

**Santa Ynez Valley Charter School
Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting
Tuesday, March 23, 2021
3:30 pm**

OPEN SESSION

- 1) **CALL TO ORDER** by Board President at 3:31pm
- 2) **ROLL CALL:**

Robert Feinberg (RF), Board President (2022)	x
Byranie Thomas (BT), Secretary (2021)	x
Kevin Donnelly (KD), Member at Large (2021)	x
Kelly Kay (KK), Member at Large (2021)	x
Heather Stoll (HS), Member at Large (2023)	x
Nicole Brians (NB), Member at Large (2023)	x
Debbie Trujillo (DT), Middle School Teacher Rep. (2021)	x
Eugenia Pappas (EP), Elementary Teacher Rep (2021)	x
Maurene Donner (MD), Superintendent College School District	x

OTHER ATTENDEES:

John Dewey (JD), Executive Director	x
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- 3) **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** for March 23, 2021
Motion to approve agenda: NB
Second: HS
Discussion: RF
Vote: Approved 9-0-0

OPEN SESSION

- 4) **Public Comment**
None
- 5) **Consent Agenda**
 - a. Approval of Minutes for Meeting February 23, 2021
Motion to approve minutes: HS
Second: KK
Discussion: None
Vote: Approved 9-0-0
- 6) **Standing Reports**
 - a. Treasurer's Report
Report included in packet. JD walked through the numbers. Not a great deal of change from last month. Potentially at a higher surplus than anticipated. Could be additional funds from COVID relief bill. Director's report includes notes on some of the warrants listed. MD asked about the Quest selection. MD suggested using LHI since it is free of charge and could save the funds for staff testing.
 - b. Director's Report
Report included in packet. Annual Appeal is nearly 90% and \$24,500. Total applications to date is 50.
Transition to PowerSchool is complete. Socially distanced Color Run is this Friday the 26th. Fourth grade planted their native garden. ED/Principal - job closed March 31. Six applications received thus far. Proposed ctee: HS, DT, Jason Naczek, RF, JD with screening by 4/1 and zoom interviews week of 4/12.

7) **Informational/Discussion**

- a. 'In-person learning' updates and discussion
KK reopened five days a week started this week.. Task Force met 3/17. Discussed what would be needed to extend the hours. JD was tasked with developing a possible schedule with staggered recess, etc. to determine how more classified hours are needed from current staff. Possibility of hiring additional staff. JD desired to have more enrichment : PE, art, music, garden. In the past that has meant bringing in contractors. Another factor is state testing which is scheduled for the week after spring break. KK mentioned that teachers were encouraged to provide simultaneous instruction through the end of school year. HS asked about the time frame. Would like to see extended hours after Spring Break. JD two possible versions - April 19th or May 3rd. DT teachers scenario lean toward May 3rd for more time to prepare and also provide more time after Spring Break since there is testing. EP supports adding more time to day, but has big concerns completing state testing before making a significant change to schedule. RF asked if support staff had been vaccinated. JD confirmed that every current staff member has had the opportunity to be vaccinated. HS glad to hear plans are in the works, but emphasized desire to implement earlier than May so that testing is not all the students do in their school day. EP expressed feeling pretty lucky to have been open so long. KK summarized that the final decision would be made at next task force meeting and then announced to school. JD agrees that should be the goal.
- b. After-school program rates
JD made change so that any family could request a 50% discount in rate if they have financial need. HS important and good thing to be doing. JD agrees.

8) **Board Business**

- a. Updates from ad-hoc committees
- i. Development
Met re: Cow Pie Bingo. Solicited sponsors and will meet this week.
 - ii. Marketing
No update. Facebook, Instagram, Twitter are up and running. Please like and share.
 - iii. Governance
Report in packet
 - iv. Exec Dir eval ctee
Members of the committee are Kelly Kay, Nicole Brians and Byranie Thomas. Updated and sent out the staff survey - due March 31. Parent survey will be sent out this week.
- b. Board Positions
- i. Vice President - Discussion
BT explained the board has an open vice-president position and it could be helpful for the board president to have assistance. Potential for instruction of next board president. DT clarified not adding an additional person to the board, but just moving member-at-large into a new role.
 - ii. Vice President - Approve Appointment of Officer
*Motion to table to approval of Vice President to next meeting : EP
Second: KS
Discussion: KK and KD both nominated for Vice President.
Vote: 8-0-1*
 - iii. Parliamentarian - Discussion
EP explained this role would be advisory. RF asked if we have someone willing to take on the role. BT would like to talk with Governance committee, but believes it is an important position to have in place for filling down the road. HS agrees.

iv. Parliamentarian - Approve Role

Motion to create role of Parliamentarian: EP

Second: DT

Discussion: EP proposed the board first agree to create role and then nominate

Vote: 8-0-1

9) **Action Items**

a. Approval of 2021-22 Calendar

Motion to table the approval 2021-22 Calendar: KD

Second: HS

Discussion: BT asked why Spring Break is no longer the same week as Easter. MD explained superintendents in the valley decided a few years ago to have the break the first week of April, which has just happened to coincide with Easter the last couple years. HS concerned about the 176 instead of the 180 that other public schools are required. KK agrees - trying to promote academic excellence. JD mentioned that it is helpful for staff to have more in service

days,

especially since there basically haven't been any this year due to the pandemic. KD asked what happens to those four days. JD they become in service. EP this 21-22 year due to where holidays

fall

they had to be creative. RF asked how many days of instruction has the school historically. JD said

in

his three years - 180. DT added that the numbers of days have fluctuated in the past based upon scheduling constraints and holidays. RF asked if we need to approve today. NB suggested

meeting

in the middle - 178 - add two days in August. KD thought it could be looked at from a qualitative stance - what are we getting for that time. KD would like to table and hear from teachers. JD

again

put a plug for in service days since those have fallen by the wayside during the pandemic and teacher learning is essential as well. BT wants to table.

Vote: 8-0-1

b. Approval of Staff Handbook 2021-22

Motion to approve the Staff Handbook 2021-22: KK

Second: DT

Discussion: Handbook in packet. JD explained Teachers' Association has approved this handbook. Has everything we need to have from a legal standpoint. EP the teachers have reviewed the handbook and approve..

Vote: 9-0-0

c. Approval of extension to school day

Motion to extend the school day for full day after Spring Break: HS

Second: KK

Discussion: HS would like to move to extend the school day to a full day after Spring Break. DT remind everyone that we have been in school. Many schools are just now opening at reduced

hours.

HS feels this pandemic has been a failure of public school system. EP emphasized the need for for logistics, but understands the urgency. KK thanked DT and RF for putting

time

this item as an action

item. Allows all voices to be heard. No one in our lifetime has

had to navigate a global pandemic.

MD mentioned that some distance learning

work. BT would like to go with the Task Force. HS would

like to build on what MD

said - with so few DL students certainly teachers can balance load. EP

mentioned the

constraints of cohorting. RF strongly feels like should not even an action item as it undermines the authority of the Director.

Vote: 4-4-1

- 10) **Future Agenda Items**
 - a. Board Meeting April 27, 2021 at 3:30pm
- 11) Public Comment on Closed Session Items
None.

CLOSED SESSION

- 12) a. Negotiations as authorized by Government code 3549.1
Left Closed Session at 5:45pm

OPEN SESSION

- 13) Report out from Closed Session
Board voted to increase the teacher salary by 2.35 % to the current pay schedule beginning

August

2021.

Motion: KD

Second: HS

Approved 6-0-0

Roll Call Vote:

RF - aye

BT - aye

KD - aye

KK - aye

HS - aye

NB - aye

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:46 pm