



Quest Academy

Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 14, 2009

Location: Quest Academy, 4862 West 4000 South, West Haven, UT 84401

In Attendance: Brandy Beckman, Ken Bradshaw, Tom DeGarlais, Heidi Jex, Penn Bradshaw, Beckie Eastman, Michele Kersey, Gabe Clark (*Academica West*), Dawn Kawaguchi (*Academica West*), Catherine Montgomery (*Principal*) and Gavin Hutchinson (*Academica West 6:25*)

The mission of Quest Academy is to provide students a challenging, technology rich environment, enabling young citizens to become leaders prepared for the challenges of an evolving global community.

Minutes

6:07 p.m. – CALL TO ORDER – Brandy Beckman

CONSENT ITEMS – Ken made a motion to approve the consent items. Penn seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

- Approve Board Meeting Minutes from March 10, 2009
- Approve Electronic Board Meeting Minutes from March 31, 2009
- Ratify Approval of the *Letter of Intent* to Purchase Building

BUSINESS ITEMS (To Be Discussed and/or Voted Upon)

- Discuss and Vote on purchases for Implementation Grant – Ken made a motion to table this business item. Penn seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Discuss and Vote on Electronic Device Policy – Gabe stated that he made the changes that were requested from the last meeting. Ken declared that he had sent via email changes to Gabe that weren't modified on the final. There was also an email from Tom that had suggested some changes and they were not included as well. Gabe acknowledged the oversight and will make the changes requested. Ken made the motion to approve the Electronic Device Policy with the changes in Ken and Tom's emails. Tom seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Discuss and Vote on Parent Handbook Changes – Catherine discussed the changes made in the Parent Handbook to reflect the Electronic Device Policy that was requested by the Board. She also added a sentence to clarify on the dress code regarding snow boots since it wasn't included on the first draft. It reads "Snow boots may be worn outside, but shoes must be brought to be worn inside the school." Beckie made a motion to accept the changes in the Parent Handbook as made by Catherine Montgomery. Michele seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- Discuss and Vote on 2009 – 2010 Calendar – Catherine reported to the Board that the

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state legislature has told the districts that they can cut (3) quality teaching days and (5) instruction days. They must cut the quality teaching days first. This cut could save approximately 2.67% per teacher. There was discussion on the each calendar. There was a comment that there are only three minimum days on calendar number one for Wednesday. Michele stated that in Weber District they are cutting out 3 professional development days in August. Catherine mentioned that there is money in their implementation grant for professional development days. She would like to add Professional development on second calendar for August 13-14, 17-18. Catherine mentioned that several of the charter school principals feel that starting a few days earlier than the public schools because it gives the charter school an advantage. Ken suggested keeping the “green” (quality teaching days/contract days) with the caveat that as the budget is developed and it is necessary then Catherine can use these days to cut without having to bring it back to the board to be voted on. There was discussion on minimum professional development days. It was agreed upon that the last Wednesday of the month is the minimum day. Penn moved that the starting day is 19th of August, that all Wednesdays are full days except the last Wednesday of the month and school is out on the 28th of May, Christmas vacation and Spring Break will follow calendar #2 and the caveat of all green – quality teaching days will be at Catherine’s discretions to cut if the budget needs it. Heidi and Beckie have seconded the motion. The motion carries with a vote of five to two.

- Beckie made a motion to revisit the implementation grant discussion. Penn seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. Gavin reviewed the implementation grant. Jacob Johnson explained to the board the thought behind replacing all of the teachers’ Mac laptop computers with PC laptops. Then taking the Mac laptops and making a mobile Mac lab along with two more PC mobile labs. Jacob reviewed his quote and what it entailed. There was discussion on training needs on both platforms. Gavin recommended that the Board include computer training in their implementation grant for this next year which is the third and last year. There was discussion on the how the mobile labs work. Jacob explained that the mobile carts that he will be using carry 30 laptops per cart. They are different from what other schools are using. The computers will lay flat in slots on the cart instead of standing up (which seem to damage the computer). The entire cart locks and the computers charge on the cart. Each mobile lab will have 28 computers. Brandy asked about purchasing a couple of backup computers because when a computer goes down she didn’t want a student to not have a computer. Jacob assured Brandy that the service that he provides that wouldn’t happen. He would have a loner computer to replace any computer he would have to service. Jacob recommended purchasing a second server as a back up because if the main server were to go down there is currently no back up. He has included the second server as a separate bid. Gavin stated that the back-up server is included in the implementation grant. He touched on the other items that were included in the grant such as interactive slates and digital cameras. Gavin also suggested to the Board to approve an amount since we don’t have bids for the other items.

Ken made a motion to approve the implementation grant as it has been presented and drafted (up to \$164,337) giving Catherine the right to work in conjunction Gavin and Brandy to make the final decision on accepting the bids that are listed in the grant with an additional caveat that Catherine put together a training plan together to present to the Board. Penn and Michele seconded the motion. There was a roll call of the vote.

Michele Kersey Smith – Aye
Beckie Eastman – Aye

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Brandy Beckman – Aye
Penn Bradshaw – Aye
Heidi Jex – Aye
Tom DeGarlais – Aye
Ken Bradshaw – Aye

Motion passed unanimously.

7:29 p.m. – Gavin was asked to be excused at this time. Jacob was also excused.

REPORTS

➤ Academica Report

- Review and accept 2008-2009 Budget (as of March 31, 2009) – Gabe presented the budget to the Board. A couple of areas to look at are Teacher aides that are over budget but there are extra funds in the Special Ed budget and we can reclassify. Then he mentioned that they will want to consider bonuses within the next month. Not much change in any other areas. Penn made a motion to accept the budget as of March 31, 2009. Michele seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

➤ Board Report – The board had nothing to report.

➤ Parent Organization Report

- Tom reported that the Safety and Health Fair will be hosted on April 23rd. The fire department will bring the smoke house and fire engines and the police department will be represented. Several presentations by the different organizations including blood pressure screenings. There will also be donation opportunities.
- Spring Carnival May 15th – There will be 26 different booths. There will be a dunk booth with the school's Dare Officer and three giant blow-up bouncy things. There will be food, games, prizes, silent auction and possible live auction. There have been all kinds of great donations made.

➤ Principal Report

- Math Envision training for the teachers tomorrow. Mrs. Wright has been training the teachers on CBT Testing and they are going to schedule one more testing with the teachers.
- Review of Dress and Grooming violations for the last month. Girls in high heeled boots are an issue but are not against the policy. Catherine wants the kids to be safe during PE and recess.
- Maturation presentation for fifth graders by Dr. Riggs and his wife was the best that Catherine has ever seen in her career. Sixth graders have not yet seen this presentation but it will be this week in separate presentations.
- Review of school field trips for the school this month.
- Quest Academy received Certificate of Provisional Accreditation from Northwest Assoc. of Accredited Schools.
- Quest Academy received a Certification of Excellence from the State Board of the Statistical Team.
- Survey Results – Catherine reviewed the parent and faculty survey results. She stated that 10% of the parents responding are right around the average and that statistics show that people tend to respond more when they have a complaint. Faculty survey had 40% of the teachers respond. The board commented on the positive responses from the teachers. Catherine would like to have more of the faculty respond by letting them out of professional development training early to

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complete the survey. There were many positive comments made by the Board. Catherine reviewed the areas that they can improve on and how she would like to go about doing each thing. Overall the surveys were very positive.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Comments will be limited to items not on the agenda- 3 min. each)
Public comment was made by Mrs. Francis.

Penn made a motion to move to an Executive Closed Session for the purpose to discuss pending or reasonable imminent litigation. Ken seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

CLOSED SESSION (Emergency) – To discuss pending or imminent litigation

ADJOURN – Ken made a motion to adjourn the Board meeting. Beckie seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. (*Duration 1:50:24*)

April Action Items

1. Gabe would like a committee put together to review the Wellness Policy that he is putting together – **Catherine**

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