

**Rocklin Academy Board Meeting Minutes
Meeting Held at 6532 Turnstone Way, Library
6:30 p.m. Monday, May 24, 2010**

RA Board Members and Staff Present:

Voting Members: Executive Director David Patterson, Jeff Nicolaysen, Stephen Siler, Roy Beckhorn, Jarrett Black and Melissa Garrido

Voting Members Absent: Wendy Boyd

Non-Voting Members: Jillayne Antoon and Melissa Whitney

Staff: Steven Carney, Melissa Reese, Joanne Moody, Donja Garvey, Alison Ivey, Kelley Saia, Scott Crosson, Jessica Ala, Michelle Allen

Visitors: Diana Higashi, Daksha Shah, Cammy, Jim and Kyle Curtis, Terry Thornburg, Julianne Forst, Abdalle & Anni Bar, Jim Burton, Vivian Tignino, Chris Carney, Mark Allen, Scott & Nancy Peters, Christina & Phil Maggard, Barbara Jones, Jennifer Suoto, Laurie Newton, Olga Suarez, Lisa Dye, Ed Keller

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:32.

II. Recognition of Destination Imagination Team

Rocklin Academy's fifth/sixth grade Destination Imagination (DI) team, the "Originals" placed second at the state DI tournament, and was invited to attend the global tournament in Tennessee. Unfortunately, the cost of attending this competition was high and the team was unable to fund the trip. The students were presented with a certificate honoring the team for their hard work and the Board thanked the students, their facility sponsors, the team leaders and parents.

III. Hearing of Visitors:

Jennifer Suoto: Inquired regarding the parent survey results wanting to know if they were final or preliminary. Steven verified that they were preliminary.

Barbara Jones: As a member of the Implementation Committee and Founder she would like to bring the Implementation Committee back together and have it evaluate how well Western Sierra is adhering to the charter, mission and vision of the group. Steven Carney indicated that it was not the charge of the Implementation Committee to evaluate Western Sierra. Executive Director, Patterson indicated that the current agenda included some important parent survey results and

suggested a more complete analysis that includes input from all parties, including the Implementation Committee is being planned for an upcoming meeting, possibly in August.

Scott Peters spoke highly of the Hangtown Fundraiser for the WSCA D.C. Trip. The kids had a full day of work and a lot of fun.

Scott Crosson: Reported that last weekend the Hangtown Fundraiser had 25-30 volunteers. It was a great example of teachers, administrators and parents working together. The last school who worked the fundraiser sold 700 programs; WS sold 1800.

III. Board Member Comments

Melissa Whitney: The teachers appreciated having a minimum day to work on the report cards. Jillayne Antoon agreed.

Melissa Garrido: Attended the DC Information Night and thanked teachers Scott Crosson and Mariah Talso for all their hard work on the trip. She also attended the drama program at the Shakespeare Festival and appreciates the students are able to show their talent. She also complimented the Canterbury Tales Competition at WS, the RA and WS Open Houses and thanked all the teachers and administrators for their hard work.

Jeff Nicolaysen: Thanked the parents for their attendance and input and spoke to the board's flexibility in seeking the parents input and opinions. He feels the board meetings have the feel of a brainstorming session.

~~Jarrett Black~~: Roy Beckhorn: Attended Meyers International Day and enjoyed their good food. He also appreciated the Meyers Open House as well.

V. Consent Agenda

- a. Enrollment Update – Turnstone, Meyers, Western Sierra 2010-11**
- b. Minutes of April 23, 2010**
- c. Expenditures (November – April)**

The consent agenda was approved with a correction of the minutes. Stephen Siler was not present at the April 23, 2010 meeting.

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: Working with the Confucius Classroom Program to bring support to the Mandarin program. He is excited about the Distinguished School Ceremony and Mrs. Stout will be flying down to receive the award.

Steven Carney: The WASC visit was on May 21. The team leader, Ken Shearer, who has been in education for over thirty years commented that he was incredibly impressed with the application, evidence provided, backwards mapping, intervention program and collaboration. He interviewed students and was pleased that their academic and social needs were being met. He was so impressed with the standards based report card that he is taking it to the UC Regency Board and will also be showing it at the Superintendents Symposium. Steven felt this was a tribute to the teaching staff, parents and students.

Committee Updates: Roy Beckhorn reported that his committee is waiting on the Decision Matrix and the Facilities Committee Meetings to develop the Strategic Plan.

VII. PSP Report

Meyers: Mary Decker reported that Meyers PSP has a full board. They held the International Festival on May 13. They had a huge turnout and great food. She thanked the teachers for their Core Knowledge projects that were displayed. Volunteer Appreciation is May 26, Field Day is June 3rd and they are planning their Jog-A-Thon for September.

Turnstone: Diana Higashi reported that Turnstone has a full board. They will be working over the summer on the Meet the Teacher Event. Multi-cultural Night was a big success. They are currently working on Volunteer Appreciation, Field Day and the Jog-A-Thon. They will be working more closely with the Meyers campus to plan their events together.

Western Sierra: Daksha Shah also reported that WS also has a full board. Currently the WS PSP is planning their Sunsplash field trip and the 9th graders are going to Six Flags. The Parent Appreciation Assembly is June 4.

Information/Action

(a) California Budget Update and Discussions

Executive Director Patterson reported that there was no good news in the Governor's May Revise just released. Although there were no additional cuts in education, the CalWorks and other social safety net programs are being gutted. The LAO is recommending the legislature consider the suspension of Prop 98. Based on the current state of affairs (which changes daily) Patterson is recommending the board consider the May revise numbers the best case scenario and plan for something potentially worse. On June 7th another parent/budget workshop will be held and then another special board meeting will be held on or around June 14th to work through the budget, in order to pass it by the June 31st deadline. The state will not be meeting the basic

educational needs of children and unfortunately this will require that RA ask for donations from the parents. Roy Beckhorn suggested that when the budget survey is done again next year that there is a “forced choice” regarding budget items to assess priorities more clearly.

(b) Review of Decision Making Matrix Part II

Patterson led the board through the Vroom-Yetton Decision Making Matrix in order to clarify the process. Particular scenarios were presented and the matrix was incorporated in the decision making. It is anticipated that the work on this matrix will continue to be brought to the board at several more board meetings.

(c) Ratification of Membership in the El Dorado Charter SELPA

The initial homework has been complete and there are good programmatic and fiscal reasons to be a member of the El Dorado County Charter SELPA. However, Executive Director Patterson indicated that there remained some unresolved issues relating to the move to LEA status and membership in the El Dorado SELPA. A motion was made that the Executive Director gather more information and bring it to the Board at the 14th special board meeting, or at another special board meeting, and based on that vote, RA either move both campuses to LEA status or look at another option. Garrido/Patterson 6-0

(d) Parent Survey Results

The survey will remain open until Friday, May 28th. Steven Carney brought in the preliminary results to review with the Board, which were excellent. Over 92% of parents rated the WS Curriculum Great/Good in Math, Reading, History Writing and Intervention. Over 99% of parents at RA and WS felt the school offered a high quality academic program. Ninety seven percent of RA parents, and 100% of WS parents were satisfied with the education their child receives. Some parents asked if the modified uniform question could be rephrased to include an option of modified uniforms. This will be brought up in the next RA cabinet meeting. Scott Crosson congratulated the first year principals on such successful years. Next year, special care will be given to let parents know that every answer in the survey is anonymous and confidential.

(e) Update of MOU & FUA with RUSD

The current MOU calls for any proposed changes to the current MOU and FUA are to be communicated 60 days before the first day of classes. Administration is working through these issues and they will notify RUSD by the deadline.

(f) RA Bylaws Reviewed

The RA Bylaws were reviewed and two date changes were adopted. Garrido/Black (6-0)

(g) Revision of Membership of Audit Committee

Administration recommended the Board adopt specific language defining the purpose and membership of the Board's Audit Committee. The changes in proposed committee membership, committee duties, proposed term and staff support were adopted. Patterson/Siler (6-0)

Implementation of Audit Work Plan and Workload/Staffing Adjustments

Due to the increase in size and complexity of the financial operations at RA, the board supported contracting for accounting services instead of hiring an accounting clerk to assist with the day-to-day financial operations. The cost will be included in the proposed budgets for 2010-11 and allocated over the three schools. Beckhorn/Nicolaysen (6-0)

VII. Closed Session

Closed Session was called to order at 9:18

The Board returned to Open Session at 10:29

Action taken in Closed Session: None

Open Session was adjourned at 10:30

Respectfully submitted,

Nicole Alldredge