

Pioneer Preparatory School: A Challenge Foundation Academy

Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Directors

Monday, September 22, 2014

**Meeting was held at Pioneer Preparatory School
6510 West Clarendon Avenue
Phoenix AZ 85033**

Board Members Present: Shelley Baltodano, Cathy Pirrone, Matt Sandoval

Absent Board Members: Dave McKee

Also Present: Jack Rowe, Board Chair
Tony Best, School Director
Randy Tranowski, Public Relations Advocate
Tisha Crisler, Bookkeeper
Angelica

J. Rowe called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM after a quorum was established.

Cathy moved to adopt the agenda as presented.

Matt seconded the motion to adopt the agenda.

Motion carried unanimously.

Matt moved to approve the August 25, 2014 minutes.

Cathy seconded the motion.

Motion carried unanimously.

CALL FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

Speakers: Angelica, PTSA

\$6166.00 Cash Balance for PTSA

Donated \$75 to each class, a total of \$2000, for supplies

PTSA Goal is \$12,000 in fundraising this year

Goal of increased communication with parents and teachers

Still considering options for spending PTSA money this year

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mission statement read.

Review the attached written Director's Report.

All classroom teacher positions have been filled.

632 enrolled for month; Absenteeism rate: 3.13%

NWEA raw data: 97% student completion.

All classrooms have a significant number of students below grade level; with very low Kindergarten scores which are consistent for incoming students at Pioneer in this age group

Data wall up with results displaying data for students: at, above, or below grade level with a clear goal of % of student passing by the end of the year.

Galileo Pretest (which tests for current grade level): 98% student completion.

1st-6th graders demonstrate a 76% passing result overall for Math and 83% passing overall for reading

Grade level meetings delayed due to rain and damage. Set for Sept 24, 2014

Data Extraction: Tony will meet with each teacher to discuss strategies and skills to develop students based on test scores, as well as informal assessments to be used to track student progress.

Reading Intervention: 45 minute sessions/day began this month, SRA Corrective Reading Decoding Curriculum (builds skills and assesses progress), Scholastic Book Fair and teacher training/Jam Session scheduled for October

Math Intervention: performance objectives and quizzes to assess mastery; students work whole group, small groups, centers, and Odyssey computer based instruction; FASST Math computer program to begin in October. Goals: each student to meet 80% on skills assessment for mastery and fluency of math goals

Pioneer Enrichment Program, SPED – working on creation of a self contained program for 5 kids, life skill, social skill curriculum via STEPS-Serving the Exceptional Populations, LLC (contracted company that assist currently Pioneer with Speech Therapy services and the maintenance of speech therapy files).

Flood- school closed September 8-9; state will gift 1 day and Pioneer will add 1 day onto the year-School will end on May 22

Money in the budget to cover flood repair cost; no effect to business: drywall replaced, baseboards replaced, no mold or effects. 12 classrooms affected
Tony obtained a Claim number from insurance so, but no flood insurance

Public Relations/Community Outreach

Introduction of Randy Tranowski, Community Coordinator/Public Ally:

Goal to gather volunteers and formalize volunteerism in the school, build a presence in the community and bring the community to us.

Implementing the STARS program (Scottsdale Training and Rehabilitation Services), art therapy for disabled persons as an expression and coping method. Pioneer to have students working on ½ project and adults at STARS working on ½ project to create a whole project as a coordinated effort.

Implementing a pen pal project with adults from STARS and Pioneer students.

Hoping to get Western Tech involved in the outreach with STARS also.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Please review attached Treasurer's Report and Vouchers List.

Teach for America- in the budget \$28,000
Received invoice for fence project
YTD Budget (-102,773) incorrect.
Projected surplus of \$26,384 for the year

Shelley moved to approve the vouchers.
Matt seconded the move to approve the vouchers.
Motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS

TeamCFA Update:
Incredible resources for core knowledge via technology division include teaching strategies and VODCAST for teachers to use data to drive instruction successfully

ALL kids can grow, learn, and improve!

Review of raw NWEA and Galileo data- SEE RESULTS FROM DIRECTORS REPRT AND SUMMARY ABOVE

NWEA: 3 Assessments/year
NWEA simple to administer, kinder included
Galileo Pre/Post Grade Level Test:
Pre-tested completed and tests that grade level only (new this year) instead of 50% current grade and 50% next grade, No Kinder testing

Test differences: Galileo does not show growth or grade level equivalent, no Kinder

Teachers may extract data from either test to drive instruction, as long as they are able to document student growth

Odyssey concentrates on where students are weaker and tailors instruction.
Individualized instruction via Odyssey will start for grades K-6: begin with 30 minutes per week and increasing to 60 minutes per week over the course of the year.

Benchmarks will take place in November.

BUILDING REFINANCING:

\$18,000 bill from Terry Warren for Bond process

Bond process suspended. Bill will be disputed.

Tony will locate engagement letter to Terry Warren from Warren-Banker. Tracy Banker to assist with legal needs regarding disputed bill.

Annual Financial Report

Report presented by Tisha Crisler and will be filed with Department of Education by Oct 15, 2014

Matt moved to approve the Annual Financial Report.

Cathy seconded the motion.

Motion passed unanimously.

NEW ACTION ITEMS

Establish evaluation process for Tony Best, Director of Pioneer

Jack and Tony to present possible director goals and evaluation methods by next meeting for the 2014-2015 school year

Enrollment issues experienced this year: discussion on whether Pioneer needs to develop policy

NO Executive Session

Matt moved to adjourn at 5:00 pm

Cathy seconded the motion.

Next meeting is October 27, 2014.