

**Vanguard Classical School
Board of Directors Meeting
October 26, 2023
Call to order 6:30 pm MT
Virtual Meeting
MINUTES**

Call to order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call:

- The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm by the Board Chair Dan Jorgensen .
- The pledge of allegiance and roll call took place.
- Attendees included:

Board Members:

- Dan Jorgensen (Chair)
- Natalie Doxey
- Kat Ling
- Ousman Ba
- Ryan Gensler

Vanguard Employees:

- Tam Smith
- Karen Secor
- Kara Clark
- Keria McCafferty
- Nathan Bryant
- Jeannie Easton
- Maggie Regalia (Tatonka)

Approval of Agenda (6:32pm)

A motion to approve the agenda for the October 26, 2023 board meeting was made by Director Doxey and seconded by Director Ling. The motion was approved unanimously.

Action Item (6:33pm)

A motion to approve the minutes from the September 21, 2023 board meeting was made by Director Gensler and seconded by Director Ba. The motion was approved unanimously.

Presidents' Report (6:33pm)

- Discussion to postpone the Board retreat until a full board was in place.
- President Jorgensen also suggested the addition of an item to the board meeting agendas entitled "open dialogue." The board discussed and determined that it was a good idea to have this discussion opportunity at the end of board meetings. It was mentioned to incorporate metrics in these discussions to guide the discussion and maintain positive direction of the schools, incorporating the mission and vision of the schools.

- A reminder that if there are questions or discussions that occur in email chains or outside of board meetings, those items need to be brought up in the meeting so that they can be public and documented accordingly.
- Discussion occurred to clarify the election/appointment process for filling open positions within the board, to ensure that it is equitable, diversified, and informed. The board agreed that it should also be a clear process and that makes the mission and vision of Vanguard Classical School to candidates. By-laws will be consulted and Director Jorgensen will send out information to the rest of the board about what the by-laws dictate.

Director's Report (7:05pm)

- The Letter of Intent was submitted to Ability Connection Colorado to obtain a new lease for West Campus. No word on the Paris Elementary RFP. Shout out to Michelle Fisher, Karen Secor and Jay Cerny for their assistance in this process. Dr. Smith feels we are in a good position moving forward with the negotiations for this lease.
- On-Site Programmatic Review (OSPR) occurred recently. Dr. Smith praised the tremendous job that the staff and faculty have done at both campuses. Praise received from the APS team that made the visits included statements such as "this is the best site-visit we've had in several years."
- Fall Parent Teacher conferences just occurred and were successful at both campuses.
- Award ceremonies, Skate City Nights, Culture Nights all have occurred and been successful.
- Next week Vanguard will be attending the University of Northern Colorado Job Fair in hopes of obtaining quality teacher candidates.
- Friday, December 1, 2023 will be the combined East and West Holiday Party at Podium Karting and Axe Throwing at 5:30pm
- Principal Report - Kara Clark, East:
 - Read Plans are under way and much testing occurring as part of those plans
 - October count - we met our goal - celebrated with pizza party
 - Homecoming will be next Friday, November 3
 - Trunk-or-Treat tomorrow evening, October 27, 2023
 - Suspensions have decreased since last year - due to more support and teacher training
 - Math pilots are ongoing - Illustrative, iReady math and Into Math
 - New Family Liaison - Pam Polke
 - New Athletic Director - Jamie Pierce
 - New Administrative Assistant and counselor are forthcoming
 - Will be working on differentiated professional development in conjunction with West Campus
 - OSPR Site visit was successful as we were able to help change some of the perspectives of APS members as to what classical education can be.
- Principal Report - Keria McCafferty, West:
 - Data teams are continuing and student data is strong.
 - West supporting East campus with restorative practice training
 - COGAT (Colorado Gifted and Talented) testing is happening district wide; 1, 2, 6, 7 grades have all been screened. Shout out to GT coordinators who had to meet with every student and parents to update plans
 - READ plans are completed at West!
 - Formal observations are occurring currently

- Vanguard Night at the Rapids Soccer game
- Culture Night was a great success, as was Skate City
- Parent teacher conferences- 97% of families have been contacted
- Soccer teams are doing great and headed to tournaments
- Flag Football just played on the new field at East and beat Aurora Academy
- Volleyball team is undefeated and cheerleaders will be at the next game
- Girls on the Run will be running 5k on November 12, 2023
- Clubs are doing well - particularly the Lego club and the Art club who each have over 50 students in them
- 6th grade just got back from Outdoor Lab at YMCA of the Rockies and had a wonderful time with fire ecology, geology and other classes.
- Upstairs grades went to see Swan Lake at the Ballet recently and Downstairs will be going to see the Nutcracker soon.
- New mental health professional started from Aurora Mental Health
- Some staff shifts with coverage from in-house sub Mark Leeks; moved to teach 3rd grade vacancy.
- Met the enrollment goal for October count and continue to enroll students this week.

Director Ba inquired about how to discover when events are occurring and was informed that all events are on the calendar (for both campuses) on the website.

Director Jorgensen requested that the board be included on communications that go to staff so that they are aware of upcoming events and other information.

Public comment from Marielle Nava - We need Monday school for the kids.

Public comment from Asmara Demie - We need homework for the kids. The kids come home without homework, you guys need to fix this. I like this school but now there is no homework and I don't know why.

Operations and Finance Committee (7:34pm)

- Operations - Karen Secor
 - Working on providing irrigation across areas that are not the turf at East, then grass seed will be spread to hopefully sprout by Spring
 - Organizing the Colorado Gives endeavor so that we will be included when that time comes so that people can contribute to our Schools
 - Continued provision of support to staff and faculty so teaching can occur with minimal interruption
- Finances - Maggie Regalia
 - Financial Dashboard
 - Revenue - no concerns
 - Expenditures - we are exactly where we should be
 - Cash position - trending above where we have been the past couple of years
 - Debt Service Ratio - absolutely no concerns
 - VCS Combined Statement of Financial Position - unaudited
 - VCS Combined Statement of Activities - unaudited
 - VCS-East Statement of Activities
 - VCS-West Statement of Activities

- Expenditures by Vendor Summary
- VCS A/P Aging Summary
- VCS Check Detail
- VCS Reconciliation Report
- VCS CSAFE Reconciliation

Next board meeting will be held on November 16, 2023.

Adjournment (7:54pm)