. Board Member Steve Carney moved that the handbook be accepted and Board Member Jeff Nicolaysen seconded. (4-0)

## **VII. Administration Report:**

### **VII. (a) API Initial Report**

Executive Director Dave Patterson stated that the estimated API report for Rocklin Academy is 942. This information will be released statewide on August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008. He also stated that Rocklin Academy continues to do well. He reported that STAR tests were released a few days ago and he has had an initial look which gives some insight into the demographics. Board President Boyd congratulated the teachers and the Board.

### **VII. (b) State Budget Update**

Executive Director Patterson reported that he remains very concerned about the ongoing delay in the state budget.

### **VII. (c) School Calendar Events for School Opening**

Executive Director, Patterson raised the issue that the second Board Meeting in August not be calendared for next year. He feels the Board Meeting and “Back-to-School” night are exclusive activities and suggested the second Board Meeting be eliminated.

Board member Steve Carney suggested a “goal setting” be held in August instead and felt that waiting until September or October was too late. President Boyd concurred and would like the Board to calendar the meeting in August.

### **VII. (d) Personnel Update**

Executive Director Patterson introduced his new assistant Nicole Alldredge, who is present and taking minutes.

## **IX. Information/Action:**

### **IX (a) RUSD/MOU RA at Turnstone Way; RUSD/MOU RA at Meyers St. Update**

MOUs: Executive Director Patterson and Chairwoman Boyd met with RUSD Superintendent Brown and Special Education Director Betty Di Regolo to discuss the MOU language on

August 8, 2008. The agreement is that the language of the MOU will reflect the previous language used in the MOU four years ago with some slight modifications and clarifications. The Special Education issue is a challenge for both parties in that Rocklin Academy has an obligation to accept any student with an IEP, yet at the same if the student is outside the boundaries of RUSD, there are cost implications for the District. Rocklin Academy will follow the District's policies in these matters.

Wendy Boyd commented that Betty Di Regolo was at the meeting and asked why we have a box on our application stating if the child has special needs. Wendy reported that it has nothing to do with pre-selecting students and that RA follows the same guidelines that the District does. A discussion with Board Members ensued regarding the procedures for a change of placement IEP. Executive Director Patterson stated that he will work with Staff Member Pat Teilh to clarify the exact definition of a change of placement application.

Patterson stated that he has been working with Barbara Patterson on issues of cost. One item they are clarifying is deferred maintenance dollars. Patterson stated that there are issues related to technology replacement costs. He also stated that the cost per student at Meyers is higher than at Turnstone. Patterson requested that the MOU and FUA's be approved. Nicolaysen/Carney (4-0)

#### **IX (b) Smart Classrooms – Promethean**

Executive Director Patterson reported that he has had several meetings and visitations to sites and conversations with faculty regarding the Smart Classrooms. At this point he is looking to price the product and consider how to proceed. He stated that the price is higher than an RUSD Smart Classroom, but the Promethean Smartboard Classroom has the additional flexibility and assets that come along with not only a Smart Board, but the resources available.

Executive Director Patterson will provide Board Members with information on how they can view videos of the Promethean Smart Board Classrooms on the web.

#### **IX (c) WSCA Update**

Patterson included an attachment, "Responses to the Recommended Findings of Fact". The hearing will be Wednesday August 20, 2008. The District findings were fundamentally negative and their recommendation is a denial. They are still calling the program educationally unsound. The District felt RA did not cover the needs of the EL and Special Ed students. They took issue with aspects of the budget. Carney expressed that RUSD is mistaken in their stated position on EL and Special Education. Patterson stated that it appears that Mr. Lowell is e-mailing parents in the district and telling them that WSCA's impact on the district and schools will be significant and negative. WSCA will be given 3 minutes per person to respond. Patterson feels RA has made a solid case and has a meeting scheduled with County Superintendent Gay I Garbolino-Mojica to discuss an appeal. President Boyd commented to RUSD Board Member Wendy Lang that she appreciated her coming, and Board Members Carney & Nicolaysen also expressed their appreciation.

### **IX (d) Spanish Program**

Board Member Pat Teilh provided an update on the Spanish Language Program. The administration offered the position to Mrs. Piniero and she accepted. There will be two 30-minute sessions per week per classroom. Teilh also reported that a parent has come forward to run the Spanish Club after school. The teachers will ask for Spanish docents at Back-to-School Night, and the principals are dedicated to supporting the Spanish program.

### **IX (e) Action Plans – Goal Setting From Retreat/Workshop**

Patterson reported that the retreat was great, and that everyone was fully engaged. He thanked Steve Carney for taking the time to do the workshop. He felt all staff was engaged and it was a great way to start the year. Staff member Robin Stout reported that there was a positive buzz and they were able to tie into their goals. Staff member Mary Decker felt that all the teachers had something to say about it and appreciated the strategic nature of it. Staff Member Teilh commented that the ownership that took place with the staff “blew her away”. Mary Decker stated that the teachers will alternate locations of setting three week goals until specific achievement in certain areas are met. Goals will be set the first week of September and organized into a binder so that the meetings will be effective and efficient. Stout stated that along with that approach e-mails will also be forthcoming, and Professional Development days will only be used for planning Core Knowledge. School wide goals will be brought to the Board for approval and grade level goals at a later date.

### **IX (f) Governance Update**

Board Member Nicolaysen provided an update on the work with the Governance Committee. What he found is that the “Board” needs to be defined and structured based on needs. He wanted to make sure the Board matches the mission statement, parental involvement and communication, partnership between parents, staff and Board. He feels these are areas best addressed by permanent committees. He suggested looking at nine board members and to have a member on each of the committees, with an evaluation of the Board on a yearly basis. Steve Carney expressed that committees need not be formed for the sake of creating committees. Nicolaysen would like to see more parents on the committee. Carney does not feel that RA is big enough to have such a structure. Nicolaysen wants to structure the Board so that it has the capacity to grow, not burn the Board Members out, and at the same time maintain educated and capable members. He and Carney continued to discuss this issue in length. Patterson suggested that dialogue continue on the next agenda.

**Meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Nicole Alldredge**