

Rocklin Academy Board Meeting Minutes
Meeting Held at 5035 Meyers Street, Room 32
Goal Setting Workshop: 6:30; Open Agenda 7:30 p.m.
Monday, October 18, 2010

RA Board Members and Staff Present:

Voting Members: Chairwoman Wendy Boyd, Executive Director David Patterson, Jeff Nicolaysen, Stephen Siler, Jarrett Black and Melissa Garrido

Voting Members Absent: Doug Johnson

Non-Voting Members: Scott Crosson, Melissa Whitney and Heather Donovan

Staff: Steven Carney, Robin Stout, Mary Decker, and Donna Walsh

Visitors: Wendy Lang, Kim Dvorak, Ed Keller, Sylvia Mirsch

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:02

II. Goal Setting Workshop

Rocklin Academy Board has adopted the following organizational achievement goals:

By June 2011, 95% of Rocklin Academy Schools students will score proficient or above in English Language Arts as measured by the California Standards Test.

By June 2011, 83% of Rocklin Academy Schools students will score proficient or above in Mathematics as measured by the California Standards Test.

Rocklin Academy Board of Directors will be setting perception goals at the November 15, 2010 board meeting starting at 6:00 p.m.

III. Hearing of Visitors

IV. Board Member Comments

Jarrett Black: Attended Board Retreat on October 16 and learned a lot.

Jeff Nicolaysen: Also attended the Board Retreat. He felt the Board learned a lot about each other and the direction of Rocklin Academy.

Melissa Garrido: The Board Retreat was great. She thanked everyone for their time and acknowledged the RA Cross Country Teams. She thanked Kendra Cendana for her time coaching. She also thanked Mr. Wurden and Coach Kondos for their time and dedication to the WS Cross Country Team.

Stephen Siler: Asked principals to encourage teachers with pending field trips to consider avoiding driving routes that are potentially crowded or under construction and to consider all possible field trip event times so that there is no unnecessary rushing or hurrying to get either to the venue or back to the school.

Scott Crosson: Had a “Sign Day” with the staff and had each teacher make encouraging signs for the morning drop off at Western Sierra. They capped off the day with an anti-bullying rally and asked WS Peace Leaders to assist with the rally and had all students commit to signing an anti-bullying commitment poster.

Heather Donovan: RA Cross Country is sponsoring a cross country meet. ACES and student council are up and running.

Melissa Whitney: Thought the retreat on Saturday was valuable.

Wendy Boyd: Read a thank you note from the students at WS that thanked the Board for their approval of the field trip to the Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum. She also thanked Donna Walsh and Melissa Concha for their help with the Board Retreat and preparation for the October Board Meeting while Nicole Alldredge was ill.

Steven Carney: A generous friend of WS parent, Laurie Newton contributed a chartered bus and lunch for the WS Field Trip to the Rosicrucian Egyptian Museum.

V. Consent Agenda

- a. Enrollment Update – Turnstone, Meyers, Western Sierra 2009-10**
- b. Minutes of September 20, 2010**
- c. Revised Independent Study Policy**
- d. MOU to Participate in Cal-PASS**
- e. Expenditure Reports (July and August)**

The consent agenda was passed Melissa Patterson/Nicolaysen 6-0

VI. Administration Report

- a. Executive Director – Dr. Patterson**
- b. Director of Education/Western Sierra Principal – Steven Carney**
- c. Director of Development – Donja Garvey**
- d. Committee Updates**
 - ii. Strategic Planning Committee – Roy Beckhorn**

iii. Western Sierra Facility Planning Committee – Jeff Nicolaysen

Verbal Updates:

Dr. Patterson: There was a non-injury accident on the RA Field trip to Sierra College. All parties handled it correctly. A meeting will be held the first week of November to discuss facilities options for next year for Western Sierra.

Steven Carney: Rocklin Academy schools are applying for the National Staff Development Council's (Learning Forward) Shirley Hord Award which recognizes a school team that successfully implements the cycle of continuous learning for professional learning that results in student achievement. Winners will be announced in early November.

VI. PSP Report

Meyers: \$11,000 was raised for the most recent Jog-a-Thon and there was mutual support for both schools at each Jog-a-Thon.

Turnstone: Will not have time to submit written reports to the Board due to the timing of the PSP leadership meetings. The Jog-a-Thon fundraiser raised over \$20,000. The Harvest Carnival is the 22nd, 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. One of the head music docents reported that many parents helped with her "wish list" for music instruments. There will be a play this year for 4-6 grade.

WSCA: Will be hosting a junior high dance on October 22, and October 30, is the high school Dance. Fall Feast and Fanfare was a success. All PSPs will be meeting to coordinate calendars and talk about how to support each other. The WS online store is "live".

VII. Information/Action

(a) Review/Revision to RA Enrollment and Admission Policy for 2011-2012

Donna Walsh, RA Registrar was introduced to the Board to clarify some of the new changes to the Admissions Policies of RA and Western Sierra. Stephen Siler requested a copy of the Parent Contract and had questions on the ability to enforce a parental mandatory meeting requirement as well as a requirement to read a Core Knowledge book. Executive Director Patterson clarified that it is not uncommon for schools with specific approaches to ask parents to do something additional; these things are not included in the Ed Code, but such requirements are not prohibited through a provision called permissive Ed Code. The use of CSIS student identification numbers was explained to the Board.

Wendy Boyd would like to see Back to School Night as a mandatory meeting for parents. Walsh will check to see that this requirement is stated clearly in the Parent/Student Handbook. The Board thanked Donna Walsh for her hard work on the new policy which will come to the next meeting under consent.

(b) Volunteer Committee Charge Approval

The PSP's have brought back to the Board a proposed charge as well as a proposed membership of the ad hoc committee to review the Volunteer Hour Policy. Chairwoman Boyd reminded the Board that this is a "type four decision" and all stakeholders would review this document. The charge and membership were approved. Nicolaysen/Siler (6-0)

(c) Collegiate Education Foundation

Donja Garvey was ill and was not able to present her report to the Board. Chairwoman Boyd suggested that the Director send an "In the Loop" piece to the Board so that this could also be included in the newsletter to families.

(d) Budget Update

The good news is that the state adopted the budget. The reality is that virtually everyone recognizes that this budget is a fraud, unbalanced by billions of dollars. Executive Director Patterson believes that the next Governor will immediately call for a special session and perhaps do midyear cuts. Administration will continue to keep the board updated.

(e) Declaration of Need for Authorization of CLAD

The EL population is growing in RA schools. As RA works with the faculty to ensure they all have the necessary certifications relating to serving EL students, RA needs to submit to CTC an approved Declaration of Need for Authorization of CLAD. As a compliance measure, the emergency permits will cover Rocklin Academy and Western Sierra through June 30, 2011. The teachers who need an additional certification are currently registered for the CTEL exam for permanent CLAD authorization in December. The CLAD Application will be submitted with consent of the Board. Nicolaysen/Garrido (6-0)

(f) Western Sierra Field Trips Update

RA's Field Trip Policy is that each year schools submit a listing of proposed field trips for board review and approval. However, as Western Sierra is a new school, all the field trips at the 7-12 level have not been identified. Mr. Siler suggested that teachers look into the cost of limo-type busses as they may be less expensive than a full-size charter bus for distant field trip destinations.

The WS Operations Committee will screen potential field trips and bring them to the Board in a timely manner. Proposed field trips over 50 miles one-way will be brought to the Board for approval on a case by case basis. Any trip within 50 miles will be subject to approval by the site administrator with notification to the Board, if approved by the site administrator. WS parents will be surveyed as to their support/feelings regarding parents driving their children over 50 miles one-way to and from field trip destinations. Patterson/Siler (6-0)

Chairwoman Boyd reminded the Board that all stakeholders are to be involved with the decisions, and not just the Operations Committee.

Scott Crosson is currently seeking information from parents regarding their interest in the D.C. Trip and seeks feedback from the Board. Nicolaysen suggested this trip being approved on a year by year basis. WS will bring back a request for the next year's seventh graders to plan a trip in 2012 after student and parental support and interest has been assessed for a trip in 2012.

(g) Prop 39 Application for 2011-12

RA and RUSD have a multi-year understanding. RA is committed to work with RUSD to find a permanent facility for WS that is not on a RUSD site. As part of that process RA is still required to apply for Prop 39. A meeting has been scheduled with the District on November 2. The Board directed the Executive Director to submit the Prop 39 application, after review by the Board Chair, to RUSD.

(h) MOUs and FUAs with Rocklin Unified School District

This is an annual process that we go through with RUSD. There is one small change (the FUA with Meyers Street that still has an inaccurate 2009-10 date and will be changed to 2010-11. The MOU's and FUA's were approved with the correction. Patterson/Garrido 6-0

(i) Board Retreat Action Items

None.

(j) Update on Decision Matrix

Stephen Siler and Doug Johnson will be working on the flow charts and will have this for review at the November meeting.

VIII. Closed Session

Closed Session was called to order at 9:08

The Board returned to Open Session at 9:29

Action taken in Closed Session: The Board renewed their contract with the Executive Director through June 30, 2012.

Open Session was adjourned at 9:30

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Alldredge