



Board Meeting Minutes

January 25, 2021 – 6:00pm

The mission of Grand Peak Academy is to develop students of great character, who are culturally aware, accepting of diversity, appreciators of history, arts, mathematics, and sciences, and are prepared to meet the challenges of the world today. We value parental partnership through direct involvement in classroom and school activities and community stewardship through our support of local charities and hosting of community events.

The Board shall use the Mission and the Plan for Success (Academic Success, Economic Sustainability and Character Growth) as the filter for all decision making.

1. **Call to Order** (6:00pm) –
2. **Pledge of Allegiance** –
3. **Mission Statement** – (6:00pm) – Chris Dempsey read the mission statement
4. **Roll Call** (6:01pm) – Chris Dempsey (President), Brandon Henry (Vice President), Jen Reishus (Treasurer), Erika Craig, Anthony Hall, Nicole Parker (Acting Middle School Principal), Melissa Maldonado (Acting Elementary Principal), Valerie O’Brien (Business Manager) and Marcia Billingsley (Registrar)
5. **Approval of January 25, 2021 Board Agenda** (6:03pm) – Brandon motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Jen seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.
6. **Approval of December 14, 2020 Board Meeting Minutes** (6:05pm) – Brandon motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Erika seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0.
7. **Public Comments** (6:03pm) - None
8. **PTO Update** (6:03pm) – Alecia Mertz updated for the PTO. Mrs. Baldwin’s class won the door-decorating contest. There was a movie night in January and 20 families showed up. The first week of February will be the Fun Run and we will be purchasing a school mascot costume with the money raised. This fun run will be a dance fit edition, pledges will go towards every minute danced. On Feb 12th there will be a uniform sale that will be socially distanced. There will be a family art night in February as well.
9. **Marketing Update** (6:06pm) – This week is National School Choice week so we have some placards going home for kids to decorate and celebrate what they love at the school. We have a meeting this week with a videographer to boost some advertising. We are really try to kick off enrollment. In addition, Brandon wants to highlight stories of long-term families and what brought them to the school and what they love that keeps them at the school.
10. **Board Dashboard | Principals Report** (6:09pm) – Melissa reported that we are in week 3 of accessing ELA testing. We have a new reading interventionist starting next week. The staff received classroom management PD this month and we have seen some great progress. As we start to plan for the remained of this school year and next year, how will we continue to support our students? Possibly an extended school year, summer school or even a bonus school year for our students. Nicole shared that we are still following the 14-day quarantine guidelines from the county health dept. DinexNow is an at home covid test that is intended to use 7 days after symptoms start. However logistically adding these tests does not help with quarantines and assisting staff, so the school has choose to opt out of the program. We have added a compliment box called the Rox Box thanks to the Colorado Rockies initiative. The box sits in the cafeteria, students can fill out a paper form to submit a compliment or they can fill out an online form as

well. The principals read a couple compliments each morning on the announcements. Students receive certificates with the compliments. Teachers are receiving compliments through this program as well. Melissa and Nicole have a mentor that has encouraged them to create a coaching cycle for the teachers. As coaches, they use both student centered and teacher-centered methods. This is ongoing and involves goal setting, observation and feedback. They have created some non-negotiables in classrooms, which include: core virtues, daily learning targets, and to use the C&H of CHAMPS. Marcia commented that we are steadily declining on enrollment but will probably hang out right around where we are the rest of the year. We do need to see our waitlist for next year get bigger. We are losing our largest 8th grade class we have ever had and our kindergarten waitlist is very small compared to this time in previous years.

11. **Treasurer/Business Manager Trend Report** (6:25pm) –

12. **Discussion Items**

- a. **Principal Search Committee** (6:27pm) – Chris will request the board to appoint him to lead this committee. CRS requires we build a committee, which will establish the job search goals, job description. We have to make public a list of finalists. We must post for a minimum of 14 days before we can move forward and offer the position. We must post to all employees on the same calendar day as well. We have to disclose the compensation or a range of compensation as well as benefits offered.
- b. **Curriculum** (6:31pm) – Nicole reported that in December they were informed that the current human sexuality plan was not fitting and needed to be revised. Currently 5th graders were getting instruction by a staff member. However, the laws around human sexuality curriculum have changed and our instruction approached needs to be revised. Chris and Brandon would like a plan to poll staff and families whether they would like to see GPA teach human sexuality or not. At that point we will know if we should move forward with exploring curriculum and cost to the school if we decide to include this curriculum for future school years. Brandon commented that we should inform current 5th grade parents that their students will not receive the hygiene curriculum this year since it does not meet the human sexuality requirement.

13. **Action Items**

- a. **Principal Search Committee** (6:50pm) – Chris is asking the board to vote to approve him running the hiring committee for the principal search. Brandon motioned to appoint Chris to head the search committee as presented. Anthony seconded the motion. Motion passes 4-0
- b. **Curriculum** (6:51pm) – Vote to withhold the teaching of human sexuality curriculum for the 2020-2021 school year. Brandon motioned to vote to the item as presented. Anthony seconded the motion. Motion passes 5-0. For the remainder of this year we will not provide human sexuality curriculum and we will explore possibly adding it for future school years.

14. **Other Business** (6:53pm) – None

15. **Adjournment** (6:53pm) – None