



College Prep in a Small School Environment

PEAK TO PEAK CHARTER SCHOOL

Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, November 19, 2014 at 7:45 am in the Auditoria

The Peak to Peak community will inspire students to fulfill their academic dreams for college, to develop their creative passions and athletic talents, and to become responsible citizens.

Call to order – Thomas Willetto called the meeting to order at 7:52 am.

In attendance:

Thomas Willetto

Lisa Walther

Brad Elliott (from 8:00 am)

Elizabeth Gable

Hank Dalton

Sandy Ray

Lisa Sicker

Sam Todd, EDO

Kelly Reeser, EDE

Kyle Mathews, HS Principal

Suzanne Ovelman, MS Principal

Melissa Christensen, Elementary Principal

Board Members absent:

None

Also present:

John Wilcox, Megan Freeman, Traci Schoeneweis, Kristianna Vedvik, Sarah Miley, Hillary Miller, Jennifer Douglass, Sunshine Phillips, Erin Henry, Robyn Steuer

Administrative business; approval of minutes, consent items

The minutes from the 6 Nov meeting were approved 5-0 (Lisa Walther and Brad Elliott abstaining because of absence from all or part of that meeting)

Public comments

Traci Schoeneweis noted that Open Enrollment meetings begin on Dec 6th.

Campus Build-Out Plans

Sam Todd discussed the campus build-out plans as they currently exist. John Wilcox has been meeting with the staff stakeholders to refine and adjust the plans, since the existing plans were drawn four years ago. (Presentation attached: These are 40% drawings, with some changes and many details and specifications to be added)

FBC recommendations and KPI Review

The recommendations of the FBC to reduce financial reserves from 110 days to 80 days and to amend the corresponding KPI accordingly were approved (7-0). The recommendation and the substance of the discussion by the FBC are contained in the 28 Oct minutes of the FBC meeting, which were attached to the minutes of the last meeting.

Board Committee Presentation: Template for Operation – Election Committee

Briefed by Traci Schoeneweis. Tim Scherr was elected by the Election Committee as the Chair. Thomas Willetto and Lisa Walther will serve as the Board Liaisons to the Election Committee.

AdvancED Accreditation Report Review, Board Self-Evaluation Input

Kelly Reeser provided the Board an overview of the AdvancED accreditation process, including the external review that is scheduled in January. This is a voluntary accreditation that we undergo as much for the self evaluation process as for the accreditation. The Board discussed the standard and indicators related to governance and each director provided their input into the self-evaluation ratings. The Board discussed ways to conduct a more formal self-evaluation in the future, including using standards and indicators from AdvancED as well as the Charter School Support Initiative (CSSI). In addition, the board discussed the value of forming a board governance subcommittee to address these issues in greater detail. Further discussion about the board governance subcommittee will occur in future board meetings.

6-12 Curriculum Committee Recommendations

The following curriculum changes, as discussed at the 6 Nov meeting were approved (7-0): British Lit (name change to “Why Writing Matters”) AP Environmental Science course proposal (change to AP), HS Theatre (name change), Tech 10 becoming two courses: one for MS students and one with greater depth for HS students. Theater courses being renamed and re-sequenced to allow students greater flexibility.

Future Meeting Topics

Fundraising Update, Succession Planning, Board Governance Subcommittee, Financial Audit Review

Executive Session (Legal)

None held

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 am – approved 5-0.

Submitted:

Hank Dalton

In attendance: Kyle M., Caroline M., Kelly R., Vicki L., Heather A., Carla F., Kurt S., Suzanne O., Josh B, Bob H., Kimberly G., and Kristin Putnam.

1. Suzanne O. spoke for Kim S. about the need for MS Math to better align with Common Core and PARCC. This could be accomplished by integrating more Geometry into MS math. She also spoke of the possibility of needing another section of MS math, or converting a current MS math class to create a Foundations of Algebra course that would prep MS students for HS Algebra. Still to be determined; parking lot for next meeting.
2. Josh B. presented the title change for 10th grade English. The "British Literature" title has become constraining and out of line with college expectations. **The new title "Why Writing Matters" and the corresponding course description will be forwarded to Traci S. for public update and board review/vote for approval.** Less than 30% of the course will be changed so the title change is sufficient.
3. An alignment of course numbers for external and internal audiences was discussed. We have some differing numbers in handbooks versus transcripts. Vicki L. will take a look at our current structure and return with a recommendation for the committee, and review department numbering in English, technology, electives.
4. Carolyn M. presented the proposal to switch Environmental Science to AP Environmental Science. She feels her students are already taking the AP course and should receive credit for that work and level of difficulty. She plans to continue scaffolding the AP curriculum to make it accessible for students that might not otherwise take an AP.

Kyle emphasized that there couldn't be different expectations for different AP courses. Thus, taking the AP exam and purchasing a text would be required. It was agreed that we should move forward with the course change.

Carolyn is to forward the proposal to Traci S. for public comment and to Kyle for board approval.

5. Heather A. shared the proposed course title changes for Theater. Becky W. wants to eliminate the pre-rec for the 1st three classes to increase class numbers and flexibility for our students. She also wants to change course names to better reflect the content. Kimberly emphasized the need to be able to show progression to colleges as needed, too.

Acting 110 would become Acting: Classical/ Realistic

Acting 111 Would become Acting: Classical/ Conceptual

120 would be Adv Technical Theater

190 would be the production class (fall and spring productions)

Names should be forwarded to Traci S. for public comment and Kyle M. for board approval.

6. Bob H. presented a new organization of, and course name change for, Tech 10. The course is currently a mixed MS and HS class and over time has shifted to become more of an 8th grade class. The content is still a good fit for current 8th graders who need a more general, survey intro to tech. However, the high school course needs more depth if we are to truly prepare students for college tech requirements. To address the growing need of students for tech education he recommends splitting the course. The MS would have an MS Tech 10 that would resemble much of what currently exists. The HS course would be named Tech 10: Applied Computing. The content changes would not exceed the 30% threshold as most components have already been piloted and many of them are little more than extensions of what is already currently being taught in Tech 10.

Changes should be forwarded to Traci S. for public comment and Kyle M. for board approval.

