

Vanguard Classical School (VCS)
Board of Directors' Meeting

Thursday, February 22, 2018

4:30 PM

Vanguard West Campus

MINUTES

Attendance

Board Members: Sherry Eastlund, Judy Ham, Sonja Herrera, Chris Jensen, Lisa Sagaser
Staff: Syed Ahmed, Peggy Downs, Angela Keedy, Judy Trimble
Guests: Terry Glen, Emily Van Luit, Keria McCafferty

Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 4:40 PM by Board Chair, Judith Ham.
The pledge of allegiance and roll call took place.

Agenda Approval

A motion to approve the February 22, 2018 Agenda was made by Sherry Eastlund and seconded by Sonja Herrera. Board members Sherry Eastlund, Sonja Herrera, Chris Jensen, and Lisa Sagaser voted "Aye", and the motion carried unanimously.

Meeting Minutes

VCS Board Meeting Minutes for January 25, 2018 were reviewed, and a motion to approve them was made by Lisa Sagaser and seconded by Sherry Eastlund. Board members Sherry Eastlund, Sonja Herrera, Chris Jensen, and Lisa Sagaser voted "Aye", and the motion carried unanimously.

Honors and Recognition

VCS Staff to be honored with recognition certificates for outstanding performance are as follows:

WEST: Vanguard West would like to recognize all of our Educational Assistants for their hard work and dedication to our teachers and students. They are a collaborative group and help out wherever needed. They have joined all of our professional development days and have implemented what they have learned in those development days, including the mental health training. They are Diana Ontiveros, Alex Garsez, Mark Lecks, Cheri Kressin, Sarah Prado, Robin Hawkins, Victoria Winkler, and Sean Brewer.

EAST: Jessica Seiter, Elementary Art teacher, creates beautiful displays of the students' artwork throughout the hallways downstairs. Each display is labeled with the grade level and how the work corresponds with Core Knowledge. East recognizes our paraprofessionals, who continue to provide assistance with a positive attitude.
Upper: Jessie Christensen; Middle: Max Pierce; Elementary: Sherry Morrison, Rachel Minero, Karen Garrett, Trina Khokhar

EAST AND WEST: We would like to recognize our hardworking SpEd Services Team that serves both East and West: Leslie MacDonald, School Psychologist; Cathy Davis, SLP; Corey Ongay, LP-A; Robin Toms, OT; Lindsey Mack, PT

Board President Report

Public Comment: Due to several public comment attendees, Judy Ham requested a motion to welcome public comments prior to the Board going into Executive Session toward the end of the meeting. A motion to approve moving Public Comments up on the Agenda was made by Chris Jensen and seconded by Sherry Eastlund. Board members Sherry Eastlund, Sonja Herrera, Chris Jensen, and Lisa Sagaser voted "Aye", and the motion carried unanimously. Judy Ham instructed guests on the protocols for public comments and they were received.

Judy announced that elections for VCS Board members would be held in May 2018. This will be to increase the Board to 7 board members.

Financial Report

Syed Ahmed shared information from the Financials for December, 2018 and from the Finance Committee. The Finance Committee reviewed and discussed expense areas over 50% on monthly funding spreadsheets and will be reviewing recommended salaries for teachers and directors. He announced that the Mill Levy funds for the year were received from APS in January, 2018. Financials are posted on the VCS website and the Finance Committee continues to meet monthly.

After some discussion, a motion to accept the Financials for December 2017 was made by Lisa Sagaser and seconded by Chris Jensen. Board members Sherry Eastlund, Sonja Herrera, Chris Jensen, and Lisa Sagaser voted "Aye", and the motion carried unanimously.

Directors' Reports

Peggy Downs introduced the Core Knowledge Language Arts Literature Program (CKLA), a well developed, high quality curriculum lined up with Common Core, which includes an assessment component, and is differentiated for ESL students. She requested that it be adopted as a K-8 curriculum replacement for older materials, which are no longer available. Access to it is readily available on the internet. Costs are minimal.

Core Knowledge is also updating its Core Knowledge History and Geography units (CKHG) and will be updating more of their curriculum. The Board requested access to additional information prior to approval, but discussed the Directors' VCS plan and costs for its use, extensively.

A motion was made to approve adding Core Knowledge Language Arts and Core Knowledge History and Geography, when ready, to the current VCS curriculum as Pilot Programs. Sonja Herrera made the motion and it was seconded by Lisa Sagaser. Board members Sherry Eastlund, Sonja Herrera, Chris Jensen, and Lisa Sagaser voted "Aye", and the motion carried unanimously.

Distributed were Drafts of East and West's Unified Improvement Plans for Board review. It was noted in the Executive Summaries that the schools will continue to focus on improving academic growth for students in math. These reports are sent to CDE for approval and will be uploaded on their website, when approved. They have been shared with teachers and are tied to our VCS Improvement Plan.

Directors also distributed a proposed Salary Schedule for VCS employees and a comparative chart of salaries at other charter schools for Board review. It was recommended that, also under consideration, should be the number of days spent per year. The Board requested a 5 year progressive chart of recommended salaries. Approval of the Salary Schedule will be sought at the next Board Meeting.

It was announced that there would be a Job Fair for VCS on April 7, 2018 and Directors shared the mailer that went out seeking enrollees for 2018-2019. It was announced that the Bullying and Social Media Event will be Wednesday, March 7, 2018.

Directors shared the 2018-2019 proposed VCS School Calendar, which is aligned with the APS Calendar for next year. After some discussion, a motion to approve the 2018-2019 VCS School Calendar was made by Sonja Herrera and seconded by Sherry Eastlund. Board members Sherry Eastlund, Sonja Herrera, Chris Jensen, and Lisa Sagaser voted "Aye", and the motion carried unanimously.

Distributed also was a Continuum of Placement Options in APS for SpEd students. The Board requested to have a SpEd Presentation from the team at the next meeting. Requested also was research information from other schools that have been successful with inclusion.

The Director Team and the Risk Manager have been invited to do a presentation for CDE on the progress VCS has made implementing our CDE grant for mental health support. We are now fully staffed for mental health support, based upon this grant's salary allocations.

Old Business

The League of Charter Schools Conference is next week on March 1&2, 2018 and most Board members will be attending.

The Board will be setting up a Work Session in the near future to update the VCS Service Contract in an effort to make it more transparent. It was recommended that we obtain service contracts from other charter schools, which use service contracts from business management companies.

New Business

Chris Jensen distributed a sample policy that can be used for the two board policies that need to be approved at the next meeting per the Student Data Transparency Act, HB 16-1423. This is a law that requires all third party vendors that collect data on students, personal identifying information (PII) to follow certain parameters to protect this information, if they are to continue to work with any Colorado School. One is the board policy regarding this law and the other is a grievance policy for parents, if there is a breach. Both were distributed to board members so they could review it for the next meeting to allow for votes of approval.

Under Colorado Revised Statute 24-6-402(4)e(i), Judy Ham announced the need to go into Executive Session during this meeting to consider personnel issues. A motion to enter the Executive Session at 6:35 PM was made by Sherry Eastlund and seconded by Chris Jensen. Board members Sherry Eastlund, Sonja Herrera, Chris Jensen, and Lisa Sagaser voted "Aye", and the motion carried unanimously.

A motion to end the Executive Session at 7:04 PM was made by Lisa Sagaser and seconded by Sherry Eastlund. Board members Sherry Eastlund, Sonja Herrera, Chris Jensen, and Lisa Sagaser voted "Aye", and the motion carried unanimously.

Next Meeting

Board Conference Call: Thursday, March 8, 2018 from 4:00 PM to 4:30 PM to consider approving the VCS Student Data Privacy and Grievance Policies.

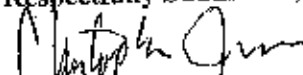
Work Session: Date/Time TBD

Regular Board Meeting: Thursday, March 22, 2018 at 4:30 PM in the West Campus Board Room.

Adjournment

All business being concluded, a motion to adjourn the Board Meeting at 7:06 PM was made by Lisa Sagaser and seconded by Sherry Eastlund. Board members Sherry Eastlund, Sonja Herrera, Chris Jensen, and Lisa Sagaser voted "Aye", and the motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,


Chris Jensen, Secretary