



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: April 19, 2016 Time: 6:00pm

Location: Art Room

School Board Norms of Engagement 2015 The Board of Aspen Academy will

Tenacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> form cohesion, cooperate, respectfully engage, listen effectively, and remain future minded.
High Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> keep students first, speak with one voice, operate as a governance board.
Integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
No Excuses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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.
Kindness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 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 Angie Tuma, Diane Sterna, Cindy Spelbring, Mike Pocrnich, Kent Peterman, Wade Phillips, Misty Schutrop, Kelly Smith, Mike McNulty, Stephanie Smitley

Authorizer Comments _____

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 amended Agenda**

First Sterna Second Smith Yes X(9) No _____ Abst _____

• Motion: **Approval of Minutes and Working Session Minutes** (March 22, 2016).

First Smitley Second Phillips Yes X(9) No _____ Abst _____

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

Program Services Committee (Stephanie Smitley/Angie Tuma)

- Director Report: Mrs. Herman provided an update on the happenings of middle school.
 - Happenings since Christmas – Love of the Arts, Geography Bee, Feed My Starving Children (\$325 donated to them from Aspen provided 1,477 meals), Apex Fun Run, I Love to Read, Teen Lit Conference (Mrs. Tuma won \$350 for this), May 6th is Festival of Nations, MCAs are done for MS, student council is doing an Earth Day clean-up on Friday and they can wear jeans, dances seem to not be a big deal this year.
 - Electives still going strong – calligraphy, radio play (getting ready to put it all together), Go-Go goal is 4,500 pouches, at 4,000 now.
 - Coming up: May 12th band concert, Twins Day for 8th grade, Valley Fair, graduation June 8th, 8th grade visit to PL high school April 28th
 - Only 5 major discipline issues this year as opposed to 7-10/day last year. Much improvement due to MS staff and principal working together, setting consistent discipline program and mutual support
 - Need to look at marketing the MS in a different way. People that come volunteer, etc. are noticing the calm/quiet, great projects teachers are doing, etc
 - Board member asked about what makes us different from a marketing perspective – culture, teachers work as teams, small individual attention and everyone is known by name, Aspen is warm and friendly and teachers work collaboratively
- Thank you Mrs. Herman.
- WBWF will give recommendations to Finance committee then to board in May, looking at writing and spelling curriculum. MCAs are finishing up in elementary, some glitches this year
- Committee Report: Nothing to report at this time. Next meeting is April 28th at 4:00pm.
- Discussion: Enrollment for next year's 6th grade. Currently there are 75 students plus 9 on the waitlist for 6th grade 2016-2017. Historically, not all current 5th grade students will stay at Aspen. The board felt it would be prudent to offer enrollment to those 9 on the waitlist. Mike M. will send a letter to current 5th grade families asking if they are returning to Aspen for the purpose of planning of staff, resources, etc.
- Motion: **Approve enrolling the nine 6th graders currently on the waitlist for 2016-2017.**

First Peterman Second Tuma Yes X(9) No _____ Abst _____

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)

- Director Report: Enrollment is relatively stable, give or take 1, Apex made close to \$34,000 (Wow!), Mike will meet with staff to explain break down of funds and send letter to community – close to \$15,000 going to classrooms, \$13,000 going to technology & books, \$6,500 going to THINK materials & future playground. Apex fundraiser will be Jan 16-27 next year.
- Committee Report: Nothing to report at this time. Will meet again once Betsy Simons gets acclimated.

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

Board Elections, Responsibilities & Governance Committee (Kelly Smith/Cindy Spelbring/Misty Schutrop)

- Director Report: Posting 2 K and 1 targeted service positions internally, finishing evals of specialists & paras
- Committee Report: Misty went to staff meeting regarding director eval, she's gotten about ½ back from staff and ½ back from board members. She will pull them together before meeting with Mike in May. Committee met to review policies, made a few changes to 208 and 209, no changes to 205.

- Motion: **Approve Policy 202 School Board Officers, 2nd Read**

First Phillips Second Peterman Yes X(9) No _____ Abst _____

- Motion: **Approve Policy 208 Development, Adoption and Implementation of Policies, 1st Read**

First Smitley Second Smith Yes X(9) No _____ Abst _____

- Motion: **Approve Policy 209 Code of Ethics**

First Smitley Second Sterna Yes X(9) No _____ Abst _____

- Motion: **Approve bylaws, 2nd Read.**
First Smitley Second Phillips Yes X(9) No _____ Abst _____
- Motion: **Approve the hiring of Betsy Simons as Operations Specialist.**
First Smitley Second Tuma Yes X(9) No _____ Abst _____
- Motion: **Approve the hiring of Nicole Grams as paraprofessional.**
First Pocrnich Second Smith Yes X(9) No _____ Abst _____
- Motion: **Approve a change in job position for Vicki Ramsey.**
First Smitley Second Smith Yes X(9) No _____ Abst _____
- Motion: **Approve the resignations of Viviana Leable, Cathy Salo, Jennifer Easler, Kelley Felkey, and Christopher Adderley at the end of the school year.**
First Smitley Second Smith Yes X(9) No _____ Abst _____

5. ASPEN ACADEMY PRACTICES EXEMPLARY FINANCIAL AND OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT.

Finance & Facility Committee (Mike Pocrnich/Noah Levie/Misty Schutrop)

- Director Report: Mike and Kou had a good meeting with investors. Should hear by Friday on Wildamere's response. All school director meeting on May 9th. Rachel (Adler counselor) is leaving for family reasons, Nadine will take her place.
- Committee Report: Next meeting beginning of May. Kristine presented the financials - Apex Fun Run paid out a large sum, but also bringing in money to add to budget. Fund 4 (community services) balance looking better than previously thought for end of year, can use some of these funds, but not 100% to buy something like playground equipment since Eagle's Nest will use it some of the time. Check register questions were answered- fraudulent charge was caught on credit card, new cards issued.
- Motion: **Approval of March 2016 check register.**
First Pocrnich Second Smitley Yes X(9) No _____ Abst _____

Strategic Planning Committee (Noah Levie/Misty Schutrop)

- Director Report: Summer office hours 9-12 T-Th, off July 1-17 (waxing the floors will take place at this time). Back to regular days August 18th. Paideia preview day April 24th to look into buying their classroom/office furniture.
- Committee Report: Nothing to report at this time.
- **Adjournment at 7:26pm**
- First Phillips Second Peterman Yes X(9) No _____ Abst _____