

Board of Directors Meeting: March 16, 2022

1. Open items

A. Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Erin Patterson at 7:34 pm. The meeting is being held at Cs Lewis Academy. The date is 3/16/2022. Roll Call: Erin Patterson, Devin Leavitt, Evelyn Simons, Tyler Moore, Diane Nelson, Reuben Jimenez, Nate Adams, and Shaun Laqueretabua.

B. Public forum

Shaun took part in a grant opportunity for the school. It was offered by USBE for \$1,000 grant. Shaun had to fill out all the paperwork, prep it and submit it. He won the grant and was able to purchase an entire classroom's worth of ukuleles for the school. He now has enough for everyone in a single class to have their own to learn, instead of having to share. It is working much better for him.

C. Approve meeting minutes

Devin made a motion to approve meeting minutes at 7:37pm.

Tyler seconded it.

Motion was passed by unanimous vote.

2. Executive director report

Current student count is still 305.

The current student count for next year is 313, with 4 students on the waiting list. We have two grades that are currently capped. We are trying to decide if we are going to do a 1st-2nd grade hybrid/split class for next year. There are still 8 spots available for kindergarten.

Next Monday, March 21, 2022 @ 6 pm is latino night. Everyone is invited. The focus of the meeting will be about attendance. (currently we are at 85% for the year. Our goal is 90%)

Alex (our school therapist from wasatch mental health) will also be there. He speaks fluent spanish. He is coming to help make sure our families know about all the resources available for them. He will also be running the "STRIDE" program at the school. We are really excited about it.

The new principal started already. We are excited to have him and get him integrated with the school.

The back retaining wall is almost done. We will continue to monitor the back wall annually and after every major storm.

We are going to look into Facebook analytics and paid/ per click advertising to help with our school marketing more.

We have made many great updates to the school website.

This month's teacher highlight is Shaun Laqueretabua. He is fabulous and amazing and he is working so hard.

3. Review and Sign Bylaws.

The Board decided that any desired revisions need to be sent to Evelyn by April 13th, 2022. The board will then revote for approving this at the next board meeting. We need to make sure to add a line stating "Revised on _____", must be signed by the current secretary.

4. Vote on Family Engagement Policy.

The board discussed the brief changes that were made, to include requiring background checks for anyone volunteering that spends a significant amount of one on one time with any students. We also reviewed the removal of charges and fees for student families. We now exempt donations, but do not demand them.

Evelyn made a motion to pass new policy at 8:01

Erin Seconded the motion.

The motion passed by unanimous vote.

5. Committee Reports

A. Finance Committee.

As we approach the end of the year we will be dealing with the disbursements of grants. We will be putting in a lot of time and effort to make sure everything is spent accordingly and appropriately. Our goal is to get half of them done now and the other half done at the end of the year.

Nate has been focusing on ESSER funds. Our aids are all helping in multiple departments right now and so trying to allocate their portion of the budget continues to be tricky, but we are figuring it out. The maintenance line of our budget is tight, we are pushing our budget on that, but things are needed. We will continue to spend on that line item as needed. Overall the budget is still healthy. In line 613, the finance committee is reviewing to ensure that all items in this category are being recorded in the correct line item. We are considering utilizing some of the ESSER funds for general Technology.

The end of year forecast is 2.5%

The lunchroom needs some maintenance and as a result there will be some big ticket item spending that may occur later on there. These purchases will need bids and will need to be board approved. The goal is to have everything prepped and ready for vote by the next board meeting.

The Lunchroom needs a new electrical panel.

Next year, the wpu increase is 6%. Local replacement is up 7%. This is a good thing because those are the two main spending pods from the state. The initial budget for next year will be approved by the board in June.

B. Governance and Policy Committee.

Evelyn has been going through the policies and putting them in order of when they were last approved to make sure all policies are up to date and accurate. We are hoping to have two or three policies plus bylaws ready for the next few meetings. In June the committee is doing an all day blitz to get through as many policies in one day as possible. Their hope is to have it all ready for the board meeting in August. Once approved they will all need to be immediately updated on the school website. Every 3 years, every policy should be updated. We need/want to double check that all documents are in pdf on the website.

C. Academic meeting.

The staff has been diving into the Acadience language arts data. They recently met with Paul, an Acadience Specialist. Paul showed the leadership staff at the school a different way to view that data. They realized that they are being graded on overall growth, not necessarily the overall score. With that being said, it is just as important to keep the top performers growing, as it is to help the bottom performers grow. We also just found out that the bottom 25% of all schools in the Acadience program will be put on support. This is a recent change from the previous 5%.

We also just found out that the old scores in testing for the past two years will now be taken into account. This was a shock because the state had previously ruled that the COVID years were not going to count, but we just found out it went against Federal rule, and therefore they are changing it to count now.

The "RISE" Training will begin the second to third week of April, after Spring Break.

The school's "WIN" time has been restructured and extended for 3rd graders to accommodate the extra necessary support that they need for the Acadience Testing. The school has also given extra support to the 1st graders. They have done this to because the 3rd and 1st graders have the steepest learning curves.

The school staff just had their 4th training with USU, (Ray and Parker). The staff is loving it. The school's aids also had training and it was amazing!! It was one of the most interactive training sessions that Diane has had. The TA's are wanting more, so Diane is trying to schedule more for them.

There have been a lot more behavioral issues, amongst the children this year, due to covid, isolation, trauma, loss, loneliness. However; morale with kids and teachers is getting better.

Sam (the new principal) is doing mini training sessions with select teachers on Wednesdays after school for 20-30 minutes under contract time. These sessions are volunteer, but they are to help equip and support the teachers.

We are very invested in helping the children with emotional and social, and educational health. The teachers are taking all sorts of training to help with language arts and then math as well.

Our plan is a 3-5 year plan for a new foundation and we are almost done with year one. We expect to see our efforts to start paying off soon.

6. Closed Session

None

7. Motion to Adjourn

Evelyn made the motion to adjourn the meeting and the meeting was Adjourned at 8:47 pm.