

**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Meeting Held at 660 Menlo Drive**  
**6:30 p.m., Monday, January 28, 2012**

**RA Board Members and Staff Present:**

**Voting Members:** Chairman Doug Johnson, Melissa Garrido, Nate Pomeroy, Rick Miller, Adam Schwarz and David George

**Voting Members Absent:** Peggy Broussard

**Visitors:** Diana Higashi, Julia Pooler, Carol Repetti, John Repetti, Mark Klang, Ilene Klang, Debbie Dettner, Jared Siddargni, Jake Rosenburg, Barbara Jones, Sylvia Miersch, Heather Donovan, Richard Holmes, Lynsey Fabel, Rebecca Fong, Fred Lacker, Janelle Lewis

**Staff Present:** Phil Spears, Brigid Perakis, Miken Dayton, Amy Alford and Heidi Little

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order at 6:30

**Hearing of Visitors:**

Mark Klang spoke regarding his feelings about the new grading system. He would like to have seen a parent committee formed before a decision was made. He has a page with 42 signatures requesting that the traditional report card be brought back to Rocklin Academy.

Irene Klang stated that the standards based report card systems do not motivate students towards achievement.

Richard Holmes disagrees with the standards based report card system as well. He feels the current assessment process does not have enough dynamic range. It's too abstract and unconventional for his comfort level.

Debbie Dettner supports the traditional grading system. She feels a "4" is much too difficult to attain.

Julia Pooler requested that the new system also contain a minus and plus system. She would like a redefinition of a "4".

Heidi Little, a founding teacher at Rocklin Academy is concerned with what she heard. She feels the foundation of the school is partnership between the parents, students and teachers. She

described to the audience what it takes for a student to attain a “4” on a report card. She volunteered to have a forum to explain to parents how the new system works.

Lindsey Fable is a new parent whose child was selected in the last lottery. She feels extremely lucky to be a part of Rocklin Academy.

Miken Dayton was distressed that as a teacher who puts in 40 hours and above, she feels that the parents are not more understanding about the new grading system which was based on research, data and professional development.

Sylvia Mirsch, Barbara Jones and Julia Pooler expressed their support for the teachers. Barbara Jones highlighted the fact that she is on a committee that will be looking at the concerns raised about the grading system. Recommendations from this committee will be coming forward to the Board at a later date.

Kris Carson is hopeful to secure a spot in the new school.

## **V. Board Member Comments**

Chairman, Doug Johnson stated that this topic has been addressed in multiple board meetings and that the Board will continue to rely on both teacher and parent input regarding these kinds of concerns. He also had the opportunity to view some of the basketball games at Western Sierra. He has received a lot of feedback that the court at Western Sierra is bringing a good experience to many, and outside groups are leasing the facility.

David George also enjoys the new court and feels it’s the nicest court of any of the other schools the Western Sierra teams are playing, even though it’s a foot short of regulation.

Melissa Garrido wished everyone a Happy New Year.

## **VI. Consent Agenda**

- a. Enrollment: Rocklin Academy Turnstone, Rocklin Academy Meyers, and Western Sierra Collegiate Academy – *Informational item only*
- b. Minutes of December 17, 2012 – *Approval*
- c. Minutes of January 14, 2013 - *Approval*
- d. Expenditures – *Review and approval*
- e. Authorization to Pay – *Review and approval*
- f. Check Register – *Review*
- g. New Hires – *Review and ratification*
- h. Donation Acceptance – *Acceptance of gifts made to the Rocklin Academy Family of Schools or the PSPs*

The consent agenda was passed. Miller/Garrido 6-0

## **VII. Administrative Reports**

No verbal updates were reported.

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

No verbal updates were reported.

## **IX. Information Action**

### **(a) Review of SARCS**

Rick Miller made several requests regarding the SARCS, including that Western Sierra's format match that of Rocklin Academy. He wants the SARC to be clear on suspension/expulsion rates, and the definition of a District. He feels we need to further detail the Professional Development and how it sets us apart. The Meyers Physical Fitness numbers seem to be off. He stated that the AYP in two categories needs to be discussed, and that more definitions for acronyms be given, so that parents can understand the report a little better.

### **(b) Western Sierra Admissions Policy**

The changes to the preferences in the charter were approved and passed. Miller/Schwarz 6-0

### **(c) Rocklin Academy Admissions Policy**

This item was removed from the agenda and will return for discussion at the next board meeting.

### **(d) Western Sierra Field Trips**

The music and Mandarin field trips were approved. Pomeroy/Schwarz 6-0

### **(e) Wendy Boyd Beyond the Call Award**

Wendy Boyd has requested the Board select the candidate to be awarded the Beyond the Call Award. She will present the recipient the award in May. All those nominated for the award will be acknowledged. Melissa Garrido will lead an ad hoc committee and this item will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting. Parent communication will go out via the newsletters during March and April.

### **(f) Rocklin Academy Family of Schools Expansion**

Rocklin Academy is moving forward in a positive direction. The draft charter has been sent to legal and to Kathi Dougherty, the Superintendent of Newcastle. There will be a special meeting to approve the charter and the MOU.

Diana Higashi commented that she hopes Rocklin Academy will be true to the original charter vision which speaks to the benefits of having a small school. Melissa Garrido requested that there be a military preference for enrollment.

### **(g) Finance Committee Appointment**

Jake Rosenberg reported that everything is on track with the expenditures and they have reviewed the quarterly report. The Board is invited to attend the February 4 meeting to discuss accounting methods.

**(h) Conflict of Interest Policy**

The changes suggested by the Rocklin Academy attorney were approved. Miller/Garrido 6-0

**(i) Board Policy and Procedures**

This item was removed from the agenda and will return for discussion at the next board meeting..

**(j) Western Sierra Scholarship Program**

Updates were provided to the Board regarding the new scholarship program.

**(k) Western Sierra Phase III**

A Phase III Committee has been formed and will be meeting to discuss the changes at Western Sierra.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:23.

**Respectfully submitted,  
Nicole Alldredge**