

Timpanogos Academy School Board Meeting
Thursday November 11th, 2021 7:00pm
Timpanogos Academy Elementary
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PRESENT:

Board members Kim Seager, Minta Valentine, Rachel Thacker, Paul Johnson, and Amy Tressler are in attendance at 7:00pm, and this constitutes a full quorum.

Principal Errol Porter is also in attendance, and Board Members Phil Cardon and Jennie Bruce are excused.

1 - Agenda Approval

Rachel Thacker made a motion to amend the agenda to add Mrs. Bellon to the “PTO Report” instead of Alli Fields. The motion was seconded by Minta Valentine and passed unanimously.

2 – Review of Last Meeting’s Business

The Board asked Mr. Porter some follow-up informational questions while reviewing the minutes from last month.

3 – Approval of Minutes/Next Board Meeting

Rachel Thacker made a motion to approve the October 2021 minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Paul Johnson and passed unanimously.

4 – Confirm Next Board Meeting

The Board confirmed that the next Board meeting will be on January 13th, 2022.

5 – Public Input

Christy Belt, a 5th grade teacher at the school, suggested that the Board consider arranging for public input to be allowed at the end of a board meeting; and also consider having a non-voting teacher on the board to allow for more teacher input.

6 – PTO Report – Mrs. Bellon

Mrs. Bellon reported that the Halloween Parade had been held without any problems, but that the PTO had no volunteers step forward for Red Ribbon week. The upcoming Turkey Trot would be a non-competitive event and the PTO would be providing hot chocolate and snacks. In addition, the PTO would once again be providing dinners for teachers during the upcoming SEP parent-teacher conferences.

7 – Special Ed Policies and Procedures Manual – Action Item

The Board was presented an amended copy of the school’s “Policies and Procedures Manual” to reflect new or updated laws that have been passed at the state level. After discussion of the amended sections, Rachel Thacker made a motion to approve the Policies and Procedures Manual as amended. The motion was seconded Amy Tressler and passed unanimously.

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8 – Budget Update – Lynn Smith

Lynn Smith reported on the status of the budget to date and that revenue and expenses were both in line with expectations and on-track for the year as of October 31st of the current year. The Board asked about and received clarification on a couple of specific line items.

9 – Audit Financial Review – Discussion Item

Lynn Smith reported that the school has been using the “Non-Profit Basis Accounting”, but that the state was now requiring charter schools to begin using “Governmental Basis Accounting”. The school’s auditors, Squire and Company, would be able to approve and audit this switch over.

10 – Employee Benefits Renewal – Action Item

The Business Department presented several Health Benefit Plan options for the Board to review. After discussion, Rachel Thacker made a motion to accept and adopt the Cigna Health Care Plan while retaining EMI Dental and EMI Vision. The motion was seconded by Paul Johnson and passed unanimously.

11 – UCN Membership – Discussion Item

The Board discussed and decided to continue the school’s membership in the Utah Charter Network (UCN).

12 – UAPCS Membership – Discussion Item

The Board discussed and decided to continue not joining or becoming a member of the Utah Association of Public Charter Schools (UAPCS).

13 – Principal’s Report – Errol Porter

* A) COVID case counts: There are currently no students who are home quarantining or reporting that they have COVID at this time. In addition, the school has not received any notification letters from the Utah County Health Department of students that had tested positive. There is one staff member who currently has COVID.

* B) The school is making changes to the school’s report cards. Moving forward, Spelling, Reading and Handwriting would be included in the Language Arts grade instead of separate grades. In addition, weighting of categories would be removed and total points would be the basis for grades. Mr. Porter believes this will make students grades easier for parents to understand.

* C) The school will be providing staff with Bomb Threat Training as part of the school’s Crisis Plan Training. In addition, Mr. Porter noted that Trustland Videos would be reviewed this coming January.

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14 – Student Data Governance Policy – Action Item

The Board reviewed and discussed the school’s “Student Data Governance Policy”. Afterwards, Rachel Thacker made a motion to approve the policy as amended. The motion was seconded by Minta Valentine and passed unanimously.

15 – Student Records Privacy Policy – Action Item

The Board reviewed and discussed the school’s “Student Records Privacy Policy”. Afterwards, Kim Seager made a motion to approve the policy as amended. The motion was seconded by Amy Tressler and passed unanimously.

16 – Grade Level Advancement Policy – Action Item

The Board reviewed and discussed the school’s new “Grade Level Advancement Policy”. Afterwards, Rachel Thacker made a motion to approve the policy. The motion was seconded by Minta Valentine and passed unanimously.

17 – Grade Level Retention Policy – Action Item

The Board reviewed and discussed the school’s new “Grade Level Retention Policy”. Afterwards, Rachel Thacker made a motion to approve the policy. The motion was seconded by Paul Johnson and passed unanimously.

18 – Student/Parent Handbook - Discussion Item

Mr. Porter led a Board discussion on updating the Student/Parent Handbook and various options for distributing or posting the Handbook. (No action was required).

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19 – Board Member Reports:

- a) **PTO/Curriculum, Jennie Bruce:** None at this time (Mrs. Bruce is not present).
- b) **Publicity, Minta Valentine:** None at this time.
- c) **Uniforms, Amy Tressler:** None at this time.
- d) **Facilities & Risk Control, Paul Johnson:** None at this time.
- e) **CFO, Rachel Thacker:** Mrs. Thacker led a board discussion on current concerns with “Social Emotional Learning (SEL)” and “Critical Race Theory (CRT)”, and the Board consensus was that neither of these would have a place or fit in to the school’s charter and/or curriculum.
- f) **Human Resources & Website, Phil Cardon:** None at this time (Mr. Cardon is not present).
- g) **Board Chair, Kim Seager:** Mrs. Seager reported on the “UVU Prep” programs which currently are not being offered to charter schools. It was decided that Mrs. Seager would reach out to Kim Frank at UCN to see if there were options for the school to pursue to change that.

20 – Board Training – Errol Porter

The Board listened to another episode from the “Board Wiser” training program.

21 – Closed Session

It was determined and agreed by the Board that there was no need for a closed session at this time.

22 - Adjournment:

Kim Seager moved to adjourn without objection.