

Canyon Rim Charter Meeting 1-17-06

Chris Bytheway: kendrickb@juno.com: email questions to everyone. Ask for the Director

Set a budget at a reasonable level at 450; Cap we will set higher (we need to determine if we set a cap that we are made to go to full capacity)

- Lunch Room
- Assemblies
- Do we want to rent to pre-school

Budget: I'll gather Charter costing to put together a master budget. I need to call around to get some samples of other budgets.

Questions:

- Salaries
- 412 vs 403(b) or both?
- How far should the radius be?
- With Federal Funding vs without?
- International Baccalaureate (IB) - Can we afford it?
- Curriculum?
- Busing?
- Minorities? We get cost breaks on inclusion.
- How do we keep it close-net AND show that we are being open

5321329
500/250

** I'll Call Southridge Academy — Matt Crowley (ask if they are a I.B. school) and Academica West School

QUESTIONS FOR SCHOOLS:

- What have you chosen to do regarding your teachers' benefits package? Did you choose to participate in the State Pension Plan? (Why or Why not?) Do you offer a 403(b)? Why or why not? Who is administering your benefits plan?
- How does your hierarchy work? Is the Principal also acting as the business manager for the school? Or have you hired someone to fill both roles?
- Did you hire a management company (consultant) or did you do everything yourselves? If you hired an outside company, what did you think of them? What did you like/not like? Would you do it that way again?
- How are your board members getting along? What kind of problems have they encountered? What advice would you give to us in regards to board dynamics?
- Did you qualify for Federal funding?
- Can we get a copy of their:
 - business plan

- application, and
- budget
- What is the term of your Lease — and what they pay by square foot
- What have you chosen to do about curriculum?
 - Did they use an outside group like Core Knowledge, or Edison? If so, what do they think of it?
 - Are they using the International Baccalaureate (I.B.)? What has their experience been thus far?

EXEMPLARY SCHOOLS:

Timpanogas:

John Hancock

Chris

- What have you chosen to do regarding your teachers' benefits package? Did you choose to participate in the State Pension Plan? (Why or Why not?) Do you offer a 403b? Why or why not? Who is administering your benefits plan?

They hired [A Plus Benefits](#) and they handle the payroll, investments, health etc.; they chose not to offer a pension plan — based on Academica's recommendation because of the cost, but it is an area they'd like to review. She said she didn't think to review it until it was too late and would like to look at again because she found that teachers want it. *** She said that it is harder to staff than she ever imagined!!!! And feels the Pension (though they offer a 403b/401k) would really help. Talked about leasing teachers from Davis School District — Davis said they would like to do that, but Davis waffled and pulled out at the last minute — it's a great concept and would make it much easier, but it didn't work out.

*** Regarding cost, she said that you get a lot of money up front, but you must build up a surplus of funds in order to survive past five years.

- How does your hierarchy work? Is the Principal also acting as the business manager for the school? Or have you hired someone to fill both roles?

Dr. Powell; principal and business manager — separate.

- Did you hire a management company (consultant) or did you do everything yourselves? If you hired an outside company, what did you think of them? What did you like/not like? Would you do it that way again?

The Board President said she can't imagine doing it differently — a parent was wiggling out, she called Jed and he walked her through the process. Wasn't perfect, but all and all

it was and is great. There was a lot of discussion and negotiation on the fees etc. the hours that Academica spent is insane— its much harder than she ever imagined, thought it would slow down once it launched, but it hasn't.

Isn't perfect — have had some candid discussions, but have been able to resolve them.

They negotiated the price down; Academica West floated the school, financially while we got up and running (before funding set in); they've been good to work with.

The business manager, who came on after the charter was set up said that she would not want to do it without Academica; if starting out brand new — there's so many rules/regs and time required that it is very difficult to stay on top of everything. With Academica, they're on top of everything, nothing slips by. When asked about feeling like Academica is running the show, she said, not at all — The board is in charge — Academica is an employee; very respectful of company.

- How are your board members getting along? What kind of problems have they encountered? What advice would you give to us in regards to board dynamics?

Very well — Two women started the charter; parent organization was on it; and a business component.

- Did you qualify for Federal funding? Yes
- Can we get a copy of their: Rachel: 397-0338 (444-west; Emily Coon)
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- What is the term of your Lease — and what they pay by square foot
- What have you chosen to do about curriculum?

Reed school — they're doing the same thing; Spanish, service learning; Saxon Math. ECRI; end up with kids who's parents are very committed to education and some that are struggling; you get a wide range of kids;

- Core Knowledge—using for social studies, and science and art; language —kids learning Spanish. Staffing is tough for language.
- Are they using the International Baccalaureate (I.B.)? What has their experience been thus far? Davis school district is looking into this.

***** Important to find something different from traditional