



**GOVERNING BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
December 13, 2011**

Approved minutes

The following are the meeting minutes for the December 13, 2011 held at the Mesa Vista Campus, 3883 Mesa Vista., Las Vegas, Nevada.

Record of Action Items and Items of Discussion:

1. Call to Order

Todd McBrayer, President, called the meeting to order at 6:04pm.

2. Roll Call (Action Item)

Present were Todd McBrayer, Angie Story, Edna Tondevold, Chad Bowhous, Wendy Testa, Jennifer Sher and Monera Mason. A quorum was established. Also present were various administration and staff.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Those present completed the flag salute.

4. Adoption of Agenda (Action Item)

Todd motioned to approve agenda for tonight's meeting. Angie made the motion to approve, motion passed.

5. Approval of minutes from past Governing Board Meetings (Action Item)

Todd apologized for not getting the minutes from last month's meeting to the board for review. Approval was tabled until next month.

REPORTS:

6. Administrative Report – Dr. Dave Price

Dr. Price discussed the School Improvement Plan. It is completed and on line for review. It is due to the state 1/31/12.

He discussed our attendance. The percentage of students attending is 94%. His goal is to attain 97%.

He reported the good staff discussions that have taken place to develop the curriculum of the school. He feels the best part is the teachers willingness to learn and improve their teaching. He feels the objectives they have set for themselves and the school have been more than met at this point in DCS development and progress. The development of project based learning projects is still stressed to the teachers. Teachers have a wide variety of curriculum and textbooks but moving to project based learning needs to be improved.

Dr. Price discussed bullying. He has had discussions with the teachers and students. He has also shown a new video on bullying that uses a young boy to discuss the

subject. Today bullying is different than it was years ago. It is a wide range of teasing, disrespect, and general verbal taunts that shows a lack of dignity and self-esteem. There was a discussion of what actually happened on our campuses and how it is being handled. Dr. Price reported that the teachers and students have had open discussions about acceptable behavior. He feels all the staff has handled the subject well and open discussions will continue to take place.

The first round of teacher evaluations are complete. Dr. Price is pleased with our staff and their willingness to evaluate themselves as well as their own personal growth. There will be two more formal evaluations before the end of the year.

A suggestion to buy literary sets from Amazon was put forth by Lisa. Buying things on Amazon.com can yield us a rebate. Parents could be responsible for buying these books as they do in the public schools.

7. Site Report – Clark Price

Clark was happy to report there were 36 computers up and running. The staff is current on their use. The students are also very savvy with the computers use in their projects. Older kids have brought their own laptops. DCS needs to set up a curriculum for computers. We need to establish technology curriculum for each grade level. He feels we are still ahead of where we would have been without the help of many parent volunteers.

The writing proficiency test will be administered online. A discussion about practice tests followed. The writing process is taught at all grade levels but counts for progress at the 5th and 8th grade levels.

Dr. Price explained the problems in staffing at the middle school level. It has been difficult to staff those positions. The teachers must be certified/Highly Qualified in the subject they teach. Therefore, the teachers can only teach in the areas they are licensed. Since we only have 25 middle school students, it is financially impossible to have a licensed teacher in all areas. Elementary certification allows the teacher to teach with a general background in all subjects. Our teachers have been filling in to meet the state requirements. Teachers have been very flexible and willing to improve their own skills.

8. Office Manager Report – Lisa Bernauer

Lisa has finished all the school reports to the state and we are in compliance. We currently have 191 students enrolled. We admitted 3 new students at Hillpointe. Mesa Vista is full. Clark suggested our enrollment could be 250 students next year.

9. Financial officer – Kristen Diasparra

The CPA has evaluated our financial reports. We are doing well with the accounting software and internal controls. Questions were asked about the company. This company was recommended in the fall for their experience with charter schools. Lisa has put codes on all monies received in order to track. She feels every thing looks good. She is grateful for everyone's help and support. The different figures are due

to lack of projected enrollment. Next years budget will be based on past experience as opposed to this years figures which were a guestimation.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – Todd McBrayer

10. Board training

Wendy reported her discussion with John Hawkes. We can either meet early for a briefing and he would attend one of our meetings. At that time he would guide us as what to do during the meeting. The other possibility is to meet with him separately on a Saturday for a 4 hours training session. Todd and Angie suggested the 4 hr. meeting. Jan. 28 was suggested for the meeting. This item was tabled until Wendy can check with John and his availability. Angie motioned to table this item, motions passed

NEW BUSINESS – Todd McBrayer

Will open each item for discussion as needed.

11. Review various staff contracts-Dr. Dave Price (ACTION ITEM)

The contracts for Selig (3rd & 4th grade teacher) and Gullan were presented. A brief discussion of these teachers and others took place. A discussion of some other teachers was brought up. Angie made a motion to approve the contract of Selig. Monera opposed, remaining board approved, motion carried.

A motion to approve the contract for Gullan was made by Todd, motion carried.

12. Review and approval of budget as formatted and required by state for compliance Dr. Dave Price/Kristen Diaspera(Action Item)

Kristen reports that the numbers are actual figures, not the projected figures as this year. Questions were asked about the contingency fund. It is a requirement of the state to have 2% of our monies set aside to make up any deficiencies we may have at the end of the year. If that money is not used, it is ours. We have our known expenditures now and next years figures will be more realistic.

Monera questioned the purchases of textbooks. Lisa reminded Dr. Price that math books had been ordered. Clark reminded the board that if growth occurs, the money allocated from the state will increase. He also said that money is not the object for DCS. A great school is what DCS wants to be.

Monera also questioned the amount of money was being paid to the teachers. Is the quality of the teacher commensurate with what DCS is getting for their money? She has concern for some of the advisors (teachers). Dr. Price reminded us that this should take place at a closed meeting of the board, not a public meeting. Todd reminded us that the chain of command should be followed regarding the staff. If there is a problem with an advisor, the parent should contact that teacher, then the administrator and finally the board. More discussion about the different certification of the teachers and the patchwork way we are getting things done now. Dr. Price

also advised the board that this was not a budget item. We need to approve the budget as it is now presented, not discuss advisor/teacher contracts.

Angie motioned to approve the budget, Monera opposed, motion passed.

OTHER:

13. Public Comments

Lisa Duke showed her willingness to help with anything. Todd asked if she would post her email address and phone number on the website so that parents knew how to contact her. Lisa is the parent representative and should be available to all.

14. Response to public comments

15. Announcements and Agenda Planning

Next scheduled board meeting January 17, 2012 at Mesa Vista, 6 PM.

Lisa said she had Zappo's book, "Delivering Happiness". She was giving a copy to each of the board. There also is a project for the students. Zappo's is project based and this book explains how they work. Perhaps would help the teachers plan projects.

Monera said a truck load of things was arriving from "Restore America" from a convention tear down. No 501C3 is available now but will be in the future. She said it did not matter because they were going to throw it out anyway. The board expressed their appreciation for the donation.

16. Adjournment

We adjourned at 7:28. Edna made motion to adjourn, motion carried.