

Rocky Mountain Classical Academy
Board Meeting Minutes for Regular Board of Directors Meeting held January 14, 2010 at
Piros Campus, 6:30 PM

Meeting Called By: Board of Directors
Facilitator: Scott Cathey

Attendees: Kristin Geesey (KG), Maryann Kephart (MK), Brian Cullen (BC) Scott
Cathey (SC)

1.0 Call to order, Roll Call Scott Cathey 6:39 PM

Roll Call	KG	Present
	MK	Present
	BC	Present
	SC	Present

2.0 Welcome and Pledge - Scott Cathey

3.0 Approval of Agenda

Kristin Geesey requested addition of item 7.06 Grant Writer Discussion

Motion to approve change

Roll Call	KG	Yes
	MK	Yes
	BC	Yes
	SC	Yes

Scott Cathey requested addition of item 7.07 ALP/GT Differentiation

Roll Call	KG	Yes
	MK	Yes
	BC	Yes
	SC	Yes

Motion to approve agenda

Roll Call	KG	Yes
	MK	Yes
	BC	Yes
	SC	Yes

4.00 Comments - Agenda Specific

None

5.00 Consent Agenda

5.01 Minutes for 12/10/09 and 12/14/09 Meetings

Motion to approve consent agenda

Roll Call	KG	Yes
	MK	Yes
	BC	Yes
	SC	Yes

6.00 Information Items

6.01 Principal Report - Piros Campus - Kelly Taylor

Piros Campus capacity is 480 students, have 382 returning with 62 more pending confirmation of return. 101 Letters of Intent for 550 total.

Showcase of schools was a source of good contacts.

Will be petitioning funds from PTO for NEWA training in February

SIP Conference with District went well, very interested, lots of good feedback
RMCA is now 100% compliant with SPED

Piros campus has 3500 hours of volunteer time logged during 1st semester.

G/T need to move to engaging students in classrooms

Focus on differentiation within the classroom

Teachers should have objectives posted on the board so kids understand.

RMCA needs to develop our English Language Learners program

Want to see 1 year of growth for every child

Met with Sheriff regarding traffic problems with parking on West side of Piros.

Kindie Tuition - more have paid to date than all of last year combined.

Recommendations for retention are much lower this year - RTI is working!

ILP's are mandatory for every student not reading at grade level K-12

GT is part of RTI - qualify by standardized tests and teacher surveys. Sage assessment, Mrs. Hall is attending individual conferences to inform parents of GT

status grades 3-5 only. ALP's are not mandated now but will be developed anyway.

6.02 Principal Report Pony Tracks Campus - John O'Connell

RMCA is anticipating a foreign exchange student for 2010/2011

National Driver Training working on a class at RMCA during summer 2010

Education for a Lifetime classes coming this spring. Parent Night 2/4/10

Infinite Campus experiencing a glitch compiling GPA's

New copiers were installed today

CSAP schedule to come this week.

SIP Conference with D49 provided good feedback. Glad for restored relationship with D49.

Library is almost ready to open for business

Academic booster is providing money for Spanish, Art and Library expenses.

6.03 Home School Report - Carla Whitmer

Many families returning to program, would like to add several more sections and is actively recruiting for next year.

Working on job description with Brian Cullen, should be ready for 2/10 board meeting.

6.04 Business Manger Report - Rick Veatch

Gobins worked very hard to get us new copiers.

Firstbank revised our remaining payment schedule to \$20K per month

Received another recision of funds from state of CO.

RMCA will make 6 payments to D49 to close out 2007/2008 SPED costs.

Audit should be complete - all work is at Swanhorst.

PERA contribution amount increased by 9/10th of 1 percent. equates to about \$1600/ month in additional expenses

CBI fingerprinting account is set up for RMCA now. We can do our own background checks.

SAGE is coming along - chart of accounts is getting close to being ready to go.

Payroll service to provide online access to payroll information for employees hope to have in place by 2/10

6.05 Curriculum / Instruction / Assessment - Wendy Hyndman

Core Knowledge classes are on track.

Riggs and Open Court classes making good progress

Leveled readers are being used.

Accelerated Reader is being used.

NEWA testing progressing -

Concerned that a number of students at MS/HS level do not meet literacy requirements.

Suggests that we implement a fee structure for assessments and courses and notify parents by May 1 for next years classes. Suggests charging \$25 for assessments.

7.00 New and Ongoing Business

7.01 New Board Member Installation

Mr. Bryan Tate was the only applicant for the open board seat.

Motion to appoint Mr. Bryan Tate as new RMCA Board Member

Roll Call	KG	Yes
	MK	Yes
	BC	Yes
	SC	Yes

Mr. Bryan Tate is welcomed to the RMCA Board of Directors

7.02 Board Officer Positions

Kristin Geesey willing remains as secretary / treasurer
Brian Cullen would like to remain a director
Maryann Kephart would like to remain a director
Scott Cathey would like to remain Vice President
Mr. Tate would like to assume the roll of President

Motion to approve the board officer positions for the next year.

Roll Call	KG	Yes
	MK	Yes
	BC	Yes
	SC	Yes
	BT	Yes

7.03 2010/2011 School Calendar

Kelly Taylor states the calendar was a topic of conversation during the SIP conference. D49 would like the charter schools to follow the district calendar. Including the 2 week Fall break.

Kelly states the teachers at the Piros campus are not in favor of changing to the district calendar. The longer school year helps with completing the curriculum.

Suggestions are a 4 day break over Columbus day weekend, one week off for Thanksgiving.

Kelly will provide the board with a formal calendar at the next meeting.

7.04 Viadesto Deadline/Alternatives - Eric Sova

Viadesto is running on an old code base, making it difficult to use - teachers are using other sources, school has no control over content.

Staff email domains and web domain are owned by Viadesto.

Recommends using Mojo portal - an open source, flexible easy to use piece of software.

Hosting through Brinxster - 3 year hosting is \$672 includes 5 domains, 2000 email addresses, 2 Gig of storage, 50% discount after 90 days.

Per Randy Adams - our Viadesto account rep is Craig Ginellie, he gave a verbal agreement to release our domains to RA.

Motion to approve Eric Sova with necessary authority to move forward on canceling Viadesto and moving forward with a new website. Merge all emails onto one domain.

Roll Call	KG	Yes
	MK	Yes
	BC	Yes
	SC	Yes
	BT	Yes

7.05 Administrative Job Descriptions/ Evaluations

Maryann Kephart - Principal K-5 and Principal 6 - 12 Job Descriptions are ready. Also ready Assistant Principal Job Description.

Primary evaluations will be done in February, then a 2nd evaluation in 60 days.

Brian Cullen will email Director of Curriculum, Director of Homeschool and Business Manager for information on their job descriptions.

Motion to table until February Board Meeting

Roll Call	KG	Yes
	MK	Yes
	BC	Yes
	SC	Yes
	BT	Yes

Need to establish dates and goals for evaluations

Part of principals job descriptions is to write staff job descriptions

Need to develop an Organizational Chart that shows who supervises who.

Suggested dates - Administrators - 1st Evaluation - February 19th, AM
2nd Evaluation April 30.

Colorado Law states April 15th for work agreements - charter schools are exempt from this law.

Motion to set Evaluation dates as listed.

Roll Call	KG	Yes
	MK	Yes

BC Yes
SC Yes
BT Yes

7.06 Grant Writer Position - Kristin Geesey

Grant Writers are professionals that have two professional organizations nationally. Both organizations state that it is unethical for a grant writer to provide their services to an organization and collect their fees based on either a commission or by writing their fees into the grant budget. This would require a “soft budget” and is discouraged strongly.

The going rate for grant writers a salary range near \$50K per year or some will do work on hourly or per grant basis (flat fees)

RMCA will need to plan for this positions cost for next year.

7.07 GT Progress -

Parent Mrs. Ramirez is pleased with the GT progress at both campuses. Hoping for more organization at the Middle School level. Per Mr. O’Connell - 6th grade has an organizational meeting scheduled for first week in February.

AP courses are provided by accredited facilities. RMCA is not accredited. Our students can take Honors classes and then take AP tests for college credit at an accredited facility. Wendy and John will report further on RMCA options.

8.00 Other Business

Motion to adjourn to Executive Session -

Roll Call KG Yes
 MK Yes
 BC Yes
 SC Yes
 BT Yes

Reassembled to Regular Session at 1:55AM

Motion to implement staff changes discussed in Executive Session

Roll Call KG Yes
 MK Yes
 BC Yes

SC	Yes
BT	Yes

Motion to adjourn

Roll Call	KG	Yes
	MK	Yes
	BC	Yes
	SC	Yes
	BT	Yes

Meeting Adjourned 2:00 AM