



# Ogden Preparatory Academy

## Work Session Minutes

### Wednesday, January 9, 2013

**Location:** Academica West, 352 North Flint Street, Kaysville, UT 84037

**In Attendance:** Laura D'Hulst, Nancy Allen, Steve Ballard, Monica Godfrey, Samantha Shupe, Kathy Thornburg (Principal), Dawn Kawaguchi (AW), Steve Davis (AW), Sheldon Killpack (AW), Jana Whitby and Hilary Wahlen

The Mission of Ogden Preparatory Academy is to instill in all of its students a passion for learning, a readiness to address the challenges of the future, and the competence to thrive as productive and responsible citizens in our global community.

## Minutes

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**5:28 PM – Call to Order** by Laura D'Hulst

*Laura disclosed that the board met prior to this work session to tour the Academica West facilities following the tour the board had tablet training with ETS where no business was conducted.*

### OTHER BUSINESS ITEMS

- ❖ Construction Update – Sheldon gave a brief update on the building construction. Kathy gave a quick update on the changes made to reinforce the school's safety. Sheldon also updated the board that we are moving forward with the two acres. Kathy reported to the board that Kim Hunter is going to donate five trees from his nursery.
- ❖ Recruiting Update – Nancy updated the board on recruiting. We have had (26) applicants so far. There was discussion on the next steps. Steve B. would like to set aside some time to discuss the applicants and start scheduling first interview dates. Since we will be discussing applicant names, we will schedule an hour closed session. Steve B. asked the board members to review all applicants and bring your top choices at that time. He would also like the board to look at the sample interview questions. There was a brief discussion on where to go in the Dropbox and teachersteachers.com to view applicants.
- ❖ Website Update – Steve B. stated that there was some confusion with Mr. Tuescher so there is not an update on the website. The board is going to pay him \$1,000 to start and \$1,000 when he is finished. Kathy will make sure that this gets done. Steve B. stated that the logo is not final. We are still in the designing stages of the logo. We may end up with more than one logo.
- ❖ Review Charter School Board University – Samantha reviewed chapters 2-4 in the Charter School Board University. She presented a power point presentation on accountability to the market and authorizer. The board did a follow up self evaluation of these chapters. Sam would like to propose that the board review the charter annually.

*Kathy took a moment to update the board on the current enrollment. She also presented an exit survey to the board. Kathy reviewed the reasons why students are not returning next year. There was a discussion on losing students as they get into Jr. High and what the board can do to obtain these students. The updated website will help inform parents what the school offers.*

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6:18 p.m. Jana Whitby was excused at this time.

- ❖ *Discuss the Mission and Vision of the School* – Samantha stated that we found out when we went through the financing authority that we have several mission statements out there. She stated that we need to decide what we want to our mission statement to say. We need to clarify our mission as far as the Spanish language. Once we decide on where we want to go and what we want it to say, we need to educate our teachers and parents. Nancy has done some research on bilingual programs. We are actually a dual inclusion school. We need to differentiate and make sure that parents understand that is what it is. We need to define exactly what it is that we want out of this program and then be able to assess accordingly. Are we going to have one comprehensive program that all teachers follow in terms of materials or is it going to vary from teacher to teacher? Samantha would like to decide on the outcome that the board wants and then see if it is feasible cost and teacher wise while still maintaining the high academics. Kathy explained to the board what she her staff is currently doing. She explained that the school is required to have a certain amount of time for the core subjects. We can offer Spanish immersion up to 4<sup>th</sup> grade but once they hit 5<sup>th</sup> grade it would have to be exposure. There was a lengthy discussion on what the board would like the Spanish program to “look like”. The board would like to continue the two classes per grade half day immersion in K-4 and the 70 minutes in 5-6. They want the exposure students to increase Spanish hours. Kathy will give an overview to the elementary staff and have them create schedules of the increase in time for the Spanish program. Once our focus and mission is very clear, everyone will know exactly what the expectation is. Dawn recommended that the board create a committee to work on the focus and mission. She also explained the following steps that should be made if you want to move forward. There was a discussion on taking the OPAPD president off the board since they only serve for one year. The board would like to have the School Development committee work on the vision and mission and bring their recommendation to the February board meeting to vote upon.

*There was a brief discussion on the board social.*

**6:55 PM – Steve Ballard made a motion to ADJOURN. Nancy Allen seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. (Duration 1:27:43)**

**January Action Item:**

1. Recruiting packet for next board meeting – **Crista**
2. Include on the February agenda the charter amendments for mission statement and governing board – **Dawn**

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