

Soldier Hollow Charter School Board of Trustee Meeting

March 21, 2023

3444 West 3000 South, Heber City, Utah

(All times listed are approximate. The Board reserves the right to vote on any item on the agenda)

The Mission of Soldier Hollow Charter School is to utilize place-based education to foster autonomous, lifelong learning through knowledge of and responsibility for the environment.

Welcome (Call to order) and Roll Call: (6:30pm) – Ryan Taylor call to order 6:35pm Kristi, Tyler, Amy, Erin, Ryan

Public Comment: (6:35 pm)- The public may address any issue not related to items already on the agenda. Please refer to our Public Comment at Board Meetings Policy for procedures.

Amie Bullard – Question about the parent survey went out. Did not look like what it usually looks like asking about teachers, instead it looked like a referendum on the charter. Dave Phillips it came from PD with teachers and how do we balance our academic performance and get back to the charter. Amie - I was a little worried because over the last few years we seem to be moving away from the charter.

Reports: (6:45 pm) Board Committees Report– Board Action may be required – (10 min)

1. PTO (Parent Teacher Organization): Amie Bullard

- Proposals – Request to use the new gym space if available for a parent BINGO night. 5th grade parents asking for a maturation program. Erin Merryweather will look into it. Possible for Renae Higginson to do that?
- Recent events – Book Fair going on right now, next event is teacher appreciation week. Account activity, gone through the money from the fun run for STEAM. The bulk has gone to iPads.
- Fundraisers -
- Future events and preparations – Next event is teacher appreciation week, then field day.

2. Financial Accountability Committee: (15 min)

- Financial statement from prior Month Rich Eccles and Tyler Partridge – February report COH is \$65k not including money for build out. Funds for the build out are in a public investment treasury fund (not in a traditional bank). Balance above \$250k in the bank. Budget for next year, finalization for educators' salary adjustment it is \$4200 plus \$1800 for benefits. The intention of the board that the cost of living adjustment seems to be 6% plus the \$4200 as it currently looks on the budget. Steps and lanes, plus 6%, plus \$4200, that is the intention of the school. As we look at the budget we may be able to do a little better than that depending on numbers. Increase a bit on repair and maintenance. Still projecting the same small surplus that helps us get us out of the hole from prior years. The USDA requires a list of all of the board officers and when their term expires. April is when Rich gets new information for new budget.

3. Facilities and Transportation updates: Hoping to have it finished with basketball hoops and standards, maybe floors by end of the year assembly. On budget just a little over. Bleachers approx. \$100k, between now and August to find between \$30-40k for the remainder of the cost.

Watering the trees- getting 10 trees a year. Looking for a plan to get drip irrigation to the trees.

4. Capital Fundraising – (15 min)

- School field trips- fundraised monies – Chamber lunch on the 28th to hopefully raise money.
- Wish List for the school--School Projects
- Landscaping update

- Outdoor recreation grant requesting \$15k match to help suppose to help the garden space and rounding out the amphitheater.

5. Academic Excellence - (10 min) – David Phillips

Working hard to get students below proficiency up to proficient.

Support staff has expressed interest in being full time next year. State is pushing us to close the gap between high and low students. TAs that have been hired has been really good. Job posted for 1st grade TA. Nobody applied yet.

6. Executive Committee Report: (10 min) – Ryan Taylor elections coming up. One open chair

Changes in steps and lanes for teachers that are not being compensated how they should be has been decided to do some type of bonus to make up the difference in the gap where they should have been.

- Policy updates/changes- Tyler and KristiAnn 01-109 – States that the school director is the only person who reports to the board. Create a google document to make adjustments

6. Report: (Board action may be required) (20 min)

- Director –
- Assistant Director – David Phillips – focus on now about start planning for next year. Ways to make improve the school in upcoming years from PD. Maintain strength in our academics but build back up our pillars. Chess club started up on Monday, approx. 40 students and some parents. Christy posted for after school art program and that filled up really fast. Parent survey – what brought you to Soldier Hollow – small class size was number 1, Highest priority was outdoor learning, and strong teachers and staff.
- Discussion of calendar changes for 2023/24 school year – Follow the Wasatch Calendar for the most part break in the Fall is too long. The instructional momentum is lost with such a long break. Cutout 2 days of fall break. Added Thursday and Friday to Christmas break. Instructional minutes 990 hours of instruction over 180 days minimum. We can count 4 professional days as instructional days. We are well over the instructional hours. I would be in favor of adding an 815 start time, adding 15 minutes to the day.
- Facilities – Roof is leaking
- Special Ed Director – Lori Christensen – Population is growing, getting more people, need more space for people. They came up with one more thing we contract out for academic and cognitive testing but have someone here do it. Would just need someone to come out for cognitive.

Action Items:

- Accept the Financial report from February Tyler Partridge motions, Kristiann Asarian seconds Ryan Taylor calls for questions, no questions all in favor no opposed motion carries
- Approval of the Meeting minutes from prior months – KristiAnn Asarian motions, Tyler Partridge seconds, Ryan Taylor calls for discussion, no discussion, all in favor no opposed motion carries. (Erin Merryweather abstains)
- Approval of possibly Policy Updates/Changes
- Calendar Changes 2023/24 – Tyler Partridge motions to approve new Calendar, Kristann Asarian seconds, Ryan Taylor calls for a roll call KristiAnn Asarian yes, Tyler Partridge yes, Amy Lusby Yes, Erin Merryweather no, Ryan Taylor no vote, motion carries
- Erin Merryweather motions for a closed session to talk about character and confidence at 8:06pm. Roll Call KristiAnn Asarian, Tyler Partridge, Amy Lusby, Erin Merryweather, Ryan Taylor.

Adjourn meeting:

Closed Session: Soldier Hollow Charter School reserves the right to enter into a closed executive session for one or more of the purposes outlined in §52-4-205 of the Utah Code of Open and Public Meetings Act.
