

School Council Meeting
March 8th, 2012 6:30 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Board Members: Stephanie Colson, DeAnn Williams, Jason Haskell, Kami Orr, Jeremy Baker, Susie Scherer (ex-officio), Kami Orr, Kammi Pyles

Visitors: Marcie Yachtman

Consent Agenda

Adopt agenda (remove item #7 'review parent survey results' due to having not received survey results and item #4 'vote on state credit enhancement resolution'), Approve march minutes, Director's report.

Kami Orr motioned to approve consent agenda, second Jeremy Baker; unanimous.

Director's Report

Enrollment currently at 351 students. 2012-2013 will have 362 spots filled with 425 families in the general lottery.

All staff submitted a letter of intent to return next year with the exception of two employees who are not returning by their choice.

Currently working on drop-off issues and enforcing a safe speed limit in the parking lot in the morning.

School Land Trust Report 2011-2012 and 2012-2013 Plan

Susie Scherer reported on spending of School Land Trust funding for the 2011-2012 school year and discussed plans for next year including purchase of 14 i-pads and apps for K-3 reading and phonics. Goal for K is for 95% of students to place on grade level DIBELS benchmark and in grades 1-3 to improve by 5%.

School will also introduce a new program 'YPP' to improve instruction in Math using the School Land Trust funding.

Jason Haskell motioned to approve 2011-2012 School Land Trust Report and 2012-2013 School Land Trust Plan; second Kami Orr; unanimous.

Uniform Policy/Possible Amendments

Board discussed introducing new colors of polo shirts. Stephanie discussed shoe policy that it may be too confusing and suggested it be rewritten.

Kami Orr asked about having more dress down days. Susie responded the staff feels free dress days bring a completely different feeling to the school. Jeremy stated that is the reason for being strict with the dress code, to maintain a serious tone for study at school.

Susie suggested narrowing down guidelines on shoes more but still making it easy to find shoes that fit the code.

Kami Orr stated she likes the clean cut look of the children at the school when they are all in uniforms.

Jason Haskell stated he is not opposed to adding a light blue polo shirt to the dress code.

The Board agreed.

Proposed Dress Code Changes:

Hair:

New wording: Hair must be kept neat, well groomed, and clean cut. No trendy, extreme hair styles or unnatural looking hair colors. Boy's hair must be cut above the top of the shirt collar with bangs no longer than their eyes. Hair styles must be appropriate for school. This is determined by the Administration. Hair accessories must be worn in school colors including school plaid, navy, white, red, or brown/tan.

Shoes:

New wording: Shoes should be conservative in style. Ankle and knee boots are acceptable in black, brown or dark neutral leather. Boys and girls may wear non-distracting tennis shoes (no lights, wheels, characters, or embellishments such as sequins or rhinestones). Shoes may not have open toes or an open heel and cannot have a heel higher than one inch. Snow boots must be changed to school-approved shoes while inside the building. Shoe laces must be neutral.

Socks:

Change sock color wording to: must be a solid color; grey, black, blue, white, or tan. Tights must be navy, white, red or tan/brown.

Tops:

Change top colors to: Light Blue, Navy, White, and Primary Red.

Change undershirt colors to: Light Blue, Navy, White, and Primary Red.

Kami Orr motioned to change the school dress code as discussed with the guidelines on hair effective immediately and the other changes effective at the beginning of the 2012-2013 School Year; second DeAnn Williams; unanimous (Jeremy Baker absent).

Vote on Contractor selection for School Addition

Susie Scherer read e-mail from Bailey Builders sent regarding cutting costs on the addition project.

Stephanie called references for Bailey Builders. References said Bailey was great to work with and they would use them again.

Stephanie talked to references for Stout and said their customers were very pleased.

Board discussed proximity of builders with one in Lehi and one in Ogden. Discussed visits with contractors Stout and Bailey last week.

Kami Orr discussed she liked that Bailey Builders is aware of and willing to include the students in the addition.

Kammi Pyles motioned to hire Bailey Builders to build the school addition for the Ranches Academy; second Jason Haskell; unanimous.

Executive Session

Jason Haskell motioned to move to an executive session to review Teacher Contracts.

Jason Haskell motioned to move out of executive session; second DeAnn Williams; unanimous.

Budget Report

Matt Lovell reported on the school's monthly budget.

Susie and Matt reviewed a detailed budget and looked for ways to cut spending, though costs in general have gone up from last year. Susie discussed options for cutting costs such as re-bidding trash services, ordering paper in fewer colors and in bulk, etc.

Board discussed computer situation and that new computers are needed. Computers were purchased from Apple rather than leased as the Board and Susie had understood. Now the school owns the computers and will need to replace many of them.

Susie and Matt Lovell have looked for other companies for IT support for Macs other than the current provider and will get bids for those.

Jim suggested trying a new lease option with Apple to lease 10-15 computers a year to gradually replace the current computers.

Meeting Adjournment

Jason Haskell motioned to adjourn meeting; second Jim Miller, unanimous.