

Canyon Rim Academy
Work Session Minutes
April 19, 2007
Place: 111 E. 300 S., 9th Floor



Approved: May 17, 2007

In Attendance: Erik Olson, Irene Rytting, Dave Garrett, Brandon Clarke, Dave Havell, Shana Heyn, Cheri Jackson
Others in Attendance: Emily Coon (AW), Kim Dohrer (AW), Betsy Vandenberghe (public), Tiffany Smith (public)

MISSION:

Cultivate an environment of academic excellence where all children stretch to achieve their maximum potential and enjoy the fruits of personal academic accomplishment.

VISION:

Create a school built upon the principles of collaboration, accountability, academic rigor, and empowerment to achieve the highest standards of excellence in elementary education.

MINUTES

1:10 PM – CALL TO ORDER by Erik Olson

REPORTS:

1. Enrollment – Shana Heyn
 - Fourth enrollment period has ended, the lottery has taken place. Anyone who applied during the 3rd and 4th enrollment periods have been notified of their status. Some grades are oversubscribed (Kinder, 1st and 5th), but there is still fluctuation in enrollment for all grades.
2. Open House/Registration – Cheri / Shana
 - Brandon would like to send out a letter to families of students who have withdrawn to remind them of important selling points of Canyon Rim Academy.
 - Plans and preparations are underway for the Open House. Bulletin boards are being made, students and parents are welcome, registration paperwork will be given to parents, and they can drop off the completed registration packets on May 19th.
 - Shana Heyn will facilitate a meeting to plan the Open House agenda.
3. Facilities
 - The board discussed various improvement projects that needed to be made.
 - Irene, Dave Garrett, and Dave Havell will coordinate different group volunteer projects.
 - Dave Havell has obtained a certificate of insurance and has given a copy to the district for their records as well.
 - Dave Garrett will work on the marquis.
4. Curriculum/Library
 - Dave Garrett has been in touch with Katie Burkhead, the coordinator of Core Knowledge.

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- Tiffany Smith and Irene Rytting have contacted libraries about donating their surplus books. Irene will continue working with libraries to obtain donated books.
5. Parent Volunteer / PTA
 - Cheri proposed the following names for the Parent Teacher Organization. Carrie Wixom, Georgia Raymond, Katie Olson, with alternates Allison Peterson, Cheri Jackson.
 6. Financial – Shana Heyn
 - Shana gave an update \$4,825.64 in the operating account. Of that \$3,640.00 is to be used for the library that has been donated by scouts and others in the neighborhood.
 7. Fundraising – Erik Olson
 - Names were proposed to assist Erik with fundraising.
 8. Technology – Dave Havell
 - Dave is working with Kim Dohrer from Academica West with the Technology Plan. Dave will have it completed by May 1, 2007 to be able to receive the one-time funding from the Legislature for Technology.
 9. Safety – Brandon Clarke
 - Brandon will be implementing a safety plan through the parent organization.
 10. Cafeteria – Dave Garrett
 - Dave has a few contacts he will be working with to determine what type of lunch program Canyon Rim Academy will offer.
 11. Website / Newsletter – Cheri Jackson
 - Items to be included in the website and/or newsletter include principal hiring update, teacher hiring update, curriculum updates,
 12. Dress Code – Cheri Jackson
 - In the parent volunteer sign-up survey, two people requested to be on the dress code committee, other parents participated as well, for a total of 10 participants. All opinions were represented in this dress code recommendation. The top three goals include: safety, modesty, and atmosphere. Several dress code policies were considered, legal considerations were made, and a compromise between a strict dress code and a very lenient dress code was made by the committee.
 - A vote was not taken, a compromise was made among all participants.
 - Dave Havell would like to see a more lenient dress code.
 - Brandon Clarke noted his experiences in a strict uniform environment. He researched different journals at the library, and found pros and cons for all positions. He believes uniforms are a marketing tool to attract parents who are serious about their children's education. It is easier to set a more strict policy from the beginning, and relax the standards if desired.
 - Dave Garrett prefers to set the standard and adhere to it. If the school wants to be innovative and try something new, it requires a risk such as setting a strict dress code policy.
 - Irene Rytting performed an internet search on elementary school uniforms and studies have shown a uniform environment is calming. The difference between a uniform policy and dress code policy is a uniform policy tells you what you can wear, a dress code policy tells you what you cannot wear. She recommends accepting the dress code policy.
 - Shana Heyn does not support a strict dress code.
 - Cheri Jackson initially was neutral on dress code policy, but has since moved towards a less strict dress code policy. She believes requiring specific clothing may be limiting to some parents because of the cost involved in purchasing a new wardrobe for her kids. She wants Canyon Rim Academy to set itself apart with its curriculum rather than appearance.
 - Erik Olson cites Utah Code saying uniforms are acceptable under certain conditions. He likes the idea of the orderly and neat atmosphere of a more formal policy.

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13. Human Resources - Dave Garrett

- An update on hiring a principal and teachers was given. Many teachers have been hired already and a principal should be hired very soon.

BUSINESS ITEMS

- Discussion was held on the Recommendation of the Dress Code Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Betsy VanDenBerghe: The updates people receive over the computer are like gold! The closer school gets to starting, the more hesitant they are. Parents need to have updates on teachers being hired, a principal being hired, etc. Updates really help. The Open House will be a large determination for whether or not they want to come to the school.

3:49 PM - ADJOURN

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