

JANUARY SCHOOL BOARD MEETING

January 07, 2016 - 7:03 pm

Board Members Present: Tiffanie Owens, President; Eric Absah-Antwi, Vice-President; Heather Walker; Heather Baker; Sherrilyn Griffin, Ex-Officio Member; Susie Scherer

Non-Board Members Present: Shirley Fahringer, Nichole Murbaugh

Heather Walker moved that the Agenda be approved, second by **Heather Baker**. Motion passed.

Director Scherer gave the following Director's Report: There are currently 365 students enrolled at The Ranches Academy. The waiting list has adequate people waiting. The 2016 – 2017 applicants for the lottery is lower than normal; however, to encourage more sign ups, positive posts will be made to Facebook. There will be tours in January and February and further advertising with the sign posted in front of the school.

Discipline is minor, and **Susie Scherer** has spoken to the students with the teachers.

Under employee issues, all are doing their jobs. We are expecting movement later in the year due to pregnancy and a teacher moving out of state. She will be doing some hiring for next year.

We will be doing DIBELS in about a week and a half and the teachers will have two weeks to complete them.

Our Safety Report is that we experienced a power outage and had to send students home before noon. We are looking into the price of installing a generator so that we can maintain school in the event of a power outage in the future. We are going to have a fundraiser to make more money for the extra door installation and access between the front desk and the opening. We are thinking of selling hot dogs and chips during Jazz Reading. **Heather Baker** asked if we could add a Silent Auction and **Susie Scherer** said yes. **Susie Scherer** stated that it was suggested we have each class auction some artwork. At \$1.00 per item per class, we could make \$365.00.

Continuing with the Director's Report, the 2015 – 2016 Budget has not changed. Rocky Mountain Power is more expensive than Eagle Mountain, so there is an increase paid out; however, we are still in the operating margin.

Tiffanie Owens opened the meeting for Public Comment. There were no comments.

Discussion was opened for the 2016 – 2017 School Calendar. **Susie Scherer** presented Alpine District's calendar, Option A, B and D for The Ranches Academy, and the results of the School Calendar Surveys that were sent to the parents. **Tiffanie Owens** asked about professional development days on the calendar. **Susie Scherer** stated that the teachers and staff would be coming in the week before school officially starts. **Heather Baker** motioned that we adopt option B that is what the parents wanted and aligns itself with this year's calendar. **Eric Absah-Antwi** second, **Motion Approved**

Discussion was opened for amending the 2015 – 2016 School Calendar to reflect the make-up day where the students were sent home before noon due to the power outage. **Susie Scherer** stated that we can count three professional development days as the total number of calendar days for the year. At the present time we have only two built into the calendar. She proposed that we have May 31st as a professional day as the teachers will already be here. **Heather Baker** questioned as to what we do if we have a snow day or another day, when we have to send students home. **Susie Scherer** stated that we could come on March 7th if need be. **Heather Walker** made the motion that we amend the present calendar and make May 31st a professional development day. **Sherrilyn Griffin** second, **Motion Approved**.

Discussion was opened for part time employees and the government requirements for over 30 hour work week. **Susie Scherer** said that she was informed by Red Apple that the government is cracking down and watching closely, people that work over 30 hours a week. We have a para-nurse, kindergarten TA, and TAs that sub for teachers, that would be affected by this. **Heather Walker** questioned the interpretation of Red Apple, as her company is interpreting it as a twelve-month look back. After much discussion it was decided to table the discussion until **Heather Walker** and **Susie Scherer** could look into the matter further.

Discussion concerning school safety procedures and a generator for the school was opened. **Susie Scherer** explained the procedures that took place during the power outage. The students were picked up and out by 10:00 o'clock. **Susie Scherer** reported that the students have emergency kits in their classrooms and there are six walkie-talkies available for communication.

If the school had a generator, we could have lights in the bathrooms, the gym and the halls. **Heather Baker** pointed out that all of the classrooms have windows in them. **Susie Scherer** reported that the gym is the largest area

and that all of the students could lie down. The generator would also be connected to the phone system and the alarm system.

Eric Absah-Antwi asked about an emergency one-call system. **Susie Scherer** stated that for about \$1,000 we could get a system that would be connected to our present SIS state system. Parents could be notified by phone call, email, and/or text; depending on the parents' preferences.

Susie Scherer, stated that the first bid for a generator came in at a cost of \$48,000. This bid would allow lighting in all rooms, HVAC in the gym, lighting in the bathrooms and power to the phones and the alarm system. There are other bids that we are waiting on.

The following dates were set for the 2016 – 2017 School Board Meetings:

March 10th

June 16th

Eric Absah-Antwi suggested that February 25th be set aside for training.

Susie Scherer suggested that perhaps Marlise Burns from the State would come for dinner and present the training.

Heather Baker motioned that the meeting be adjourned and that the board would move to closed session. **Sherrilyn Griffin** second, meeting adjourned.

Heather Walker motioned to reopen the meeting, **Eric Absah-Antwi** second, All Agree

Eric Absah-Antwi motioned that the meeting close, **Heather Walker**, second, Meeting Adjourned