

**Rocklin Academy Board of Directors Minutes  
Meeting Held at 660 Menlo Drive  
Monday, October 17, 2011**

**RA Board Members and Staff Present:**

**Voting Members:** Chairwoman Wendy Boyd, Stephen Siler, Jarrett Black, Melissa Garrido, Doug Johnson, Rick Miller and Margaret Broussard

**Voting Members Absent:** None

**Non-Voting Members:** Scott Crosson and Melissa Whitney

**Staff Present:** Robin Stout, Chip Kling, Jillayne Antoon and Brigid Perakis

**Visitors:** Lisa Haddad, Michelle Walsh, Mandy B, Cindy and Mike DeBartoli, Gracie Kang, Felicia Kluessendorf, Patricia Hill, Karen Bauer, Brian Sesers, Scott Jenkins, Michele Verhaag, Elena Semenov, Sean and Barbara Jones, Rebecca Hanson, Cam and Kasey Fray, Wendy Lang, Tracy Shows, Sandra White, Tessa Semanski, Dan Stenson, Say-Gunn Low, Nate Pomeroy.

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:34

**II. Hearing of Visitors:** None

**III. Board Member Comments**

Doug Johnson expressed that it was a great opportunity to interact with the board members at the Board Retreat.

Melissa Garriso appreciated the Western Sierra Middle School Back to School Night and also attended the Rocklin Academy Jog-A-Thon.

Peggy Broussard felt the board retreat was held in a cost effective way and it was a meaningful two days. It was a great source of information and prioritizing student achievement.

Chairwoman Boyd: Was pleased to work on the board norms at the recent retreat. She recognized the work of staff, parents and families on working on the ISP's.

**IV. Consent Agenda**

- a. Minutes of September 19, 2011

- b. Expenditures for September, 2011
- c. Enrollment: Rocklin Academy Turnstone, Rocklin Academy Meyers, and Western Sierra
- d. Ratification of Hires

Item V(a) was approved with an amendment. (Siler/Johnson, 7-0) Items V(b) and V(c) will return on consent at the next board meeting. Item V(d) was passed. (Garrido/Siler, 7-0)

## **V. Administration Reports**

No verbal updates.

## **VI. PSP, Committee and ASB Reports**

Meyers: Held their Jog-A-Thon on October 7<sup>th</sup>. It was a huge success with over \$11,400 pledged to the school. They are having their carnival on the 18<sup>th</sup> and all are welcome.

Western Sierra: Students are excited about the dances. The middle school will have a Monster Mash dance and the high school is excited for their Homecoming Dance. November 4<sup>th</sup> will be the Faculty vs. Students Kickball Game. The car wash fundraiser was successful with over \$4,000 donated and given to the teachers. Kim Dvorak thanked Kam and Casey Fray of Dawson Oil Carwash who donated the proceeds to the school.

Western Sierra Operations Committee: Meetings are occurring every 7-10 days. The committee is currently working on the grading policy.

Strategic Planning Committee: The committee consisted of 12 stakeholders who met for several meetings with an external facilitator, Michael Agostini, where a strategic plan was proposed. The work will be shared with the Board at the upcoming retreat. Perfect attendees for the meetings were Robin Stout and Jillayne Antoon.

Western Sierra ASB: There is currently a weekly spirit competition for all grades. There will be a \$1,000 prize to be applied to an end of the year trip for the winning grade. The ASB has been working closely with the PSP on the dances and the students are excited.

## **VII. Information/Action**

### **(a) Survey Results for Rocklin Academy Turnstone and Rocklin Academy Meyers - Perception Goals and SMART Goals: Ratification of Goals for 2011-12**

The Perception SMART goals were ratified. (Miller/Garrido, 7-0) It was recommended that a mid-year survey be implemented. PSP funds will be mostly committed to the technology infrastructure.

Perception SMART Goals:

By spring of 2012, 80% of Rocklin Academy staff, parents, and students will respond positively to survey questions regarding use and support of technology integration.

By spring of 2012, 80% of Rocklin Academy staff, parents, and students will respond positively to survey questions regarding Character Education.

The English/Language Arts SMART Goals were ratified. (Black/Miller, 7-0) The Math SMART Goals were ratified. (Johnson/Broussard, 7-0) Margaret Broussard requested that the percentages of the students that take the CMA be reported. Chairwoman Boyd asked that the Board be updated on the progress towards the goals on a trimester basis.

2011-12 SMART Goals:

By spring of 2012, 100% of Rocklin Academy students will score proficient or advanced on the Literary Response and Analysis portion of the CST.

By spring of 2012, 100% of Rocklin Academy students will score proficient or advanced on the Algebra and Functions portion of the CST.

**(b) Parent Volunteer Hours Policy: Information/Adoption**

Due to the growing number of families that have children in more than one school, the Board is addressing the volunteer hour requirement. The current requirement is 30 volunteer hours for each school. Proposed changes are still being discussed and clarifications need to be made for how employees are dealt with and also PSP board members not being asked to put in a certain percentage of hours at a certain school. This item will return to the Board at the next meeting.

**(c) Graduation Requirements for Western Sierra: Information/Adoption**

Administration and parents have worked to make a critical change in Western Sierra's graduation requirements. These modifications will enable students transferring to be on track to get their diploma and graduate on time. The changes still meet the rigorous A-G curriculum. The proposed changes were discussed in two parent meetings at Western Sierra to address these issues. The amendments were approved. Broussard/Garrido 7-0

**(d) Assessment and Grading Policy for Western Sierra Collegiate Academy: Information/Adoption**

After extensive discussion with the staff and Operations Committee, a new grading policy is being developed drawing on work done by the School District of Waukesha. The Operations Committee will be editing the document, sending it to faculty and staff and it will return to the next board meeting as an information/action item.

**(e) Budget Review: Information**

The Board approved Rocklin Academy's 2011-12 budget in June of 2011. At that time, administration indicated it planned to bring a revised budget to the Board in the fall. Administration is working with consultant Larry Pastore to develop a budget format that reflects the board adopted corporate fiscal policy and clearly identifies organization wide costs. The budgets being developed will include a revenue reduction of \$260 per ADA,

the amount of reductions anticipated if the budget triggers are reached and reductions occur. The monthly board reports will also be changed to a more user-friendly format. Broussard requested monthly print outs be made available with the beginning cash balance, monthly operating by category, ending cash balance, etc. The Board was in consensus to extend the budget discussion at a special board meeting/workshop with Larry Pastore, to be held at the end of November.

**(f) Staff Recognition**

Chairwoman Boyd suggested this item return in January and be re-addressed at that time when the Board has more knowledge of budget cuts.

**(g) Update on Western Sierra Building Project**

Phase 2 of the construction on 660 Menlo is rapidly moving to completion and is ahead of the original schedule. The completion will require Fire Marshal requirements for exiting the building, and ADA work. The PSP has been of great assistance with the purchase of science lab equipment. Weekly contractor meetings are being held.

**(h) Board Discussion Re: Consideration of Transitional Kindergarten Program and Serving 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Students at Western Sierra Collegiate Academy.**

The Board discussed important policy changes that included a Transitional Kindergarten Program and the option to include 6<sup>th</sup> grade at Western Sierra. Administration has met with the CDE to discuss possible changes to the charter. Parents expressed concern that the sixth graders would share a campus with 7-12<sup>th</sup> graders and were also concerned that the sixth grade would be entirely moved to Western Sierra, and not be included in the K-6 program as currently operated. The Board made it clear that there is no proposal to change grade levels served at Rocklin Academy Turnstone and Meyers. It was also reiterated that if in the future a change such as the addition of a transitional kindergarten program or a grade level change at Western Sierra would be considered, that such a change would go according to the procedures set forth in the decision matrix.

**(i) Authorization to request material change to WSCA Charter to the State Board of Education**

The Board passed a resolution delegating authority to the Superintendent/Executive Director for submission of material revision to the Western Sierra Collegiate Academy Charter with the following amendment:

*Be it further resolved that any final decision to add 6th grade to Western Sierra Collegiate Academy will go through the entire decision-making matrix with full stakeholder input including coming back to the board at least two more times for full debate and discussion.*

(Miller/Johnson 5-1, Garrido opposed, Broussard abstained.)

**j. Prop 39 Request for Western Sierra Collegiate Academy: Information**

The deadline for submission of a Prop 39 application for the 2012-13 school year is November 1, 2011. It is hoped that successful completion of Prop 39 in-lieu negotiations with RUSD will eliminate the need to complete the process for the 2012-13 school year and beyond. This year's application will be very similar to what was submitted last year. The Board approved that the Chairwoman be delegated authority to approve the submission application by administration on or before the November 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.

Closed session was called to order at 12:14 ~~a.m.~~ p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 12:42 ~~a.m.~~ p.m.

Action Taken in Closed Session: None

Open Session was adjourned at 12:44 a.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Nicole Alldredge**