

Carbon Valley Academy Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 3, 2006

Called to Order at 7:07 p.m.

Adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Attendees:

Board Members – Tony Carey, Merrie Harper, Dustin Jones, Wes LaVanchy, Monique Miller, Anne-Marie Nichols

Principal – Chad Auer

Visitors – Bart Skidmore, Ken Wright (SchoolStart)

Motions Approved:

1-Approval of meeting minutes for 4/10/06 and 4/24/06

Moved by MH, seconded by WL

Unanimously approved

2-Accept the proposal from *Watkins & Schommer* to provide financial auditing services

Moved by DJ, seconded by TC

Unanimously approved

3- Authorize the school to obtain a credit card. Further, board president Anne-Marie Nichols is authorized to sign any needed documentation for the credit card.

Moved by DJ, seconded by WL

Unanimously approved

Changes to the Agenda:

- None

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:

- None

Recognition Thank Yous:

- None

Reports:

School Start – Ken Wright

- Mr. Wright has been visiting CVA this week and has observed that we are much further along than most charters at this point, with a strong board, strong principal and strong staff.
- School start would like to provide additional services that better fit our current needs, and expressed a desire to do what is valuable, what we cannot do for ourselves and to work with staff and board members. Ken will continue to observe and follow up with board members and Principal Auer.

Financial Update – Bart Skidmore

- Grant funds for 05/06 have been spent.
- Risk management fund will be closed and funds moved into the reserve fund.
- Bart requested via memo that we be able use some CDE monies for in-house training.
- The State of Colorado has increased the pool for Capital Construction funding – adding \$60 per student next year.
- Bart suggested that we press the school district on the issue of being able to do our own financial statements, due to their inability to generate balance sheets. Tony and Bart to speak with district about a deadline to produce balance sheets.

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- Overall, we are tracking very well to end the year in a strong financial position.

Principal's Report:

- CVA teacher Peggy Downs has heard from the National Core Knowledge Foundation that her unit has been chosen as a model. This will mean recognition and benefits, including that she will be able to deliver Core Knowledge training at CVA, initially, and later possibly at other schools.
- Principal Auer has been interviewing a Special Education teacher candidate, Mr. Phil Trejo. He has been a principal and has a Masters Degree in education, soon to also have a Masters in Special Ed. He will be at CVA through the month of May. Mr. Auer feels very comfortable with him as a staffing choice and feels he will bring a high level of sophistication to the position.
- Principal Auer was accepted into the Doctoral program for International Education Policy at UNC/Vanderbilt.
- CSAP – Expected baseline to be higher than 62% in language for Third graders. Other area schools showed great improvements between first and second year scores. Also a general observation that many students came from less than ideal and widely varied learning situations prior to enrolling at CVA. The rest of the CSAP scores are due in August. NWEA testing is in progress, and both Third grade classes are showing tremendous growth. Moving forward, CVA will be implementing a literacy program, with Mr. Myers becoming a testing coordinator in 06/07, hiring four instructional assistants and implementing daily targeted instruction and practice in the classroom. The board expressed unanimous support for Mr. Auer.

Bursar's Report – Tony Carey:

- Haselden Construction has done initial walk through for construction. The final drawings will be submitted May 10-12th, and construction is scheduled to begin June 19th, lasting about 60 days.
- Total cost of construction is projected at \$208,000.
- The fence will be fixed.
- The Technology committee is working on security, sign in and volunteer hours procedures. They hope to implement a new system at the beginning of the 06/07 school year.

New Business:

Review of RFPs for Upcoming Audit – Bart Skidmore:

- Two proposals reviewed from *Sample & Bailey* and *Watkins & Schommer*. The proposal from *Watkins & Schommer* was accepted by the board as providing good value over the next three years, and particularly showed their experience in the Tri-Town area and with schools.

Library Committee and Committee Structure – Merrie Harper:

- The board discussed the current issues with the library committee, in particular their continuing confusion of their role, and lack of appropriate goals. No decisions were made, but there was general agreement that the committee must have clarity of purpose, or possibly be suspended until that is achieved.
- General discussion regarding 'ad hoc' nature of some committees and the need to communicate with volunteers effectively.

Board Authorization to Obtain Credit Card:

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- CVA will obtain a credit card to take advantage of one-day sales, and make purchasing more immediate. It will have a \$5,000.00 limit, and will be in Chad Auer's and Tony Carey's name. The office manager and our CPA will check the invoices and receipts.

Old Business:

Golf Committee Update – Dustin Jones:

- Obtaining a list of sponsors and players last year for mailing.
- Continuing to work on Silent Auction
- Wes LaVanchy going to Town of Firestone to solicit sponsorship.
- Volunteers to help with goodie bag stuffing the day before the event, Sunday, June 4 at 2:00 pm at CVA.

Next Board Meeting – Monday, June 12, 2006 at 6:30 pm