

Syringa Mountain School
Board Meeting Minutes – 7/20/2022

APPROVED 8/17/22

Amendment Approved :5/16/23

School Staff:

Christi Thompson-Director
Shawn Meyers-Teacher Liaison
Kristin Funk
Bette Reed

Board Members:

Mike Allaire
Sandi Viau
Anthony Miller
Michele Harris
Jennifer Barrett-Neet
John Casey
Sarah Seppa

Public attendance:

5:30pm Time Quorum is present

- I. Public comment:
 - A. None present
- II. Consent Agenda
 - A. Approval of 6/15/22 Board Meeting- Michele makes a motion to approve the minutes, Jennifer seconded, motion passed
 - B. Approval of 2022-23 Contracts- Mike Allaire makes a motion to approve the minutes, Jennifer Barrett-Neet seconded, motion passed
- III. Old Business
 - A. Financial Update
 1. Sandi Viau gave the update
 2. Updated signatures at the bank
 3. Meetings will be 2nd Friday of the month 9-10am either in person or on google meets
 4. \$460,000 in the bank as of June
 - B. Teacher Update
 1. Shawn Meyers gave the update - Welcome Shawn!
 2. No questions or comments from teachers
 3. Starting literacy training - Cultivating Readers
 - C. Parent Council update
 1. Summer Melt Prevention emails are still going out
 2. Wicked Spud fundraiser August 3 - 6pm; a couple of hours
 3. WRWF Luncheon on August 3 - Michele and Shawn attending
 - D. Strategic Plan Updates/Website updates
 1. Anthony Miller gave an update
 2. Academics & Operations Committee - Christi is overseeing this initiative and will be pulling teachers in as needed. Board involvement? Parent involvement?
 - a) Comments (Christi, Sarah, Shawn, Anthony, Kristin, Jennifer) about wanting to ensure Waldorf remains a focus in the academics; continued desire for assistance from the parents with festivals

- b) Curriculum needs board approval per bi-laws - collaboration between teachers and board
- c) New teachers and staff completed a Waldorf specific training
- d) Test score aspect and getting updates on how we are doing to meet our requirements
- e) Idaho has moved to Standardized Content rather than Common Core
- 3. Next month - all of the committees will have objectives and priorities that each committee are going to implement this year
- 4. Website update
 - a) Saving some data from current sight and shopping feature
 - b) 1-4 weeks estimated until launch of new website
 - c) School store is shut down at the moment
- E. Resiliency Rising CRM Proposal
 - 1. Sarah Seppa shared info about this training
 - 2. Uniting teachers and staff as support for students
 - 3. Proposal provided to board for consideration - would parent council be able to fundraise for this?
 - 4. Jennifer proposed an alternative training program and bringing a couple of options to the board for consideration to choose something that fits best for our school
 - 5. Anything we choose, this should be a priority for the school as a whole
 - 6. Have each trainer come in and present their program?
 - 7. Christi will also check with Jamie Rivetts who already comes in to work with students
 - 8. Possibly find resources to pay for whatever training we decide
 - 9. EAP Benefit also available for the staff - going to make sure the staff knows about this benefit they have
 - 10. Michele will touch base with PC about paying for whatever training we choose
 - 11. Shawn will check in with teachers about training for questions/input
 - 12. Special board meeting to make final decision about this on August 10 at 6:30pm
 - 13. Christi mentioned ISBA training
 - a) 3 4-hour evening trainings
 - b) Additional training for Administration Evaluation will get dates from ISBA

IV. New Business

A. *Board Policies: Summer Policy Updates*

- 1. Policy 1210 updates - Qualifications - Terms and Duties of Board Officers
 - a) Chair and Vice Chair responsibilities for participating in meetings and voting
 - b) We need to determine a Vice Chair - finalize at August Board Meeting
 - c) Start recruiting for Chair to take over for Mike next year
- 2. Policy 1420 - Director Expenses
 - a) Reimburse any expenses monthly
- 3. Policy 2310 - Nutrition Education
 - a) Minimal changes to wording
 - b) Christi to review this policy with the staff
 - c) Involving St. Luke's dietitians?
- 4. Policy 2385 - English Learners Program
 - a) Assess students annually
 - b) Participate in statewide testing
 - c) Syringa already does both of these things
- 5. Policy 2415 NEW -
 - a) Kindergarten through 5th grade
 - b) Students that show signs of dyslexia
 - c) All teachers will have to have training to identify students

6. Policy 2520 - Curricular Materials
 - a) Board shall appoint a curricular materials adoption committee
 - b) At least half of the committee is to be school parents
 7. Policy 2540 - Selection Adoption and Removal of Curricular Materials
 - a) Curricular committee will be responsible for recommending textbooks and major instructional materials
 8. Policy 2605 - Advancement Requirements for 6th through 8th grade
 - a) Must complete instruction in career exploration
 - b) Syringa already does this during 7th and 8th grade
 - c) Determine what is considered passing for advancement from Syringa
 - (1) Add "Team Recommendation" to report card to identify next year's grade level
 - (2) Teachers and parents are to have an open discussion about this
 - (3) "Team" is the teacher, the student, and the student's guardian(s)
 - (4) Final policy approval in August
 9. Policy 3370 - Searches and Seizure
 - a) Section added regarding contacting parent prior to conducting search of a student's person
 10. Policy 4110 - Public Complaints and Suggestions
 - a) Addition of definitions and clarifying process
 - b) Public can bring suggestions to the board in addition to making complaints
 11. Policy 4180 NEW - Community Involvement in Student Nutrition and Exercise
 12. Policy 5105 - Certified Personnel Employment
 - a) Small change to definition of Category 1
 13. Policy 5750 - Employing Retired Teacher and Administrators
 - a) Added paragraph that we can hire individuals who are retired and definition to age (55 or older and retired)
 - b) Changing stipulations about collecting PERSI
 14. Policy 8105 - Extracurricular Transportation
 - a) Added paragraph about carpool arrangements
 15. Policy 8160 - Contracting for Transportation Services
 - a) We cannot have a contract for more than 5 years except for exception of federally funded contracts
 - b) Does not apply to Syringa at the moment
- B. Action Item: Approve monthly payables
1. Sandi Viau made a motion to approve, Anthony Miller seconded the motion, Board approved.
- C. Unfilled positions
1. Special Ed position still open
 - a) There may be a grant available to cover stipend for teachers taking on extra work
 - b) Christi assuming this role if needed
 2. Paraprofessional position still open
 3. Cleaner interviewed
 4. Still looking for maintenance position
 5. Reach out to Parent Council to fill in some gaps - help at front desk to free up Daniel throughout the week and taking on all festival organizing
 6. Openings currently posted locally and state-wide; potentially expand postings
- D. Covid Safety Planning
1. 2022-2023 Safe Return to School plan presented
 2. Will be posted on the website for school families and public to view
 3. Discussion about mask requirements

- E. 2022 ISBA Resolution No. Classified Draft
 - 1. Presented for board consideration
 - 2. Board is in support of resolution
 - a) Sandi Viau made a motion to approve, Seconded by Sarah Seppa, Board approved
- F. Superintendent Training
 - 1. Christi is joining a group of school administrators for mentorship
 - 2. Training available in Boise
 - a) Board in agreement about reimbursement for mileage and hotel
- V. Executive time - In at 8:04pm
 - A. Sandi Viau, Anthony Miller, Michele Harris, Mike Allaire, Jennifer Barrett-Neet, Sarah Seppa, John Casey
 - B. Kristin Funk and Christi Thompson invited to join
- VI. Out of Executive Session and into regular session- adjourn at 8:22pm