

La Tierra Community School
Monthly Meeting of the Board of Directors Minutes Thursday, September 19, 2013
Present: Danny Brown, Kari Hull, Russel Erickson, Claire Louge and Dan Boyce
Staff: Anna Barnum, Beth Cottle, David McNelly
Guests: Claudina Douglas

Meeting called to order – Danny Brown - 4:37 pm

- I. Consent Agenda and Approval of Governing Board Meeting Minutes
 1. Dan Boyce recommended that the August 19th, 2013 Governing Board Meeting Minutes be removed for modification and that the agenda for September 19th Board meeting consent agenda be approved.
 2. Motion to approve consent agenda and remove and modify August 19th Governing Board Meeting Minutes: Danny Brown, Seconded: Dan Boyce, Approved: 5-0-0.

- II. Community Celebrations:
 1. Second grade teacher David McNelly said that in his view, the year is going great, students are learning and there is good rapport with parents.

- III. Community Forum/Participation
 1. Board members Claire Louge and Russell Erickson took part in the Open Meeting Forum. They will bring notes and documents from their forum to the next regular governing board meeting to share out

- IV. Financial Report and AFR Report – Claudina Douglas, ADI Business Systems
 1. FY14 budget due to Arizona Department of Education by October 15, 2013
 2. Revenue comes from three different sources: Federal, state and local. La Tierra Community School expects to receive \$818,843.00 total from all sources.
 3. Maintenance &O does not include IDEA Basic Money.
 4. From Page 3-4 Prop 301 money is paid 2 months in areas. Performance pay (teachers only) 20%, Teacher Base Pay (teachers only) 20%, We are not supposed to supplant these funds to offset funds for other areas that are shorted. Everyone is different how the funds are paid; you can pay them every month, quarterly, yearly. La Tierra Community School pays out Prop 301 performance based pay stipends to teachers twice a year at Winter Holiday and End of the Year.
 5. Prop 301 is based on casino and lottery funds in the state and allocated out on a per child basis. These funds are restricted to student education.

Note: Charter schools are based on current year funding whereas public schools are paid based on counts from previous years. Charter schools are funded from the 40th day count and the 100th day count.

V. Director's Report- Anna Barnum, Interim Director

1. Professional Development

- Silver Strong and Associates – Thoughtful Classroom

To improve the quality and impact of the Thoughtful Classroom program, we have arranged to have a facilitator present the material on-site, rather than through a webinar. This program will help our faculty to learn how teaching practices can be improved and will be directly aligned with teacher evaluations.

2. Learn Pad Professional Development completed.

- Feedback was very positive that the training was excellent. Faculty is excited to start using the Learn Pads. Teachers will be able to create lessons on Learn Pads and will be able to download lessons directly to a student's Learn Pad. Students will not be aware of where other kids are in their progress, leading all kids to feel successful. Each teacher will be able to look at students' lessons on their own laptops.

3. Odyssey Curriculum through Compass Learning

- Students will be able to use Odyssey Curriculum on Learn Pads in the future. The Odyssey program will create individualized learning paths for students for one-one individualized instruction based on students abilities in given skill sets according to the Common Core Standards. All learning path lesson will be tracked and data accumulated to best help differentiate learning for all students. The Odyssey curriculum will also create benchmark assessments for reading and math.

4. Events-Fieldwork Friday.

- There are five different Fieldwork Fridays scheduled throughout the year. Each Fieldwork Friday will be involved in the classroom expeditions. The first Fieldwork Friday will be a school-wide event at Acker Park in which each teacher can incorporate the lessons about the native history and flora at the park into their expeditions. Fieldwork Friday will also give each class an opportunity to do service work, in alignment with Expeditionary Learning Design Principles.

5. Parent Work Day – The Parent Community Crew has scheduled a school-wide cleanup day. La Tierra asks each family to donate thirty hours of service each year. This school-wide cleanup day will provide a great opportunity for parents to help out in a meaningful way.

6. Community Potluck-Thursday, September 26.

The whole La Tierra Community School family is invited. Children from each class will perform a song from Miss Mima's Spanish class.

7. Service Learning-Project with Open Door

Students in the MAC Crews (Multi-Aged Crews) have been bagging dog and cat food in smaller bags for food boxes for Open Door clients. This is a great service project that can be done on campus.

8. Jennifer will be back after fall break.
- VI. New Business
 1. Governing Board Meeting Dates for SY14. Motion: Danny Brown moved that new board meeting dates are the third Thursday of the month. Seconded: Kari Hull. Approved: 5-0-0.
 - VII. Lease on school building for 2014-2015
 1. Tabled until October meeting when Mrs. Roderick returns.
 - VIII. Extended Student Medical Insurance
 1. Student Accident Insurance approximately \$500 per year to cover students while they are in our care up to \$10,000.
 2. Commercial Umbrella-\$1,000,000 \$850 per year. -Should we consider? Danny Brown suggested that we need to hold off over budget concerns. Claire said she is pro-insurance; we need to evaluate the cost vs. potential risk.
 3. Tabled until budget adjustments are made.
 - IX. Danny Brown's resignation, discussion and possible approval.
 1. Danny Brown said there is a conflict as we are competing for students. Danny is very confident in Jennifer. She has a lot of potential. She is a great leader and he will still advise Jennifer.
 2. Dan Boyce motioned, with gratitude for service and regret, to accept Danny Brown's resignation. Seconded: Russel Erickson. Motion approved: 5-0-0.
 - X. Hearing and vision contract with Yavapai County Insurance Agency required board members to sign. Total cost of contract is \$300.
 - XI. October agenda items: Discuss combining corporate board with governing board. Elect a chair, Brian McVickers membership consideration.
 - XII. Motion to Adjourn
 1. Claire Louge motioned to adjourn the meeting. Seconded: Russell Erickson. Motion approved: 4-0-0.

Meeting adjourned: 6:52 pm

