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NRCCS Board Meeting

May 9th, 2022

Minutes

Called to Order: 4:31 pm by Kim Smith

Attendees:

Board members: Present: Kim Smith, Sarah Barr, Jenn Clements John Piret, Katie Carroll -Remote attendance: Doug Tumminello

Staff members: [Jaime Passchier](#), Carlie Pedrini, Wil Chapple, Erin Walker, Kelly Skrabacz, Amy Cosgrove

Community Members: [Jeremiah Shaw](#), Jessica Stone, Chris March

Approval of Agenda: John moved to accept the agenda. Second from Katie. Unanimously approved.

Minutes: No changes. Sarah moved to approve the minutes from 4.11.22. Second from John. Unanimously approved.

Request to Address the Board:

Kim reminds attendees that this is the time allotted for public comment. After public comment time is concluded, the board, Jaime and Carlie will be the only participants allowed to comment. Feedback from the board is not required during public comment.

Chris Marsh wants to extend his thanks to the school and employees.

Wil Chapple wants to express his desire to keep Eureka Math curriculum. Amy Cosgrove also supports Eureka math and thinks that NRCCS can embrace the curriculum more in years to come by involving the community and parents. Amy also thinks addressing the common core standards will bring more to the curriculum for both teachers and students.

Kelly Scrabacz. Why do board members not sit on the staff meetings any longer? What can the board do to strengthen the relationship with the school?

Erin Walker - The board had great support through the recent year's changes and COVID. As a result of board involvement the communication chain has been changed. Now, parents are going to the board

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instead of reaching out to staff first. How can we address this and make sure the board is reaching out to teachers and staff first?

Covid Discussion and Update:

From Jaime Passchier. Resumed testing over the past 2 weeks after a pause due to Spring break and CMAS testing. There have been no positive tests.

Kim Smith - Do we want to amend the vote that outside visitors need to still wear masks? John and Jenn agree that visitors can be maskless. John makes a motion that masking will be optional to all visitors of NRCCS, with a second from Katie to approve. Unanimous approval from the board members.

ECC and K-8 Statements:

- **TOSA Position**

Update from Jaime. Thank you to the board and SAC volunteers for being involved with the hiring process. NRCCS is excited to announce that [Amy Cosgrove](#) will be the TOSA: Academic Dean! This position consists of half time math instructing for 3 grade levels and half time teacher coaching.

- **Enrollment sub-team update**

The office is receiving calls almost daily inquiring about enrollment for next year. Enrollment for next year is confirmed at 96 students currently. The open enrollment period ends on 5/31/22. The enrollment committee has placed an enrollment banner in front of the school, flyers at the Clark Store, a posting at the Clark Store and a 'news in brief' announcement in the Steamboat Pilot. The committee will meet again on Monday, May 16th from 5:30-6:30 pm.

- **Policy reviews over summer**

Jaime is in contact with Colorado League of Charter Schools and has sent all policies and handbooks to them for review. They will provide us with an estimate of cost before the official review commences. Kim requests that the board members let Jaime know of any policies that need to be updated. Katie mentions having a meeting in July to review policy updates.

- **Math Curriculum**

Update from Jaime. NRCCS is currently using Eureka math for all grade levels. Student data holds steady for our students are at average levels. Feedback on our current math curriculum from students and staff is mixed. Recently had math envisioning with consultant Linda Grein from Educate. Jaime refers to Survey results from teachers re: [North Routt: Creating our Vision for](#)

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[Mathematics](#) . Teachers feedback on difficulty of teaching multi grade level math in one classroom (will be alleviated by TOSA).

Jaime and SAC are trying to gather information from parents on their opinion of NRCCS math curriculum. Kohler is currently testing Illustrative Mathematics with some MS students. Currently considering a pilot program for this curriculum next year.

Katie Carroll asks; what is the cost of switching curricula? Jaime has applied for ESSER grant curricular funds to cover these costs.

SSSD MS currently uses Carnegie math.

Jenn - what can we do to help parents learn about the curriculum? Jenn recommends that we refer to Amy Cosgrove for recommendations of curriculum, as TOSA she will be teaching math to 3 separate grade levels. Sarah mentioned that Amy Cosgrove said in recent SAC meeting that it takes 3-5 years for teachers and students to adjust to the new curriculum. Jaime confirmed that there can be a dip in achievement data when curriculum is switched.

Kim - is there data on how our students adjusting to transfer from NRCCS MS to HS. General perception is that they transition well but the first few months can be difficult.

Doug comments that he is not sure that NRCCS students are at the same level for (math) curriculum specifically. John comments that his experience with his child was that she was prepared for 1st semester of HS math but did have additional review over the summer.

Final decision on curriculum will be made by NRCCS staff and is not a decision for the board to vote on.

- **Staff compensation: Vote needed**

[NRCCS Compensation for 22-23 Board presentation](#)

A vote is needed to approve the compensation plan. John makes a motion and [Jenn Clements](#) makes a second to approve the compensation plan as presented. Unanimous approval.

Update from Jaime on ECC director role. This Thursday and Friday, May 11-12 there are 4 scheduled interviews. A similar procedure will be followed that was used to hire the TOSA.

Strategic Goals Reporting:

Update from Jaime: Peg Portscheller (background in education from teacher to superintendent, currently serves as board member for CMC) facilitates 6 NRCCS staff for a day of Strategic planning. Looked at the mission and vision of the attending staff, while some differences, most were in alignment.

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Reviewed the current Strategic plan. Went through 'Keep, scrap, adapt'. The Strategic plan has not been rewritten yet, but forming process on how to proceed. Katie wants to make sure that it is staff driven but wants to make sure that the Board is involved with the Strategic planning. Jaime mentions that she also wants community involvement. Looking into a 3 year plan instead of a 5 year plan. Jaime would like to be ready to launch starting in Fall of 2022 at the beginning of next school year. Doug would like the board to be involved from the beginning, as the board plays an important role in the strategic planning process.

Kim recommends that the board has a conference based on strategic planning (sooner than later) so that the plan can be in place prior to the next SY.

Jaime and Kim will take first steps in developing a timeline for the process that includes staff, community and board. They will follow up with the board after initial planning.

School Accountability Committee (SAC):

Working on math curriculum, updates were mentioned earlier in the meeting.

Finance Committee Update: Carlie provided an update on the following:

- [FY22/23 Draft Budget](#)
- [7/1/21-3/31/22 Budget update](#)

Carlie would prefer to have a consolidated version of the Budget in the future.

Strategic Communication Committee (SCC):

Update from Katie Carroll. She is planning a press release on the 8th grade trip and another story on new leadership and NRCCS vision with the Steamboat Pilot.

Carlie is providing monthly 'News in Brief' to the Steamboat Pilot. Shea is offering weekly updates of photos to the Pilot.

Board Discussion Misc Topics:

- **May 12 BBQ update**
Catering from Moe's BBQ. If there are any available hands for set up starting at 2:30 as well as clean up at the end of the night. COL starts at 3:30 with a tour of classrooms and final projects. Self tours of the gym and ECC will be available. At the beginning of COL Kim will give an introduction of the gym and Jaime will give a summary of events for that afternoon/ evening.
- **Open Board Position:**

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Board position is posted on the NRCCS website. Looking for a school admin background and/ or fundraising background. The form response listed on NRCCS website goes straight to Kim Smith. Katie Carroll asks of Kim, should we refer to website or will this be discussed in an executive meeting? Kim would prefer interested parties fill out application or contact her directly. 7 is the max number of board members per our policy.

- **May 26 graduation**

Update from Jaime. 1:30 start - Events include PreK graduation, 8th grade graduation, and the Eagle nomination. Cupcakes will be provided after ceremonies are held.

Kim mentions idea of having NRCCS HS senior graduates being able to visit the school and teachers. Doug mentions that NRCCS graduates give HS tours to incoming NRCCS freshman currently.

- **Principal evaluation process**

Currently, Jaime is doing a self evaluation. The self evaluation will be sent to all board members on June 1 for review and then will be discussed at the June 13th board meeting.

Next Community meet with the board: Aug 25 at 7pm (Dec, April, August)

Community meetings with the board have moved from Monthly to quarterly, August 25 will be the next meeting and is purposefully planned at the beginning of the school year. All board members being present if possible.

Doug asks Carlie about the Facilities update. Still waiting on Security Cameras before the space is open to the community.

Jenn lead a discussion about some of the comments about the board responsibilities. What is the balance of not being involved in the day to day but still being involved? This year has been different because of circumstances. What is the chain of command for board involvement with the school? Communication plan is on the website and can always remind someone of the communication outline. As board members it needs to be reiterated that anyone who contacts them is going through the correct communication procedures 1. Teacher 2. Principal 3. Email and attend 'open comment' portion of the board meetings. [Link to Communication outline on NRCCS website.](#)

Emails to the board cannot be replied to, as a rule they have to be brought to public meetings for discussion.

Next Board Meeting: June 13, 2022 4:30-6:30 in the NRCCS community room

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Closing statement from Kim. The number one responsibility to the board is the students and the students are here because of the staff. Appreciation to NRCCS staff was reiterated.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:28 by Kim Smith, Board President.

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