



Special Meeting

Minutes

Roche Constructors, Inc. Board Room
361 71st Ave. Greeley, CO 80634

Friday, August 26, 2022

Board Members Present: Jake Daggett, Eric Fitzsimons, Justin Martinez, Ryan Mayeda, Justin Nelson, Jake Pierce, Thomas M. Roche, Stephanie Welle, Tina Whitcomb, Amanda Haas (Faculty Rep) Staff Present: Jennifer Weaver, David Jones

8:30 A.M. Regular Board Meeting

1.0 CALL TO ORDER

- Call to order at 8:32 a.m.

2.0 ADOPTION OF AGENDA

- MOTION TO ADOPT THE AGENDA - ERIC (JAKE D) PASSED

3.0 ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

3.1 Board/[Director](#) Priorities and Goals

- Director Weaver explains an overview of the evaluation process and how that affects her goals for the year.
- Thomas M. Roche asks to clarify PLC's
- Ryan asks where University fits between the extremes of complete curriculum freedom and strict universal standards.
- Jennifer explains how a foundation of literacy was prioritized and how University had a group dive in and develop curriculum and give teachers the opportunity to pull from resources and explore what they are passionate about. Teachers are enabled and expected to bring their expertise to the table.
- Eric mentions that many parents bring their kids to University because of the interest directed education.
- Ryan asks about student feedback regarding the house activities.
- There will be a student leadership group to help brainstorm ideas for the house activities.

- Jake Pierce asks about who can volunteer for the council. There will be one from every level from every house as well as an adult from each house.
- Ryan mentions how he's curious about how the connection is built between high school and elementary school students.
- Jennifer mentions how there are still groups that do that sort of thing. High School buddies are still happening. Classroom aides still have strong interaction. K12 Snow Show and all levels participating in productions are several ideas that are on the table.

- Jennifer explains the many things that the school does to support the staff. Raises, bonus and the new calendar schedule were all things that were put into place to support teachers.
- Eric asked about parent feedback regarding the new calendar.
- Jennifer says that we'll have to find out as we get closer to switching to 4 day weeks. There are also more options to support parents making the transition. Many more families applied for free and reduced lunch which has many benefits outside of lunch.
- Tina asks how the school advertises for different committees.
- The expectation is that everyone is involved with at least one. We haven't had trouble with people getting involved.
- Ryan asks about the budget behind pouring money into staff and whether or not that is sustainable.
- Jennifer walks through the process of how University uses MLO and Esser funds. Board members discuss timelines and how long those funds will be available.

- Thomas mentions how he's seen the superintendents at other schools have offices in both buildings to keep things cohesive.
- Amanda shares how the middle school sees Jennifer more than the last director. She also shares really positive feedback from the middle school teachers about how much they enjoy the new principal, Mr. Schuyler.

- Thomas mentions the interesting dynamic between employers and employees. He also wants to make sure that students are the reason behind all of the staff resources. We support staff to ultimately support students.
- Board members share how they've appreciated this meeting and are grateful for the opportunity to sit down and talk about this stuff with each other.
- Ryan mentions the importance of the surrounding community and the school's interaction with local businesses. With the uncertain future of MLO and ESSER funds, connections with the community are important.

- Jennifer mentions how much David Cessna has done to connect students with possible job shadows and internships.
- Tina asks about whether or not we are proactive in asking the community for opportunities for our students. There is a lot of potential to tap into the alumni as well. Ryan stresses the importance of networks and community connections.
- Mrs. Bjornson mentions how all of the teachers she has talked to love Jennifer's goals.

- Ryan's goal for this discussion is to establish a foundation for the direction of the school and how the board wants to approach that.
- Jennifer mentions that a priority should be a long term plan about facilities expansion. There are many ideas like softball fields or auditoriums, and Jennifer shares how there needs to be action steps to explore these ideas.
- Thomas mentions the possibility of a strategic planning sub committee and also volunteered to chair the sub committee. Justin, Tina, Amanda and Thomas volunteer to participate. Other members express interest as well.
- Facilities need to grow along with the program.

- Thomas mentions that the policies should be re-evaluated and the board should go through the policies to make sure they are still relevant. Members discuss how different policies will be prioritized. Tina shares how she wants to prioritize Jennifer's time along with prioritizing policies to make sure that they align with Jennifer's goals and what the board is asking her to accomplish.
- Jennifer mentions that policies with legal ramifications should be prioritized over more procedural policies.
- Ryan mentions that a goal of his is to have open communication between the board and the community. Members discuss different ways to keep the public's trust and manage their relationship with the public.
- Mrs. Bjornson mentions how having an off-site, previously unscheduled meeting is making her nervous. Many teachers are worried and board communication needs to be prioritized.
- Thomas clarifies several of his intentions including asking for Jennifer's contact and meeting offsite during school hours.
- Justin N. offers the option of setting up zoom meetings that parents could login to. Amanda pitches the idea of live-streaming meetings. Members agree that communication is the biggest whole that needs to be filled. Jake P. states how the board needs to make the board meetings more inviting to the public.

- Jake D. asks about maybe moving the venue to a more inviting space.
- Stephanie shares how live streaming might be the best first step.
- Thomas shares how it might be a good idea to post the meetings on the school calendar.

3.2 Board Procedures & Logistics

- Ryan brings up the discussion about the board receiving comments or criticism from the school and how the board should address those comments.
- Jennifer included the District 6 “school board member conduct” document in the meeting packet. She also included a District 6 document regarding public opinions and complaints. Expressing concerns to the board is not always productive because the complaints should be addressed with the people directly involved.
- Jennifer makes a point that retaliation will never have a place in the culture of University Schools. People may be afraid to express their concerns and the board should be advocates for the community and should build/maintain a safe culture for discussion.
- Tina clarifies what the best way to avoid surprises is and what the best way to get concerns addressed is.
- Jennifer and Ryan are the main point of contact. Jennifer also mentions the use of future business on the agenda and how that can be used as a way to make people feel heard.
- Members discuss how items can be added to the agenda. Those items are addressed during the meeting between Jennifer, the Chair and Vice Chair.
- The next meeting will have an agenda item discussing the policy for adopting policies. Jennifer included District 6’s policy for reference.
- Members discuss the importance of clarifying details. The public’s perception was addressed and members expressed concerns and clarified intentions after what was said at the previous board meeting.

4.0 NEXT REGULAR MEETING – SEPTEMBER 14, 2022

5.0 ADJOURNMENT

- MOTION TO ADJOURN AT 11:09 TINA (STEPANIE) PASSED

