

Mesa Valley Vision, Inc.
Board of Stewards
Meeting Minutes
8-11-2009

Attending Board Members:

Steve Schultz
Ron Roybal
Brenda Nordstrom
Kim Howard
Ruth Bond

Handouts:

Enrollment Packet Document (2009 – 2010)
Organizational Chart
Policy & Program Guidebook & Phone List for
Ron Roybal

Attending Employees:

Alison Bailey
Tom Atkinson
Diane Rino
Susan Scofield
Candace Jahnke
LauraJean Downs

Attending Parent:

Darcie Perkins

Introduction:

Steve Schultz introduced Ron Roybal who will serve as District representative on the Board of Stewards .

Parent Concern:

Darcie Perkins presented her concerns over the KPA assessment which is required for kindergarteners. She expressed her desire to waive the test for her son, sharing her reasons which included the following: the KPA is a new requirement which has been added since she originally enrolled in the program; the KPA was not listed in the Participation Agreement she signed in the 2009-10 enrollment packet; the assessment will not test what she is focusing on in educating her kindergartener as she does not plan to introduce the mechanics of reading until second grade; she does not want this to be a stressful situation for her child. She also wanted to know the consequences of not having her child take the test.

Alison described the test. She explained that as Gail Washington, our reading specialist, assesses the students, she will include the parents in each step of the process, making sure they are willing to go to the next step.

Policy Discussion Items:

Crossover Classes – Some students are wanting to crossover to School Without Walls. Diane Rino expressed her concerns about expanding the crossover option to include district alternative schools, explaining that currently the crossover opportunities within the district are for the traditional schools. Ron Roybal shared very specific information about how the school operates including the following details: it is a half day program, each class has a syllabus with specific objectives, students earn a certain amount of credit per syllabus, in order to get in students must interview, they need to have a job or service they do in a voluntary capacity, students have a trial period for one month, credit is earned based upon seat time, students work at their own pace. Alison wants the policy to be clear – can

students cross over to alternative programs or just the traditional ones? Steve suggested having Ron help facilitate a conversation with the School Without Walls to find out what are the implications for their program to open up this option to our students. He suggested that we begin on a case-by-case basis. Alison requested that we move slowly in this direction until we find out the implications.

KPA Assessment Parent Concern – Steve and Ron offered to research this issue more before responding to the concerns of Darcie Perkins.

August VILP and Schedule Deadlines Relative to Non-compliance – Alison explained that the schedule for VILP deadlines were set up after a great deal of thought and research this past year. In regard to the August 15 VILP and schedule deadline for returning learners, she wants to know what the BOS wants her to do about returning learners that do not have this documentation in place on August 15th. The BOS responded that as of August 16th, Alison is to send a certified exit letter so that the parent must sign for it. The exit form asks for data on where they will enroll next. If they are returning to home schooling, Alison will explain that they need to notify BTK in order to comply with the home school statute. They may reapply to enter MVV-HCP at any time but will be placed at the end of the waiting list.

Candace asked who is printing the VILPS. Susan explained that she is, and that she'll obtain RC & HQ signatures. Having them complete in the system is enough to be considered in compliance. She will print them out this weekend.

Software Administrator Job Description – Candace shared a description of what she has been doing as the interim software administrator, overseeing the new web application. She does not feel the amount of work warrants a position being created for the tasks still to be done. Alison asked if the Odysseyware and web application person could be the same. Candace expressed that she would like someone to come alongside to complete the data entry and to provide oversight for the web application. Susan offered to absorb the software-related tasks through the end of the year when her contract expires. Gerund also offered to help by serving on the software committee. The BOS agreed to handle the software administrator duties this way for the next few months.

Staff Updates:

Family Advocate – Diane Rino

- Crossover Classes: Diano shared that 28 students wanted to crossover to middle and high schools within the district. By the end of the week everyone should be placed except for 2 families who are outside the attendance area. She explained that overcrowding was an issue. Ron Roybal was a great help in this process. Most students wanted to attend their neighborhood schools.
- Community Service Opportunity: She shared that the first community service opportunity will be at the homeless shelter on Friday at 4:00 p.m. All are invited to serve. Students can earn community service credit as well as a certificate for serving.

Financial Administrator – Tom Atkinson

- Currently we have 280 enrolled, 25 being kindergarteners, 265 FTE. The goal is to increase our FTE to 280 by October 1). There is currently a waiting list of students who have applied for enrollment. There is a need to determine a maximum number of students to enroll. Susan asked how this increase would affect Alison's work load. Alison stated that 280 FTE is doable for the current staff, but that is the maximum.
- Tom researched the possibility of terminating our current lease due to the rapid growth, subsequent increase in staff and lack room to accommodate them. The BOS agreed to follow

the advice of our legal counsel and send a 60 day notice letter to the Hunt Family Trust upon BOE approval of the new lease at 1401 North 1st Street.

- 1401 North 1st Street has approximately 3000 square feet, which would give us some room to grow. Melissa Callahan-DeVita is negotiating the terms of the new lease at this time.
- There is a School Board meeting on October 18th and the intent is to have the new lease on their agenda then. Tom will ask Melissa if the district might be willing to sublet this office building so that we can move to the other.
- We still don't know how much surplus money the district will pay us back (\$10,000 – 20,000). We will not know until the 21st. (of September or October???)
- Susan asked what would be the target date for termination of this lease. The answer given was November 1st.
- Tom brought an issue from the Funding Committee regarding a family who wants to purchase motor cross dirt bikes with their funds. He explained how the sport is physically demanding, how we have funded safety equipment and events for other families. The family has researched the possibility of renting the bikes, but there are no places to rent here. They could rent from Denver for \$65.00 per day to use the bikes for 17 events. They found some on sale for \$700 a piece and would like to purchase these.
- Tom turned in a log of his hours for the past 3 weeks.

Alison Update:

- Alison shared the Carrie Benham resigned. Preston and Tracy are now full-time RCs, taking on her students. Carrie will help ease them in.
- She enrolled 3 families on the waiting list. Can bring in more before October 1st.

Board Votes:

1. The BOS voted to update the funding policy to reflect that no motorized vehicles can be purchased with school funds. Safety equipment and entry into competitions/ events can be funded.
2. The BOS voted to pursue having Melissa proceed with lease negotiations for the new building. Also to offer Ken 3 months plus the first and last month of the lease agreement.

Next Board of Stewards Meeting: September 8, 2009, 6:00 p.m.