

Pagosa Peak Open School Board of Directors
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 11th, 5:00pm
7 Parelli Way, Pagosa Springs, Colorado

The March 11 meeting was preceded by an interview with prospective Board member Julie Simmons.

The regular meeting was called to order at 5:35pm.

Present were:

Board: Ursala Hudson, Board President; Mark Weiler, Board Treasurer; Bill Hudson and John Daffron, Directors. Staff: James Lewicki, School Director; Emily Murphy, Food Security Advisor; Chenni Hammon, Business Manager; Thomas Davenport, 5th Grade Advisor. Public: Chris Manner, Pagosa SUN; Angela Crossland, Mountain Middle School; Julie Simmons, community member and Board applicant.

1. Consent Agenda:

Passed unanimously.

2. Public Comment: none

3. Staff and Committee Reports

CSSI Report

CDE staff member Erin Sciscione attended the meeting via phone call, and gave a summary explanation of the recent CSSI visit and report. The report identified two key focus areas recommended by the CSSI team:

'Standard 1: Standards and Instructional Planning. The school implements a curriculum that is aligned to Colorado Academic Standards and ensures rigorous, effective instructional planning.'

1.a. Standards-Based Focus

1.b. Guaranteed and Viable Curriculum

1.c. Instructional Planning

'Standard 3: Assessment Practices. The school uses multiple measures and assessment strategies to continuously inform instruction to meet student needs, measure student progress toward and mastery of grade-level expectations, and improve instruction.'

3.a. Use of Assessment and Data

3.b. Assessment for Learning

3.c. Assessment of Learning

The CSSI team also identified key areas of Board leadership that they feel need improvement, including the need for professional training through the CDE training modules, improved recruitment policies, better understanding of specific academic programs and financial management.

Board member John Daffron questioned some of the CSSI team team's conclusions, based on his own understanding of PPOS academic policies and progress.

Report by Emily Murphy:

Thirteen staff members with academic instructional time responded to a school program assessment tool found in Learn by Doing, which is a guide for professional learning community work by teachers. These staff members reflected on our program in regards to all six sections of the assessment, and had the option of rating each indicator as pre-initiating, initiating, implementing, developing, or sustaining.

Additionally, 34 parents responded to a 10 question survey addressing the same areas of the program.

Overall, stakeholders see room for improvement with every section, with the most need in Responding to Conflict and Focusing on Results. Parents and teachers cite needing more clarity on assessment and communicating those results with parents, as well as with expectations when conflict arise. Results and suggested steps were shared with the Board.

PPOS Hiring Committee:

John Daffron reported that the Hiring Committee had reviewed more than 30 applications for the School Director position, and had selected three finalists via video interviews: Angela Crossland, Emily Murphy and Sarah Luna. The finalists are scheduled to make a school visit on April 1-2, during which face-to-face interviews with a school-and-community-based interview committee. The Board is expected to make an offer to the preferred candidate on or about April 2.

Finance:

Business Manager Chenni Hammon gave a brief financial report, and indicated that the school's current financial condition is healthy.

CLCS Conference:

Ursala and Chenni reported on the Colorado League of Charter Schools annual conference. At the conference, Ursala participated in a panel discussion on "Community engagement."

School Director:

School Director James Lewicki presented a summary of recent academic growth.

4. Action Items

The Revised 2019-2020 School Calendar was briefly discussed. Approved unanimously.

Ursala presented the Board Self-Evaluation Procedure and Tool. Approved unanimously.

An amendment to the PPOS Bylaws, Section 4.6.2, concerning the terms of the Board members, was discussed. Approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.

Respectfully submitted
Bill Hudson, Board member