



## BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Date: March 21, 2017 Time: 6:00pm Location: Art Room

### School Board Norms of Engagement 2017 The Board of Aspen Academy will

<b>Tenacity</b>	• form cohesion, cooperate, respectfully engage, listen effectively, and remain future minded.
<b>High Expectations</b>	• keep students first, speak with one voice, operate as a governance board.
<b>Integrity</b>	• always remain respectful to staff, employees, parents, students and other stakeholders, hear all voices before key decisions, maintain oversight, and work together to carry out our responsibilities.
<b>No Excuses</b>	• always assume positive intent, be accountable for self-behaviors and their impact on board activities, be open to clarifying questions, constructive comments and relevant discussions, and read all materials before board meetings.
<b>Kindness</b>	• treat each other with respect at all times, respect time allotted for all presentations at board meetings, and respect each other's time.

- **CALL TO ORDER AT 6:01pm**

In attendance Misty Schutrop, Wade Phillips, Stephanie Smitley, Diane Sterna, Angie Tuma, Kent Peterman, Noah Levie, Tina Houglum

Authorizer Comments Liz Wynn from Friends of Education attended

Community Comments \_\_\_\_\_

Community members must pre-register to speak at the meeting. Items are limited to those on the night's agenda. The Board Chair has the discretion to hear a community member who has not pre-registered, but items remain limited to those on the agenda.

- Motion: **Approval of Agenda as amended.**

First Levie Second Phillips Yes X(8) No \_\_\_\_\_ Abst \_\_\_\_\_

- Motion: **Approval of Minutes** (February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017).

First Smitley Second Sterna Yes X(8) No \_\_\_\_\_ Abst \_\_\_\_\_

**ASPEN ACCOLADES** (Mike McNulty): via Misty – Thank you to all of the teachers and staff for parking at Bethesda and carpooling or walking over. Thank you for the parents in pick up and drop off for working to keep students safe.

## **1. ASPEN ACADEMY ACHIEVES INTELLECTUAL, SOCIAL AND CREATIVE GROWTH FOR ALL STUDENTS.**

**Program Services Committee** (Stephanie Smitley/Angie Tuma/Victoria Regehr)

Presentation by Maggie Rowan.

- Staff was surveyed on goals for next year, they'd like to keep the same goal, working with the same materials and books will allow them to dive deeper into it, teachers said they feel more students are prepared to meet the goals.
- Like to get some training to find more nonfictional resources, those are a need.
- MCA testing begins next week. Teachers were trained March 3<sup>rd</sup> on privacy and security.
- Changing from CTP to ACT Aspire for 4<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> graders only, data is more user friendly, watch student growth over time and can be loaded through Synergy.
- Office of the Legislative Auditor released findings on Standardized Testing – costs out of pocket for districts can be high, MDE should increase training about interpretation of test scores and Legislature should reexamine legal requirements of specifics and focus on setting priorities for tests overall.
- Aspen students are doing well, showing growth through report cards. Title 1 students also showing growth.
- Thank you, Maggie!

Presentation by Rachel Ibes on EL on behalf of Irnia Faulise.

- Currently 50 active EL students, 64% Russian/Ukrainian
- Using pull-out and push-in, have good communication with teachers on what they are doing in class
- Goal is to have students exit by 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> grade dependent on their ACCESS scores, MCA and appropriate social behaviors
- Writing is most difficult skill to master. Aspen keeps students in longer than a typical district to get their writing scores up
- There are about 28 students per teacher, within normal caseloads right now, might grow next year
- Need: leveled books so they don't have to share with classroom teachers
- Thank you, Rachel! Liz complemented the thorough and accurate presentation.

Presentation by Amy Jacobson on Spanish.

- Using 5 C's (communication, culture, comparisons, connections, community) national standards
- K-2 – language exposure, using Total Physical Response (TPR) to teach
- 3-5 – more academic, vocab lists, grammar & patterns, etc

- 6-8 Spanish- students can pass out of Spanish I and half a year of Spanish 2 in high school, goal is to become more independent learners, more instruction/conversation done in Spanish.
  - K-5 gets 100 minutes every 6 days, MS every other day
  - Would like more exposure time for students
  - Thank you, Amy!
- World's Best Workforce by Tina Houglum.  
WBWF/Charter goals, our main two goals:

1. Proficiency rates for both 2016-17 and 2017-18 (total goal is to get to these points by FY2020):

- a. math 25% points > state average
- b. reading 20% points > state average
- c. science 22% points > state average

2. Utilizing formula set forth in Charter renewal contract:

No less than  $(.40 \times (100 - 2016 \text{ proficiency rate})) + 2016 \text{ proficiency rate}$  in math and reading for reportable/sufficient counts in subgroups such as F & R, EL, racial groups. Chart using FY16 as base which we do not have at this time.

This is the first year of data. Goals came from our charter renewal contract. Liz commented that these goals should be shared with staff and to use them with the strategic plan.

- Committee Report: Nothing to report at this time. Next meeting is March 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **2. ASPEN ACADEMY MAINTAINS ENROLLMENT THROUGH RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION.**

## **3. ASPEN ACADEMY DEVELOPS AND MAINTAINS STRONG STUDENT, PARENT, AND COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS.**

### **Marketing and Community Engagement Committee (Wade Phillips/Kent Peterman)**

- Committee Report: Have not met since the last board meeting. Meeting will be coming soon. Analytics from the website were provided by Creative Graphics, brochures are printed and going out in the next 2 weeks. Kelly Smith is now posting agendas and minutes to the website as well as putting "important dates" on the website. She is learning how to do the newsletter so it goes out in an email with no clicking on links involved.

## **4. ASPEN ACADEMY DEVELOPS AND RETAINS A HIGHLY-QUALIFIED STAFF AND BOARD**

### **Board Elections, Responsibilities & Governance Committee (Stephanie Smitley/Diane Sterna)**

- Committee Report: The committee met to review 5 policies on March 1<sup>st</sup>. The first 4 policies had some minor changes to wording. In addition, 417's referenced committees will only need to meet if there is a report of chemical abuse. The committee recommended removing policy 420 from the books. It is not a mandatory policy. Cases

will be looked at on a confidential case-by-case basis. Please see the meeting minutes on the website for more information.

- Motion: **Approve Policy 413 Harassment and Violence, 1<sup>st</sup> Read**

First Smitley Second Levie Yes X(8) No \_\_\_\_\_ Abst \_\_\_\_\_

- Motion: **Approve Policy 417 Chemical Use and Abuse, 1<sup>st</sup> Read**

First Smitley Second Phillips Yes X(8) No \_\_\_\_\_ Abst \_\_\_\_\_

- Motion: **Approve Policy 419 Tobacco-free Environment, 1<sup>st</sup> Read**

First Tuma Second Sterna Yes X(8) No \_\_\_\_\_ Abst \_\_\_\_\_

- Motion: **Approve Policy 418 Drug-free Workplace/Drug-free School, 1<sup>st</sup> Read**

First Smitley Second Phillips Yes X(8) No \_\_\_\_\_ Abst \_\_\_\_\_

- Motion: **Approve the removal of Policy 420 Students and Employees with Sexually Transmitted Infections and Diseases and Certain Other Communicable Diseases and Infectious Conditions.**

First Smitley Second Tuma Yes X(7) No Levie Abst \_\_\_\_\_

## **5. ASPEN ACADEMY PRACTICES EXEMPLARY FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT.**

### **Finance & Facility Committee (Noah Levie/Misty Schutrop/Tina Houglum)**

- Facility update from Scott Kronholm. 99% of exterior demo work is done, water line is completed, gas line and transformer were relocated, draitile for existing building is tied into the new pond, new parking and road have been cut to sub-grade. Geopiers will now be needed in all areas due to poor soil. Other option would only save a potential \$26,000 and would extend the timeline of the project. Adding the 131 geopiers back into the project was the best option. Certificate of occupancy scheduled for August 17. It was brought to Scott's attention that several parents got flat tires which they attributed to driving through the lot. Scott will look into.
- Committee Report: Presentation of Financials by Mike Pocrnich. Committee meeting tomorrow at 4:30, looking at FY17 & FY18 budgets. 67% through fiscal year, expenses at 63%. Days cash on hand is 113, need at least 60. Debt service coverage ratio is 1.13, needs to be at least 1.10. Instructional supplies line item is 20% higher than last month. Probably due to a coding error regarding Apex Fun Run. Mike P will look into it. No questions on the check register.

- Motion: **Approve the February check register.**

First Levie Second Peterman Yes X(8) No \_\_\_\_\_ Abst \_\_\_\_\_

**Strategic Planning Committee** (Misty Schutrop/Noah Levie)

- Committee Report: Meeting will be forthcoming.

- **Adjournment at 8:05pm**

- First Peterman Second Houglum Yes X(8) No \_\_\_\_\_ Abst \_\_\_\_\_