

Early Light Academy  
Work Session Minutes  
Friday, March 19, 2010

Location: Early Light Academy, 11709 S. Vadiana Drive, South Jordan, UT 84095

In Attendance: Mia Prazen, Melinda Poulson, Jen Jacobsen, Kevin Passey, Julie Thomas, Wade Glathar

Others in Attendance: Echo Cunningham (Academica West), Trish Trammell (Academica West)

The mission of the **Early Light Academy** is to deliver a high-quality education with a deep, rich and engaging curriculum utilizing effective instructional techniques and emphasizing history, taking our students from the Stone Age to the Space Age, the Information Age and beyond.

## Minutes

**9:00 AM - Call to Order - Mia Prazen**

### **BUSINESS ITEMS (To be voted upon in Board Meeting)**

- ❖ School Sound System Purchase – A school gym sound system costing approximately \$2,500 was not originally budgeted for. Therefore, options are being looked at for this purchase. Currently, ELA has been borrowing systems from local companies when necessary. Mr. Glathar discussed the possibility of an ELA family donating a system for the school, but that has not been offered yet. A local minister will attend the Board Meeting this morning and discuss an opportunity for a school sound system and use of the building for his congregation. Further discussion of all options need to occur before a final decision is made.
- ❖ Middle School Soccer Fees – Mr. Glathar has discussed a fee with Mr. Lansing, the soccer coach, and they feel that \$50 per student would be appropriate. It is the same fee for basketball participants. Fee Waivers will continue to be accepted for both sports.
- ❖ School LAND Trust – Mr. Glathar reported that the current plan targets its funds for the Math, Technology, Reading, and Science classes. The plan can be updated any time the Board would like to adjust it. He explained that the Land Trust funds are to be applied to student achievement needs. In regards to ratifying the current Land Trust Members, Mr. Glathar reported that there is a 93% approval rate. He also discussed the A.R.R.A. funds and will get more information as to when they will be accessible.
- ❖ New School Logo – Julie Thomas sent the new logo to the Board for review. It is not too different from the current logo, and she is working with the print company to determine the quality and formats needed for reproducing this logo for print needs.

### **REPORTS**

- ❖ Academica West
  - Annual Open Meetings Act Training – Only one Board Member has not seen this training video but will do so before the April Board Meeting. The link is found at: <http://www.risk.utah.gov/media/>.
- ❖ Board
  - 2009-2010 Budget – Kevin Passey reported that the budget is right on target.
  - Bill and Repayment Schedule from Kirton & McConkie – Kevin Passey would like to look at the Board Minutes for June/July 2008 for details on what was discussed regarding this contract. He has been working with Gavin Hutchinson at Academica West regarding ELA cash flow and whether it would be of benefit to repay the debt in

one payment, or in several payments. Mr. Passey will continue discussions with Kirtin & McConkie regarding the final amount owed, and matters regarding the future ELA building purchase. Jen Jacobsen will look for the June/July 2008 minutes and forward them to the Board.

- Faculty Survey Results – Mia Prazen stated that these results will be discussed in the Closed Session.
- ❖ P.E.A.K. Report – Melinda Poulson discussed that the 5K run was cancelled, but may be planned for next year. P.E.A.K. will be planning a “Readathon” for this year instead, and final details will be discussed at the next P.E.A.K. meeting. There was discussion of having the ELA Yearbook Class work on this year’s final newsletter. Mr. Glathar will discuss this with the class teacher.
- ❖ Director’s Report – Wade Glathar
  - Landscaping Bids: Rob Workman will give us a presentation in the Board Meeting.
  - Use of Building: Charles Hill will give us a presentation in the Board Meeting.
  - Parent Survey Results and Teacher Survey Results: The majority of the parents stated that they would like a one week spring break and a longer summer break. The Board will consider this for future calendars. The majority of the teachers have expressed desire to attend the Utah Core Academy training during the break. Mr. Glathar will ask the teachers how they feel about the current length of spring break since they use that time to attend trainings and prepare for classes. Parents stated that they are satisfied with the current “free dress days” and “Friday schedule”. It was also reported that the majority of families and teachers are returning for the 2010-2011 school year.
  - Other Items:
    - The DWA for 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders is coming up. This will be an online version, and the practice tests have been given to the students. The State is aware that students are trying to “get around the system”, and are working on ways to resolve these issues. This test will be computer scored as well as by a human to show result comparisons.
    - Teachers are currently working with students to prepare them for the CRT tests in May.
    - There will be another lottery soon, and the secretaries will begin having returning families update their personal/contact information.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS ITEMS – (For Discussion Only)**

- ❖ Annual History and Culture Fair 6/10/2010 – Mia Prazen stated that it will be only the History Fair and not the Culture Fair. She would like it to be a “school event” and everyone involved at ELA (the Board, teachers, families) are invited to help as this will be the biggest event of the year. P.E.A.K. will be having a fundraiser at the History Fair and details are being decided as to what that will be. Ms. Prazen reported on the different activities that are being planned for the Fair.
- ❖ Enlightenment and Parent Communication – Mia Prazen discussed the possibility of starting an ELA blog that families and teachers can use to help with communication and disseminating current information since Enlightenment is distributed every other month.
- ❖ Virtual Component Option – This discussion was tabled until the April Board Meeting.

#### **9:56 AM - ADJOURN to Board Meeting**