COLLABORATION CARING INTEGRITY
We hear and value multiple perspectives · We are comfortable being uncomfortable · We act responsibly. We are accountable for our actions · We give our most · We reflect on our vision mission values

Palouse Prairie Educational Organization
Doing business as
Palouse Prairie School of Expeditionary Learning
Business Meeting

9/23/2013:
Location: Palouse Prairie School Building, 1500 Levick St, Moscow ID

Current Board: Brian Gardner (BG) Directors: Jacob Ellsworth (JE)
Della Bayly (DB) Jeneille Branen (JB)
Sarah Deming (SD)
Amy Ball (AB)
Todd Broadman (TB)
Greg Larson (GL)

Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm.

Attending: TB, AB, GL, DB, SD
Absent: BG
Public: JE, Nina Staszkow (NS)
Note Taker: GL

1. Welcome to public audience and guests (5 min)
   We welcome our guests to this evening’s Palouse Prairie School board meeting. The meeting is public and has a structure to meet the legal requirements on public governing boards. At the same time we strive to have the meeting reflect the values of Palouse Prairie School. Our vision is for an inclusive, respectful and supportive learning environment. The goal for this meeting is to meet our vision, our legal requirements, and our practical need to accomplish business in an efficient manner.

   Board Members will now introduce themselves.

   Now, we would like to welcome members of the audience. Further in the agenda is a place for comment from the public within this board meeting. Please say your name, if you wish, so we may know who is presenting.

2. Approval of agenda TB: requests adding to agenda: questions for budget statement to be shared by TB.
   SD moves to approve with addition
3. Presentations & Reports (30 minutes total)
   3.1 state of the school for month past (Elsworth/Branen)
   Community Circle: weekly occasion is getting good parent feedback
   Staff morale is positive:
   Office staff has successfully loaded school info onto School Dex, now being
   uploaded to Idaho database “I.C.E.”
   David Yopp and JE successfully wrote an 3 year NSF grant, which includes
   some substitute teacher funds which the school is considering where to allocate.
   AB: are there concerns about enrollment. Current enrollment is near 167,
   projected enrollment is 175. At this point, it appears that enrollment will
   increase. Next year space for middle school will be an issue. We have 19
   6th graders,13 7th graders(=32 students in class).
   TB: what could the board do to assist directors, are there road bumps?
   Teachers still learning how to approach the codirectorship.
   Learning Walks: JE and JB are taking pre-announced walk throughs through
   classrooms.
   October 29: programatic audit by federal government,
   2 teachers going to national EL conference at end of October.

3.2 Average Daily Attendance to date (Ellsworth): Is near 98%

3.3 Questions for budget statement to be shared by TB.
   When do funds come in? JE: quarterly.
   One issue: Debbie B runs 3 reports: One Quickbooks, One Excel, One Amalgam
   of the first 2. A robust program of software to simplify/combine these
   reports would cost $15-$70 thousand.
   Issue: Donations category includes many fundraising activities, such as parent
   donations and Adventure Friday donations, are being included in one
   category, different kinds of donations are not being easily separated and
   tracked in the budget report.
   SD is trying to determine the amount of Pledges received for this school
   year.
   AB states uncertainty about our status with fundraising: Does the school/board
   have an immediate need to develop a strategy to achieve our goal of $22K
   in donations?
   TB: is PPSEL not using a pay scale for teachers?
   JE: Current teachers are not getting the pay scale pay which Idaho pays to the
   school.
   There is an ongoing attempt to implement a pay-scale, obstacles due to
   perceived budget limitations.
Trouble with stipend positions (stipend pay for extra responsibilities): creates competition among teachers, and a sense among teachers that good teaching is only rewarded financially by taking on added responsibilities (stipend positions)

Currently starting salary is $31,500.
Lizzy would make near $38 K in school district. JE or JB as teachers would make $40K +.
Other charter schools in region have pay scales close to Idaho’s recommended pay scale.
This year’s stipend positions:
504
Sp Ed
2 Instruct Specs

JE: Stipend positions in future could be open for application, not given (assigned) to teachers.
AB: it is important to determine what our pledges are (total$)
SD will ask Debbie to provide a figure of $ amount

4. Announcements (10 minutes)

5. Approval of minutes (10 minutes)

6. Public Comment Period (limit 15 minutes)

7. Action Items (15 minutes)

7.1 Consent Agenda
7.1.A. Approve August financial statement
SD moves to approve
AB 2nds
unanimous approval.

7.2 Approve Peanut/allergens policy
   Review policy that was introduced last meeting. Compare to existing policies at other schools
   Action= approve policy
An M.D. has volunteered to train for teachers/office staff on use of epipens and other responses to allergic reactions.
There is the question of school supplies containing peanuts (glue often contains peanut products): current school supplies are labeled if they are made in a facility using peanut ingredients
JE has received positive parent responses, no negative responses, to the school’s actions re allergens ie. peanut policy
DB moves to approve the Peanut/allergens policy as written
SD 2nds
unanimous approval

7.3 Approve plan to disburse ‘Differential Pay’ funds during the coming school year
   Directors and staff have agreed on a performance based approach to distribute extra compensation funds from SDE. Directors will describe the proposal.
   JE developed this plan off of an idea shared by ANSR: use a teacher achievement that teachers’ are motivated about and is already a current activity.
   JE used an email chain with teachers to develop a plan that centers around Student portfolio completion and Student Led Conference participation
   SD moves to approve the plan as presented
   AB 2nds
   unanimous approval

Meeting adjourned at 9:04pm.

2013-2014 Board of Directors
Brian Gardner, Chair, term expires 2014
Della Bayly, term expires 2014
Sarah Deming, Treasurer, term expires 2015
Amy Ball, term expires 2015
Todd Broadman, Vice-Chair, term expires 2016
Greg Larson, Secretary, term expires 2016