

Vanguard Classical School (VCS)
Board of Directors' Meeting

Thursday, October 26, 2017

4:30 PM

Vanguard East Campus

MINUTES

Attendance

Board Members: Sherry Eastlund, Judy Ham, Sonja Herrera, Chris Jensen, Lisa Sagaser
Staff: Syed Ahmed, Peggy Downs, Angela Keedy, Judy Trimble

Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 4:35 PM by Board Chair, Judith Ham.
The pledge of allegiance and roll call took place.

Agenda Approval

A motion to approve the October 26, 2017 Agenda was made by Chris Jensen, seconded by Sherry Eastlund and passed unanimously.

Meeting Minutes

VCS Board Meeting minutes for September 28, 2017 were reviewed, and a motion to approve them was made by Lisa Sagaser, seconded by Sonja Herrera and passed unanimously.

Honors and Recognition

WEST

Magdalena Jovanovska-Ribic for her networking skills between VCS and the International Language Center, which donated 140 student desks to Vanguard West for a savings of \$15,000.

Angel Cervantes for invaluable support in assuring the truck rental, pick-up and delivery of 140 donated desks to Vanguard West, and helped with some, which were shared with VCS East.

Victoria Winkler for being an amazing team player, originally assigned to be an Education Assistant in 1st grade, who willingly moved to 5th grade. She has been an amazing assistant for that team.

Joe Linscott for his work in organizing the 8th grade, year-long capstone project and for volunteering his time to coach our boy's team of flag football.

Alex Milligan, a junior student at Smokey Hill High School, who has volunteered 15 hours per week for 6 weeks assisting in coaching our boy's team of flag football.

Kudos to all of the anonymous VCS West staff, who donated \$75.00 to support several students with athletic scholarships.

EAST

Many kudos from teachers for Lindsay Willmann, grades 3--4 Special Education teacher, who has been extremely helpful and steps in instinctively to help teachers with children with special needs and whenever coverage is needed.

Board President Report

Judy Ham emphasized the importance of safety and health concerns and her appreciation that a social worker has been hired at West. She commented that Risk Management is important for parents and how important it is to have everyone be intentional about paying attention. She reiterated the saying that everyone who sees something needs to say something and do something, when incidents arise. She stated that the incident that came up at East today was handled well with parents and everyone involved. She also complimented leadership on the shared partnership and collaboration between the 2 campuses.

Financial Report

We will have a Financial report at our next meeting. The Finance Committee is initially formed and planning to meet soon, at which time they will consider if any budget adjustments are needed. Budgeted numbers include both schools.

The goal of the Strategic Plan is for VCS set aside 3% annually over the next 5 years in addition to the required Tabor reserve. We are currently at 1% and will be seeking additional grant funds between both schools

Directors' Reports

Aurora Public Schools Business

The APS Performance Review for both schools was distributed and includes financials for both schools at a glance. We are approaching the projected 95% benchmark in October in enrollment. The Performance Review becomes public record by November 3, 2017, so we will upload any changes needed, as some data is old. If requested, the public can get it from the district. We are pleased to see some movement in closing the gap in Literacy.

Curriculum

We have had some productive conversations about Math and will be scheduling an all day training with teachers on Singapore Math, which ties to the Creative Curriculum. We discovered and will purchase a teacher friendly Latin Program for Grades 4-8 at East. We hope to also offer French and Spanish in the future. K-3 students will have a Literacy focus.

Assessments

NWEA data shows how many students meet the growth of all students from Fall of 2016 to Fall of 2017 with the expectation that 50% of students will meet growth standards. Our numbers were 49% in reading and 47% in math.

Enrollment

West's October count was a success. It was projected at 490 is currently over 509 due to active recruitment. It is 743 at East to date.

VCS Strategic Plan

Directors distributed the newly revised 2018-2025 VCS Strategic Plan and reviewed changes with the board. It was agreed that there may be additional revisions after we receive feedback on the APS Charter Renewal Application. Directors expressed the need to share it with teachers and staff. With the understanding that there may be a few revisions later, Chris Jensen moved to approve the Strategic Plan as presented, Sonja Herrera seconded it, and it passed unanimously.

APS Charter Renewal

APS is actively reviewing our Charter Renewal Application, and we should know their recommendations in approximately 2 weeks. The APS Board Meeting to approve our application is Wednesday, December 6, 2017, and VCS board members were encouraged to attend or write a letter to APS.

Parent Communication

Parent-Teacher Conferences were well attended at both schools, and follow up with those unable to attend is underway. Parents will be surveyed to obtain feedback on the conferences.

Other

- Currently, we are looking to hire a Counselor, Social Worker and another Nurse at East as part of the CDE mental health grant.
- It was suggested that parents may need to be reminded @ once a quarter that we have a social worker on site to support them with student's mental health or other challenges, if they need it.
- Board members are welcome to join the finance committee.
- Meetings will be held in January to assist students with college applications and/or to apply for scholarships.
- The Kids Adventures Program will be re-examined and other bids will be sought, as staffing and care of equipment have not been reliable.
- Small group instruction on analyzing data is taking place at West with teachers and TA's together.
- An APS Student Enrollment Summary Report documenting Student Populations by Race/Ethnicity and Grade Level (Male/Female/Total) as of October 26, 2017 was distributed.
- SPED teachers are focusing in on IEP Goals and are coaching the general teachers regarding accommodations, differentiation and compliance.

Old Business

Early APS comments on our Charter Renewal Application have been positive. There were questions about suspensions at East, and more information was provided. There were no significant problems with SPED programming. Discussion ensued regarding the Teacher Education Assistant model and how it was working in collaboration with Special Education teachers.

New Business

There was no new business.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

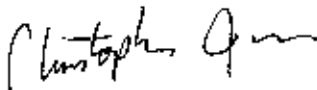
Next Meeting

Thursday, November 30, 2017 at 4:30 PM in the East Campus Large Conference Room.

Adjournment

All business being concluded, a motion was made by Chris Jensen, seconded by Sherry Eastlund to adjourn the meeting at 6:10 PM, and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,



Chris Jensen, Secretary