

Valley Academy Public Board Meeting
February 21, 2012 at 7:00pm
147 N 870 W, Hurricane, UT

1. Welcome and call to order (7:00pm)
2. Review and approval of meeting notes from 1/17/2012, 1/28/2012 and 2/9/2012 meetings.
3. Read mission statement:

The mission of Valley Academy is to provide a superior, character building academic program enhanced by integrated training in the fine and performing arts and a technologically advanced curriculum.

4. How will we ensure students are achieving the outcomes for which the school was chartered? (7:00-7:30)
 - a. Discussion of and possible action on Director Evaluation process
 - b. Discussion of employee policies drafts
 - c. Director's monthly report
 - i. Discussion of proposed charter amendment
5. How well are the school's finances being managed and safeguarded? (7:30-7:45)
 - a. Business Manager's monthly report
6. How well is the Board performing its responsibilities? (7:45-8:15)
 - a. Charter Review
 - b. Board Development topic
 - c. Discussion of Board Calendar
 - d. New contract with State Charter Board
 - e. Board Accountability- statement of conflict of interest
 - f. Discussion of the possible addition of 2 new board members
7. Reports from committees: (8:15-8:45)
 - a. Legal
 - b. Land and Building
 - i. Discussion and possible action on new building plan and updates on progress
 - ii. Discussion of potential partnership with Hurricane City for use of fine arts building for after school activities.
 - c. Technology
 - i. Introduce new website
 - d. Marketing
 - i. Upcoming events: Community meetings, Groundbreaking party, Lottery.
 - e. School Colors
 - f. Student carpool/school traffic
 - g. School Furniture
8. Public comment period. Members of the public wishing to participate in public comment must sign in with the Board secretary prior to the start of the meeting. Please keep comments to 2 minutes or less. The Board will not formally discuss public comments during this meeting. Board Members and School Administrators will be available to answer questions following the meeting. (8:45-9:00)
9. Time and place for next public meeting, proposed March 20, 2012, 7pm at the Hurricane City Office.
10. Adjourn

Valley Academy Public Meeting Notes (Draft)
2/21/2012, 7pm at Hurricane City Offices

In attendance: Alisha Terry-Martin, Lane Blackmore, Derek Lewis, Gaylene Knoke, Ed Woodd, Kevin Abraham, Mark Skousen, Kent Bennion, Hillary and Nate Torgerson, Mary Ann Johnson, Tylia Jackman, Tana Hall, Buffy Nelson, Megan Johnson, Elna Perkins, Tonya Heyder, Mikki Brown.

Welcome and call to order (7:00pm)

Motion to approve meeting notes as written from 1/17/2012 regular meeting, 1/28/2012 special meeting, and 2/9/2012 special meeting made by Lane Blackmore. All members in favor.

Mission statement read by Mark Skousen: The mission of Valley Academy is to provide a superior, character building academic program enhanced by integrated training in the fine and performing arts and a technologically advanced curriculum.

Discussion of Director Evaluation Process moved to next meeting.

Discussion of Employee Policy Drafts: More policies to come, these are just the first two. Several questions on policy sections were brought up by Board members. Mr. Woodd will make revisions, and this item will be discussed again at our next board meeting.

Director's Monthly Report: Discussion of proposal of amendment to charter in two sections, Comprehensive program of Instruction and Administrative Services. Mr. Woodd is working on the amendment application that will be presented to the USCB for approval. Deadline is March 21 for consideration at the April or May USCB meeting. In the Comprehensive Program of Instruction, discussion was had about removing specific reference to packaged programs of instruction in order to allow for more creativity with teachers we hire. The decision was made to add language for the option to utilize several proposed instructional programs as needed or to change the programs as needed, instead of using the language of removing programs from the charter. In the Administrative Services section, language will be changed to reflect that we are no longer working with iSchool as an ESO. Mr. Woodd will complete the amendment application and send it out for review prior to our March 20 board meeting.

Business Manager's Monthly Report: Kevin Abraham presented the month financial statement.

Charter Review: The "Procedure to Review Complaints" section was read from our charter.

Board Development Topic: We listened to a podcast by Dr. Brian Carpenter entitled, "Broken Promises".

Discussion of Board Calendar: Lane Blackmore made a motion to approve the Board Calendar format. All members in favor.

Discussion of New Contract with State Charter Board: All members were able to read through the new contract with attached performance goals. Lane Blackmore made a motion to approve the new contract with the State Charter Board. All members in favor.

Board Accountability: All Board Members will sign the annual conflict of interest form today.

Discussion of the possible addition of 2 board members: All board members in favor of advertising for 2 additional board openings, bringing the total number of board members to 7. Suggestions of board specialties that we are looking for (not limited to these only): financial, business, HR, etc.

Reports from committees:

Legal: moved to next meeting

Land and Building: Lane introduced the new building site plan with adjustments to the gym area. Lane explained that reduction in building size will allow the school to be more sound financially, as well as allowing time to add the second phase as a well-planned addition that will be more what the school needs and wants. The school will still have 3 multi-purpose rooms for dance/music/art. Lane also introduced the concept of renting space at the Hurricane Community Center for some after school activities and performances because we will not have a large performance space until phase two. This proposal has been brought up with Hurricane City, and will be further explored. Lane feels confident that the building process is on time with the schedule we need to keep in order to open as planned in August 2012. Mr. Woodd wants to express thanks for the time Lane has put in to make sure the building process has been going smoothly. All board members share in that thanks.

Technology: Introduction of our new website. We've received many comments on the new site. Thanks goes out to Matt Lorenzen from Highmark that put the new site together.

Marketing: Marketing committee is working on upcoming events, a community Q&A at the Hurricane Community Center on Feb 25, and 2 events on March 10: the groundbreaking party and another Q&A session that evening. Flyers have been sent out in the community.

School Colors: The colors committee has researched and picked colors that will be used for the interior of the school. The committee will continue to meet to discuss with samples of carpet, tile, etc with recommendations of how the colors will flow in the school. Mr. Woodd and Tammy from Highmark will be involved in this process to coordinate between the committee and the contractor.

School Traffic/Carpool: This committee is currently researching different options for traffic on the school site (drop-off and pick-up) as well as parent carpool.

School furniture: Nothing to report yet

No public comment.

Time and place for next meeting: March 20, 2012 at 7pm at the Hurricane City Office.

Motion to adjourn made by Lane Blackmore. All members in favor.