

Vanguard Classical School (VCS)
Board of Directors' Meeting
April 23, 2020
Beginning at 6:00 PM MT
Virtual
MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

- A. Board Members:
 - a. Danielle Tomwing
 - b. Karen Secor
 - c. Victoria Palomo
 - d. Robert Fulton
 - e. Harsha Sekar
 - f. Jack Robinson
 - g. Hanosky Hernandez

- B. Employees: John Cerny, Keria McCafferty, Angela Keedy, Emily Van Luit, Dennis Steele, Elisha Davis, Nathan Bryant

- C. Guest: Rick Boos, Dawn Priday

Call to Order/ Pledge of Allegiance/ Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:02PM by Harsha Sekar. The pledge of allegiance and roll call took place.

Executive Session Rick Boos, Dawn Priday, John Cerny, Harsha Sekar and the board

Executive session started at 6:03 PM

Motioned by Karen Secor

Seconded by Robert Fulton

Executive session ended at 6:28 PM

Motioned by Hanosky Hernandez

Seconded by Victoria Palomo

AGENDA APPROVAL

A motion to approve agenda was made by Hanosky Hernandez, seconded by Robert Fulton and the motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

n/a

ACTION/CONSENT ITEMS

Approval of March 26, 2020 Minutes

A motion to approve the March 26, 2020 minutes was made by Robert Fulton and seconded by Hanosky Hernandez. The motion carried unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS

Purchase order for Radio Ads

Harsha asked how effective radio ads are. Emily stated that this is first time we are trying it.

Motioned by Karen Secor

Seconded by Hanosky Hernandez

Motion was carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR' S REPORT

Facilitated by John Cerny

Educational Success

Discussion of current VCS Remote Education Plan

Emily Van Luit stated it is going well for K-5 east. Families are grateful. Angela Keedy stated there are lots of menu options. There are remote learning options for high school. All the due dates are extended to May 22nd. Keria McCafferty mentioned that ClassoDojo was introduced so teachers can give feedback.

John Cerny stated only 5% of the families are using the virtual platforms. There are still a few families we cannot get in touch with- about 5%. All of these students except 1 is on an IEP plan. They cannot get in touch with this one student. As for remote learning for next year – we are in uncertain times and there is no limitation on our charter school not having remote learning.

Angela Keedy indicated the governor plans for 2 scenarios – one to open with new health protocols in place and 2 a plan for remote learning.

John Cerny expressed we are still learning a lot about the process and there are many issues – what types of machines and how many would have them and would everyone have one. 20% of our families do not have the internet and may not want it. We do not have direction from APS yet. We are following the lead of APS. John Cerny expressed how impressed we turned things out and we turned things around in 10 days. He mentioned that majority of our families do not feel comfortable in a virtual plan. Karen Secor stated that we were not aware of this challenging scenario and expressed her gratitude to VCS teachers. John Cerny wants to look at the next 2 to 3 weeks and see where we are at and we will continue doing well with this.

Safety Updates

Dennis Steele stated the school will remain closed and only essential people allowed. We are coming up with a plan to reopen.

SHPG (School Healthcare Professional Grant) 2020 Application Update

Angela Keedy stated the grant is done and it has moved on to be approved.

Delinquent Lunch Balances

Dennis Steele stated ~\$16K between both campuses to be collected. We are making strides towards collecting these funds- half of this comes from students that owe \$250 each.

Harsha Sekar reviewed the public comments and asked John Cerny if he can summarize to acknowledge some of the statements. John Cerny highlighted the challenges different families have. We are asking our teachers to communicate more and more. As far as Ms Glen, he stated it is a very unfortunate situation. He confirmed it had nothing to do with health and safety and the fact that this is a personal issue that we cannot comment further on.

Financial Stability

2020-21 Budget Review – delayed (May) due to CDE/State of CO uncertainty

Budget has been delayed.

New enrollment projections and other factors for upcoming 2020-21 budget

John Cerny stated enrollment is projected to be down. We are redoing our enrollment counts. Lowering technology and curriculum costs. We are trying to be more realistic to have a balanced budget. We are looking into this further with the finance committee.

Discussion - ACCO/For Sale Sign for E property

This is misleading information from ACCO.

Staff Leadership

Personnel Updates – Staffing

Emily Van Luit expressed they have recently had great new hires. We hired ELD teachers, SPED teacher and secondary math and 1st grade teacher. We have all our teachers. Keria McCafferty stated we are looking for an Art teacher. All other staff are expected to be returning.

Community/Charter Relations

2020 Enrollment/Media Campaign Update

John welcomed Marco Cummings. Marco Cummings was brought in to work on marketing for the school- he worked on slide show videos. This week he is working with radio stations. In regards to the question around demographics Marco Cummings stated the break down goes well with the school community in regards to age etc. He wants to put a process in place so we can know which marketing options are working. He mentioned he is working on a video show casing the school in a virtual learning environment. John Cerny acknowledged being excited about Marco's ideas.

Robert Fulton recommended John Cerny and leadership put together a vision for online learning for the school and publish it unless John Cerny and his teachers will be inundated with questions.

John Cerny articulated the VCS board should be part of this vision and this should be part of the working session. Robert Fulton spoke about there being different models for online learning and parents have different kids in different schools and we have an expectation of what this looks like. He mentioned that we cannot be all things for all people, but we need a clear and simple plan or teachers will be inundated with requests. The clearer and simpler the vision it will address parents' concerns.

Harsha Sekar stated we will work towards having a possible work session. We will tentatively plan for the working session. John Cerny mentioned he would like to discuss our options with the board.

Harsha Sekar encouraged leadership to maintain communication and respond to parents and we will take time to work through this transition.

John Cerny thanks everyone at the school. He pointed out that majority of comments have been positive, and he has confidence that we will land well and want to make sure that we keep this equitable for everyone.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Presented by Dawn Priday

February Check Register

Harsha Sekar asked if \$37K is our healthcare plan and Dawn Priday responded yes.

February Financials Statements

Dashboards

- Months of unrestricted cash continue to go up
- July started 1.66 now at 2.68 through the month of March
- Surplus/Deficit also increased
- 8.52% at the beginning of the year. We are at 10.31% this month

Balance Sheet Highlights

- Total Liabilities decreased by \$83K

Income Statement

- Revenue ended with 10.5mil – 75% of our revised budget
- Total revenue 14.2 mil

Expenditure Highlights

- 5.2 million YTD Total Salaries and Benefits
- 524K spent on instructional
- Supporting service spent 3.2 mil, projecting at 100K in savings
- Total expenditure 9.2 mil
- Projected 12.9 mil in expenditure
- Total ending fund balance 2.6 mil

Summary

Dawn Priday stated PPR will keep flat and up to 12% reduction. We are waiting on legislature to see what it will be. Adopted budget has been extended to June 15th. We have more time to get more numbers from the state, which will be mid -May to end of May.

Harsha Sekar reiterated his gratitude to the leadership team and the administration. He acknowledged how hard this has been. He is immensely proud that they put together an online program so quickly. He is incredibly proud of the staff and for Dawn Priday and Rick Boos for providing the financial stability. We continue to have a lot of momentum and confident we will get through this.

ADJOURNMENT

VCS Board Meeting End Time: 7:47 PM

Motioned by Robert Fulton

Seconded by Victoria Palomo

The motion carried unanimously by the board members.