

Wallace Stegner Academy Board of Directors Meeting



Date: Tuesday, January 14, 2025

In Attendance: Sarah Vaughan, Tony Furano, Jeremy Schow

Excused: Reed Farnsworth, Frank Magana

Others in Attendance: Adam Gerlach, Anthony Sudweeks, Brandon Fairbanks, Tyler O'Brien, Ken Jeppesen, Royce Van Tassel, Platte Nielson, Stacey Phillips

Wallace Stegner Academy will foster a community of active learners through academic rigor and citizenship by providing an opportunity for students to achieve academic excellence.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER Sarah Vaughan called the meeting to order at 5:38 PM.

CONSENT ITEMS

- December 3, 2024, Board Meeting & Closed Session Minutes
Jeremy Schow made a motion to approve the December 3, 2024, Board Meeting and Closed Session Minutes. Tony Furano seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Sarah Vaughan, Aye; Tony Furano, Aye; Jeremy Schow, Aye.

BOARD TRAINING

- Eide Bailly Audit Presentation & Training
Ken Jeppesen presented the audit to the board. The audit done by Eide Bailly had no findings and the audit was clean. There were four opinions included in the audit to ensure that the numbers are accurate. Ken Jeppesen noted the growth of revenue. With the increase in enrollment there was growth in revenue. Revenue was up from 15 million last year to 18 million this year. The audit found that expenses were up by 2.5 million but with revenue being up by 2.8 million the bottom-line showed that revenue exceeds expenses by 1.7 million. Ken Jeppesen stated that PTIF rates are good right now and said that they have enough in their operating account to do what is necessary. Ken reminded the board that everything aside from the land will depreciate over time. A highlight of the audit was that the school was compliant with their debt covenants. The second opinion in the audit was clean. If the school has over 750k of federal funds a single audit is required. The last opinion in the audit is from the state, and there were various requirements for testing such as board meeting minutes. The audit as clean overall and there were no questions or concerns from the board.

Ken Jeppesen left the meeting at 5:51 PM.

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, persons needing accommodations for this meeting should call 801-444-9378 to make appropriate arrangements. One or more board members may participate electronically or telephonically pursuant to UCA 52-4-207.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

REPORTS

- **Directors' Report**

Adam Gerlach and Anthony Sudweeks reported that enrollment is at a total of 2168 students across all three campuses. They haven't run their lottery yet for next year, but plan to run it soon. The directors report also provided numbers on new student applications for next year. SLC (84), WVC (252), Kearns (341), Sunset (16), with a total of 693 for new student applications. Anthony Sudweeks reported the ongoing projects at the school including the school leader dashboard, hiring season accreditation, their satellite application, marketing, NWEA assessments, changes to data meeting protocol and more CSGC training opportunities with talent development and change maker's academic focus. Anthony said they have sent out about 25,000 mailers in Salt Lake County and Sunset County with a plan to have billboards go up in February to advertise for the new campus. Anthony Sudweeks said they have changed protocol for the student's data meetings. To conclude the report the directors informed the board of upcoming trainings including a training in Denver, CO with the organization Changemakers and a training in Houston, Texas for talent development and recruitment. The directors will be sending a group of people to the title one conference taking place in Austin, Texas and invited the board to attend and receive their award at the conference.

- **Finance Report**

Tony Furano and Tyler O'Brien discussed the financials and the amended budget with the board. Overall operating cash at the end of December was in a good spot and receivables should be able to get reimbursed from the state. Tyler O'Brien mentioned that they will be paying back USBE for the bridge loan. The 2024-2025 amended budget was presented to the board. Local revenue saw an increase because of the PTIF. State revenue is determined based off several factors but is mostly based off enrollment. Salary and benefits saw some increase because of hiring and enrollment. SPED services increased so the budget needed to be adjusted there. The purchase of the turf field and the construction to add carpet in the front room also slightly increased the expenses. The most significant increase was the supplies with purchasing Kearns high school furniture to get it here and to have the funds available for next year for other items. Overall, the amended budget is proposed to have a 90,000 dollar increase which will still leave the budget in a solid spot.

VOTING AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

- **Amended Budget**
The board had no questions or concerns on the amended budget that was presented by Tyler O'Brien during the Finance Report.
Tony Furano made a motion to approve the Amended Budget. Jeremy Schow seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Sarah Vaughan, Aye; Tony Furano, Aye; Jeremy Schow, Aye.
- **Award RFP for Food Service Equipment and Fixtures**
Adam Gerlach discussed the bids received from Bargreen and CKS and gave an overview of the RFP evaluation committee statement. Adam Gerlach made the recommendation to award the RFP for Food Service Equipment and Fixtures to CKS.
Sarah Vaughan made a motion to award the RFP for Food Service Equipment and Fixtures to CKS. Tony Furano seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Sarah Vaughan, Aye; Tony Furano, Aye; Jeremy Schow, Aye.
- **2025-2026 School Year Calendar**
Adam Gerlach noted school will be starting a week later than the 2024-2025 school year. Adam discussed holidays and breaks and stated that the proposed calendar meets all the state requirements for days and hours. The board had no questions or concerns about the proposed 2025-2026 school calendar.
Jeremy Schow made a motion to approve the 2025-2026 School Calendar. Tony Furano seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Sarah Vaughan, Aye; Tony Furano, Aye; Jeremy Schow, Aye.
- **Satellite Discussion**
The board discussed their upcoming interview with the Utah State Charter School Board on January 16th. The board is looking forward to the opportunity to present the satellite application.

CALENDARING

The next board meeting is scheduled for March 20, 2025, at 5:30 PM.

ADJOURN

At 6:19 PM Jeremy Schow made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Tony Furano seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The votes were as follows: Sarah Vaughan, Aye; Tony Furano, Aye; Jeremy Schow, Aye.

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