



**Elko Institute for Academic Achievement Meeting Minutes
March 29, 2010**

Elko Institute for Academic Achievement Multi-Purpose Room

Meeting Called to Order: 5:37 PM

Board Present:

- Leslie Creel
- Carrie Allard
- Mary Glaser
- Cheryl Hecht
- Brenna Malone

Board Not Present:

- Kathe Linnell
- Iris Scott

Public Present:

- Pat Tsunemori
- Mark Paris
- Amanda Hylton
- Kelly Eveleth
- Lewis Mendive
- Lindsey Skidmore
- Kenzie Lushman
- Jerri Norton
- Josh Park
- Lita Piffero

Cheryl Hecht moved to approve the minutes from March 15, 2010. All in favor.

PUBLIC COMMENT

EIAA student council presented their plan for Spirit Week. It was well-presented and well-thought-out. Spirit Week will be April 12 through 16.

Amanda Hylton presented a summary of the conference that she and three other teachers attended. Teachers met Michael Clay Thompson and talked with him. They went to sessions on the College of William and Mary textbooks. She said it was an eye-opener to the curriculum that we have as a resource at EIAA. She is using three more textbooks that she wasn't using previously. The conference gave her many new ideas that she is now using in her classroom. She recommends sending all teachers to this conference. It gave her a better idea of the philosophy of the school. It was geared towards GT, but there were people available that helped her see how to set it up for general ed. She would love to go back and see more of the conferences; there were 5 or 6 sessions going on at the same time. It was difficult to choose, so the teachers split themselves up for better coverage.

BUDGET AND FINANCE

Auditor. Jeri Norton from Kafoury & Armstrong argued for using them as an auditor. They sent literature to board members explaining their readiness to provide services to EIAA. Solari & Sturmer, \$14,370, peer reviewed, do not currently do charter school audits, but have done them in the past; they are not listed by the state as a charter school auditor. L.L. Bradford for \$14,000 out of Vegas has done charter school audits, is listed by the state and is peer-reviewed. Reeves, Evans, McBride, & Zhang, LLP, \$13,500 to \$16,500. Mark Paris estimates that travel costs for these firms are about \$3000. L.L. Bradford did the Coral Academy's, Nevada Connection Academy, Delta Academy audits. Reeves, Evans, McBride, & Zhang LLP provide audit services for Nevada Virtual Academy, Nevada State High School and the Beacon Academy. LL. Bradford stated in their proposal that they were willing to do the initial set up for a decreased fee as they are hoping for a long term contract. Cheryl Hecht moved we contract with L.L. Bradford and all were in favor.

Reimbursements . Mark Paris presented an Unpaid Bills Details list totaling \$14,888.74. All in favor.

Even though EIAA submits a 2-year budget, the board will have to approve a budget for the next fiscal year, particularly considering we will have an 11% cut. Agenda item for next week to approve a tentative budget for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2011. AGENDA ITEM next week.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

There are 181 students. We enrolled two second-graders, up from last time.

CRT's start tomorrow. Some students who will not be here have been able to start tests early. Pat moved the testing to the last window in which tests may be given since we started at a later date; he wanted to allow for more instructional time. 95% of students out of the whole school have to test. If they don't test, we don't make AYP (average yearly progress).

STAFF

Ultimate Frisbee will begin on Friday's September 23rd for 6,7, 8, and possibly 5th.

A swim session is being scheduled for 3rd grade students on Fridays, 2:00-2:45. Mrs. Howard will ask parents during parent-teacher conferences if they would like their students to participate and if they are willing to pay the \$2/session fee. The school can facilitate families for whom this is a hardship.

Carrie discussed bringing in trainers from Responsive Classrooms, hopefully for a week. It would be \$14,000 for one week, expenses included. They would train up to 25. We would share this cost if we can get another school to participate.

Brenna Malone moved we approve a contract for \$4000 with Ricci Elkins to provide assistance with our hiring process.

Cheryl Hecht presented that she wants to create a math culture at EIAA and that is part of the reason that she wants off the board. She passed out a proposal with three phases which she can implement once she is off the board. AGENDA ITEM for next meeting.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

Over the past two weeks, Carrie met with parents, PTSO and teachers to discuss an electronics policy . Consensus is that cell phone, I-Pod, MP3, and cell phones will not be allowed in the classroom or on the playground. Board motioned to write up a policy which bans electronics in the classroom.

PRINCIPLES REPORT

CRT's are coming up.

Parent conferences are the 14th and 15th of April.

8th graders are going to Elko High School to talk about registration for the Fall.

Enrollment is 179. There are seven 3rd graders that have been drawn out of the hat. They will be called.

Carrie asked if Pat opened up the lottery. Pat doesn't know when we are opening up the lottery. Sometime at the end of this week? Carrie informed Pat that it has to be in the paper before we can do a lottery.

BOARD DEVELOPMENT

Kelly Evelith accepted a position on the board and will replace Iris Scott.

Brenna said that it would nice to have a computer in the board room.

Brenna completed Kim's job description – AGENDA ITEM for next week

FACILITIES

The playground committee needs to set up another meeting.

Stephen Romero, landlord, is going to landscape in front of the playground wall.

Stephen provided plans for permanent wall partitions that will go up 12 feet. Power in the walls is a priority.

COMMUNICATIONS

Cheryl wrote a letter of appreciation to Midge Cooper and Brandy Cooper for painting the special services room and compiling the gift baskets.

Next board meeting will be April 12, 2010

Meeting closed at 7:40 PM.