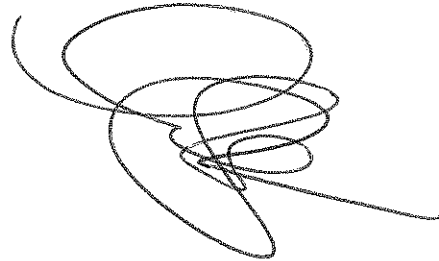


Aquarian Charter School  
Academic Policy Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
11.14.2016

Members:

Nicole Thibodeau  
Hope McClurg  
Laura Kanyer  
Robin Reich  
Jess Malone  
Lynda VanWinkle  
Mollie Harings  
Meghan Steenburgh



Nonvoting Members:

Lucas Saltzman

Guests:

Erin Schumacher  
Monica Severson  
Carrie Connaker  
Anne Marie Bott  
Heather Williams  
Rachel Witty

Call to order at 5:48 PM.

Mollie Harings motioned to approve last month's minutes. Hope McClurg seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Visitor:

Erin Schumacher – Has two children who have done the multiage. She sees multiage as a big benefit. She states that keeping the same teacher was a plus. She has also seen the value with moving into middle school, because her child knows kids a grade higher and lower. She appreciates the additional training multi-age teachers get. She would like Aquarian to keep multi-age.

Carrie Connaker – 2 kids in multi – K and 2<sup>nd</sup>. Love keeping same teacher for two years. She appreciates children being able to do the mentor thing. She also likes the mixed age format and believes it is one of the best things about our school.

Anne Marie Bott – 1 K & ¾ class. Applcate effort to decrease class size, but expressed concern of 13 children not getting the next year's curriculum.

Rachel Witty - ¾ & 5/6 – She believes the multi-age reflects community and fosters diversity, but understands a need to address classroom size.

Heather Williams - 2 children – first year here. One in combo and one is not. Personally for my kids either system has been successful.

Principal's Report:

Relo – came in around 10K. Sign delayed.

25K for professional development: the idea to have someone come here is proving to be harder than we thought. We are back to the idea of traveling. There is an interest in going to Finland. Also an interest in visiting other good charter programs within the US.

Staffing: losing a TA at end of week.

Reading Plus: got an amazing deal to try for a year. Differential program. Trying for all of 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. Asks challenging questions. May help with standardized testing.

Budget:

Based on 375 students and flat funding. (23 FT teachers – 3.5% increase) TAs 4 FT and 14 PT – 3% increase. Reflection of where we are at now. Went with this years per student calculation.

Teacher Representative: Ordered “Never Ware” to turn into chrom book operating material. Approved for 10 ipads.

TA Representative: Playground has been pretty good this year.

Committee Updates:

Long-Range Planning – vote in Dec

Curriculum – spelling – update charter that we are not using scholastic. Fish creek revitalized – teachers would need to adopt this and decide if we want it to be in the curriculum. Lot of natural science ties and it is within walking distance.

Bylaws/Charter – Math survey – need to go over as a committee. Some teachers love it. We don't want to change it back in the middle of the year. The scheduling was the tricky part. Have not seen a drop in math scores or abilities. Primary feels like their schedule is really broken up. 1/3 of parents oppose. 2/3 are neutral or like it. APC role is to update the charter. Amount of time spent in Math is up to APC. What time of day math happens is up to the principal. Plan is to review AIMS data.

Legislative – coffees are scheduled

Survey/Evals – Go out in Jan after holiday break – General Survey

Tri-Board – After-School Care is being talked about and possibly creating a non-profit. Like Rabbit Creek and Bear Valley schools. Goal would be to break kids up into different groups and offers more diverse

interests. Would be great if our PTA would sponsor it. After school activities would remain, but would go through the non-profit.

Community Engagement & Relationships – Next meeting right before the next APC meeting at 5:00. May talk more about the sign. Like to make a decision.

Lynda Van Winkle motion to adjourn at 7:10 PM and Robin Reich seconded the motion. All were in favor.