

LOTUS SCHOOL FOR EXCELLENCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Date: 10/10/2009

Time: 10:00 AM

Place: Library/Board Room, First Floor; 11001-A E Alameda Ave Aurora, CO 80012

Attendance:

Matt U Yapanel, Board President

Nurzhan Ustemirov, Board Secretary

Dennis Duffy, Board Member

Mustafa Arisoylu, Board Member

Elif Trujillo, Board Treasurer

Adnan Doyuran, Principal

Davron Agzamov, Financial Consultant

Kris Kubiak, Science Dept Head

Agenda:

Informational Items;

-Insurance Coverage Update, Mr. Mike Neisen, insurance agent.

-Financial Update, Dr. D. & and Mr. Agzamov

-Academic Update, Dr. D.

-Enrollment Update, Dr. D.

-Replication Update, Mr. Yapanel

-Science Department Update, Mrs. Kubiak, Dept Head

Action Items

-Approval of last meeting minutes

-Approval of the School Improvement Plan

Discussion Items;

-Facility planning for next year, board needs to decide which areas to utilize and if any construction work needs to be done.

-Discussion on a growth plan for next year.

-Facility improvement update, Mr. Duffy

Mr. Mike Neisen, school's insurance agent, explained what coverages school have and the limits to these coverages. School's insurance coverage seems comprehensive, only thing missing is an umbrella policy for which he will forward a quote. Also, the medical payments coverage was \$5,000 and board members has questioned the sufficiency of this coverage and asked the insurance agent to obtain another quote with \$10,000 of emergency medical payments, he will again communicate this new quote to the school.

Dr. D. updated the board on the current enrollment which is 304 students as of today. Traffic light issue came negative; they decided that there is no need for the installation of a traffic light at this stage.

Mr. Agzamov gave a quick update about the financials. Current spending is within budget and detailed budget vs actual and September spending was distributed to the board members in their board package.

Mr. Yapanel gave an update on the replication progress. The board has put into two school districts this year, and Jeffco is making a decision on October 22nd, whereas St Vrain is making decision on October 28th.

Previously, board has made a decision to host one department head each month in order to obtain recent developments about that department. The first guest is Mr. Kubiak, science department head. All board members are deeply concerned about the science CSAP scores which are currently well below the district average. Mr. Kubiak explained that the CSAP test is administered only at 8th and 10th grades, so there is no growth calculation available. Also, he mentioned that this year, 6th graders of Lotus that has started to attend Lotus 3 years ago will take the test. He is confident of an improved score outcome this year, at least for 8th graders. He mentioned that students are responsible for 3 years of material 6th, 7th, and 8th grade material for science and enough reviews were not done last year. Also, last year's 8th graders performed significantly lower than expected in all content areas last year. This year, teachers are allocating a significant time to review past material as one action item for CSAP preparation. They also started an extended academics period for science, similar to Math, in which students are solving problems from past material. Board suggested to post the solutions to these questions online, so that students can have feedback on where they are making mistakes. Also, Board suggested that he post all of his course presentations online too for the students to review and study them afterwards. Finally, a problem exists with the attendance to science tutoring. Although these tutoring are available 3 days of the week, only a few students are attending although many students are failing. The board suggested him to call the families of failing students to encourage parents to cooperate with the teacher to improve tutoring attendance. Mr. Kubiak will personally call all these parents to make sure that they are aware of what is going on and available tutoring for their student and encouraging them to send their student to the tutoring sessions.

Mr. Duffy updated the board about facility progress. New more water preservative toilet bowls are being installed. Their cost will be reimbursed by the city, so there is no extra cost to school but the school will save money on the water bill. Also, most of the bowls area already old and needs replacement, this way the school will be able to replace them for free. Retention pond needs to be repaired and deepened in order to prevent flooding in the parking lot. He received a very competitive bid for this project around \$1,500 which was authorized by the principal. He also obtained bids to fix some parking lot issues and this was still in progress.

September meeting minutes are unanimously approved.

School improvement plan is unanimously approved however there were no target for science CSAP scores. So the board placed target as to meet or exceed the district's science CSAP levels, which is 32% in 8th grade science. However, the board is really looking at a significant improvement by surpassing the district average.

Meeting is adjourned at 1:00PM.