

Utah State Charter School Board Meeting
Minutes
February 13 & 14, 2013
Basement West Conference Room
Utah State Office of Education

APPROVED

February 13, 2013

Members present: Tim Beagley, Laura Belnap, Kristin Elinkowski, Robert Enger

Present via phone conversation: Dean Brockbank

Staff present: Marlies Burns, Jo Schmitt

Others present: Scott Nielson, Kristin Nielson, Russell Armstrong, Tracy Mitchell, Joyce James, Kevin Groke, Beg Groke, Paula Nelson, Patrice Goins-Boyd, Adrienne Lansing, Lisa Ingebritson, Misty Maki, Julie Wand, Michael Wand, Kim Dohrer, Tina Smith, Sheldon Killpack, Dustin Griffith Matt Lorenzen, Nicole Broberg, Mike Farley, Mike Glauser, Rob Clayton, Phyllis Hockett, Tim Gaylord, Abigail Gatcom, Kathy Thornburg, Diane Gochis-Cramer, Joylin Lincoln, Sandy Shepard, Greg Jackson, Angie Johnson, Steve Davis, Denece Kitto, Lisa Halverson, Wendy Woodfield, Taylor Halverson, Linda Home, Dan Galli

Call to Order

Chair Tim Beagley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Approval of Consent Calendar

Motion was made and seconded to approve the consent calendar (minutes of SCSB meeting held January 9, 2013 and Revolving Loan Committee recommendation for Salt Lake Charter School to be approved for a revolving loan of \$270,000). The motion was carried unanimously.

New charter school presentations and governing board capacity interviews

- **Kairos Academy** proposes to open in Granite School District with an ultimate enrollment of 200 students in grades 9-12, beginning in the 2014-2015 school year. Kairos Academy's mission is to achieve its vision through implementing research-based and proven to work curriculum utilizing individualized, standards-based instruction in an environment that supports strong character. In serving pregnant and parenting teens, we will provide support to students through counseling and mentoring, individualized instruction, and strong accountability requirements to keep students engaged and invested in their own education.
- **Dixie Montessori Academy** proposes to open in Washington School District with an ultimate enrollment of 800 students in grades K-7, beginning in the 2014-2015 school year. The mission of Dixie Montessori Academy (DMA) is to provide a child-centered, individualized grade K-7 education founded upon the philosophy of Dr. Maria Montessori. DMA will foster a structured environment of freedom and discovery in which each child can reach his or her full academic, social, and personal potential. Graduates of DMA will demonstrate creative thinking, self-discipline, respect, and cooperation, and will build a solid foundation for future success.
- **Winter Sports School** proposes to open in the Park City School District with an ultimate enrollment of 125 students in grades 9-12, beginning in the 2014-2014 school year. Winter Sports School's purposes is to prepare its students for college and keep its students ahead of state and national averages, as measured by standardized test scores, in an increasingly competitive academic environment; encourage the use of different and innovative teaching methods. WSS will enable its students to excel in both academics and athletics, with

no compromises, through the use of its innovative calendar and teaching methods, both inside the classroom and through the use of instructor-led technology when students are required to travel for their respective sports; and increase choice of learning opportunities for students. As a charter school, WSS would represent the first public education option of its kind for college-bound students who are also dedicated winter sports athletes in the history of The United States.

- **Scholar Academy** proposes to open in Tooele School District with an ultimate enrollment of 750 students in grades K-8, beginning in the 2014-2015 school year. Scholar Academy's mission is committed to creating a learning environment that fosters in students the development of divergent thinking and problem solving skills, providing opportunities which enable all students to develop a sense of civic responsibility and achieve their highest potential.
- **Ascent Academies of Utah** proposes to open in Jordan, Davis, Granite and Alpine School Districts with an ultimate enrollment, with four campuses, of 2,720 students in grades K-12, beginning in the 2014-2015 school year. Ascent Academies of Utah's mission is to utilize the Schoolwide Enrichment Model to build a strong educational foundation and to provide an enriching, individualized and varied educational experience to all students.
- **American International School of Utah** proposes to open in the Murray City School District or Jordan School District with an ultimate enrollment of 1,400 students in grades K-12, beginning in the 2014-2015 school year. The schools' mission is to personalize, accelerate and enrich learning; using a technology-facilitated student-centered blended learning model; within a flexible, creative, and inspiring school environment that encourages students to be personally invested and globally engaged.
- **Mountain West Montessori Academy** proposes to open in Jordan School District with an ultimate enrollment of 536 students in grades K-9, beginning in the 2014-2015 school year. The mission of Mountain West Montessori Academy is to facilitate student-centered learning and intellectual curiosity through an individualized and interdisciplinary curriculum, hands-on experience, and community involvement.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

February 14, 2013

Members present: Tim Beagley, Laura Belnap, Dean Brockbank, Kristin Elinkowski, Robert Enger, Howard Headlee

Staff present: Marlies Burns, Jo Schmitt

Others present: Chris Bleak, Sol Garcia, Kevin Groke, Julie Wand, Meg Groke, Mike Currie, Adrienne Lansing, Patrice Goins-Boyd, Kevin Fenstermacher, Kim Dohrer, Joylin Lincoln, Mike Glauser, Brent Pace, Linda Hume, Paula Nelson, Joel Wright, Sheldon Killpack, Tyler Schvaneveldt, Erin Preston, Tina Smith, Von Hortin, Lincoln Fillmore, David Roberts, Cathy Dudley, Gary Fullmer, Julie Adamic, David Adamic, Bob Bell, Rob Clayton

Call to Order

Chair Tim Beagley called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Recommendation and prioritization of new charter school applications

Chair Tim Beagley read from state statute, Section 53A-1a-505 regarding the process, the SCSB's duty and the options of the applicants based on the actions that would be taken at the meeting.

Vice Chair Dean Brockbank stated that he had not been in attendance in person at the SCSB meeting held February 13, but had been listening via internet to all the presentations, questions and deliberations of the meeting.

Motion was made by Member Robert Enger and seconded by Member Laura Belnap to recommend for approval to the USBE **Kairos Academy** and **Winter Sports School**. The motion was carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Member Laura Belnap and seconded by Member Kristin Elinkowski to recommend for approval to the USBE **Ascent Academies of Utah** and **Mountain West Montessori Academy**. After discussion, Member Laura Belnap amended her motion to approve three of the four requested campuses for Ascent Academies of Utah; the amended motion was seconded by Member Kristin Elinkowski. The motion was carried unanimously. Representatives of Ascent Academies addressed the SCSB indicating that four campuses would be the school's best model, but they could still operate with the economies of scale with three campuses.

Motion was made by Vice Chair Dean Brockbank and seconded by Member Howard Headlee to recommend for approval to the USBE **American International School of Utah**. The motion was carried with affirmative votes from Vice Chair Dean Brockbank, Members Howard Headlee, Kristin Elinkowski and Chair Tim Beagley. Members Laura Belnap and Robert Enger voted in opposition.

Motion was made by Member Robb Enger and seconded by Vice Chair Dean Brockbank to recommend for approval to the USBE **Dixie Montessori Academy** with a total enrollment of 410 students. The motion carried with affirmative votes from Vice Chair Dean Brockbank, Members Robert Enger, Kristin Elinkowski, and Howard Headlee. Member Laura Belnap voted in opposition. The school indicated they were in agreement with the 410 student enrollment.

Motion was made by Vice Chair Dean Brockbank and seconded by Member Howard Headlee to recommend for approval to the USBE **Scholar Academy**. After discussion, the motion was withdrawn. Motion was made by Member Howard Headlee and seconded by Kristin Elinkowski to table any action at this meeting and encourage the school to work on improving the application and make changes where the SCSB expressed concern. The motion was carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Vice Chair Dean Brockbank and seconded by Member Laura Belnap to rank the charter school applications in the following order:

1. **Kairos Academy**
2. **Winter Sports School**

Substitute motion was made by Member Robert Enger and seconded by Howard Headlee to rank the charter school applications in the following order:

1. Winter Sports School
2. Kairos Academy

The substitute motion failed because of no majority vote. The original motion was carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Member Kristin Elinkowski to rank Ascent Academies of Utah #3 and Mountain West Montessori Academy #4. There was no second to that motion.

Motion was made by Member Laura Belnap and seconded by Vice Chair Dean Brockbank to rank the remaining charter school applications in the following order:

3. **Ascent Academies of Utah**
4. **Mountain West Montessori Academy**
5. **American International School of Utah**
6. **Dixie Montessori Academy**

The motion was carried unanimously.

Proposed changes to charter school funding discussion

Bruce Williams, USOE Associate Superintendent, informed the SCSB by way of a PowerPoint presentation proposed changes to the charter school funding.

Update-Quail Run Primary School

Representatives from Quail Run Primary School outlined their plans to address the SCSB concerns regarding deficiencies of the school, including not providing required documentation after being placed on warning status. The SCSB was informed those plans and steps include: making changes within the school's team to strengthen skills and knowledge; identify the need of significant and further budget cuts; make changes to the academics and curriculum, including teacher membership and training; and the need of a stronger enrollment plan, including changes to the school name and changes to their parent proposition.

Executive Session

Motion was made by Member Robert Enger to move into an executive session for the purpose of discussing the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual; The Board was polled and by unanimous consent of those present the Board moved into an executive session at 12:00 noon.

Motion was made by Member Laura Belnap and seconded by Member Robert Enger to reconvene into an open meeting at 12:50 p.m. The motion was carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Vice Chair Dean Brockbank and seconded by Kristin Elinkowski to place Quail Run Primary School on probation pursuant to R277-481. The conditions of that probation consist of: 1) the school obtain a minimum of 30 days cash on hand, by June 30, 2013; 2) the school have 100% of current teachers properly licensed and endorsed for their teaching assignments by March 28, 2013; 3) that consistent with the SCSB minimum guidance provisions, the school have proficiency level in reading, 3rd grade level of 81% by June 30, 2013, and also consistent with the SCSB guidance provisions the school have proficiency level in math, 6th grade level of 71.6% by June 30, 2013. Member Brockbank also made part of his motion, pursuant to R277-481, that failure to comply with these conditions may result is the SCSB revoking the charter for Quail Run Primary School. The motion was carried unanimously.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.