

# APPROVED BOARD MINUTES

## **ASD Board Meeting September 14, 2011 @ 6:30 p.m.**

Board Members Present: Matt Collins, Thomas Frischknecht, Kent Glossop, Jim Hochberg, Idina Holden, Patty Humphrey, Brandon Jackson, Kimberly Lavallee, Rebecca Paquette and Michael White

Board Members Absent: Jack Donovan, Karen Graham

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m.

### 1. Public Comments

Mr. Fred Teeboom – After research, Mr. Teeboom has concluded that state law and federal law allow discrimination on the basis of aptitude. In his opinion, the vote taken last month compromised the standards of the school and set a precedent.

Mr. Frischknecht response: The Board understand that this is allowed. Mr. Frischknecht questioned the definition of aptitude.

### 2. Approve Minutes from previous meeting

Mr. Frischknecht noted an error in attendance. The minutes were approved unanimously with that correction.

### 3. Items of Board Business

#### a. Annual Parent Board-Member election

A motion was made to open 3 seats for the election of parents to the Board this year. This passed unanimously.

Mr. Frischknecht requested a committee be charged with coordinating the elections. A motion passed to have the Personnel Committee take this role. The motion passed 8-1.

#### b. e-Mail Server

Questions were raised about the availability of the “all parents” email address. Mrs. Angela Overman clarified that only administration has the ability to send to the “all parent” email list. Old email addresses are not purged, but accounts are suspended. If someone sends to a suspended account, the sender gets a bounced email error.

### 4. Director’s Report

#### a. Finance

Mr. David Chauvette reviewed a cash flow analysis through 9/30/11. The school’s medical plan changed on 9/1 which is expected to save at least \$20,000. Mr. Chauvette mentioned that several staff members used personal credit cards in order to expedite text book orders, which will be reimbursed. The annual budget projection will be reviewed at the next meeting.

#### b. Personnel

Mr. Chauvette replaced the computer teacher at the start of the year with Karen Olmstead. Mr. Chauvette expects to fill the bookkeeper position in the next week.

#### c. Start of School

Current enrollment is 286 students, ahead of budget. There may still be student fluctuation for another week or so. The school is now at full capacity.

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The classroom layout is effective in reducing congestion during passing time, and it is not any noisier. The 6<sup>th</sup> grade is successfully separated from the older grades.

Parking is expected to be an issue, especially in the winter. There are no other major issues.

Computers are on order from HP. When those come in, the computer lab will be retrofitted, and the 6<sup>th</sup> grade will be equipped with its own computers.

David acknowledged students Dominique Dadekian and Andrew Slebodnick, who spent most of their summer at the school helping Mr. Jim Overman to get the school ready.

### 5. Committee Reports

#### a. Curriculum

Mr. Hochberg's job is resigning as chair of the committee due to job commitments which have caused him to miss several committee meetings. Mr. Glossop will serve as temporary chair until new members are elected in October. The Board discussed a request from the Department of Education for a preliminary plan for teaching to mastery. [Ms. Humphrey objected to the Department's request. Although we happen to agree with the goal, she explained, we would follow our own timeline, do not need to submit our plan to the Department and should not surrender control of our curriculum.](#) Mr. Glossop will review the request and anticipates the Curriculum Committee will work with administration on this plan

#### b. Policy

The admissions policy is being revised and will be presented at next month's meeting.

#### c. Personnel

Staff job descriptions are under review and will be presented at next month's meeting.

#### d. Outreach

The committee will meet with the Director on some fundraising ideas that have been identified for this year. The committee will report out on plans next month.

#### e. Strategic Planning & Finance

A committee meeting is planned for 9/21 to create sub-committees which will coordinate the planned facility move for next year. The sub-committees will identify what options are available and how the move and new facility will be financed. Mr. Overman said the ideal facility would be 70,000 square feet, include green space, room for a field would be helpful, as well as common space such as an auditorium. Mr. Chauvette said that State Department of Education Commissioner Barrie told him there are surplus facilities in the area that might be usable for our purposes. Mr. Chauvette will follow up with the Commissioner.

### 6. Policy Review/Approvals – None.

### 7. PR-Communications Debrief

\*\* Motion to go into closed session passed unanimously. \*\*

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\*\* Motion to come out of closed session passed unanimously. \*\*

The Board will have an extra meeting on 9/28 at 6:30 p.m. to review the policies that were not reviewed today. Mr. Frischknecht will send out an email invitation. The policies will be sent out in advance to give time for Board members to address questions in advance.

The October meeting will also include parent board member elections.

Respectfully submitted,

Idina Holden  
Secretary