
Ascent Academy (West Jordan)

School Land Trust Meeting Minutes (DRAFT)

Location: Ascent Academy - West Jordan (Main Conference Room)

Date: October 28, 2015

Time: 5:30PM

Committee Members in Attendance: Wade Glathar, Aaron Janssen, Jeff Kemp, Shawn Carter, Maria Baldwin, Bryon Densley, Richelle Smith

Absent/Excused: Michael Clark, Windie Darrington

Agenda details:

1. Welcome: [Introductions.](#)
2. Approve September 30, 2015 meeting minutes.
[Motion: Maria Baldwin](#)
[Second: Jeff Kemp](#)
[Approved by unanimous vote](#)
3. Discuss and approve meeting dates
 - a. 2015 - Oct 28, Dec 9
 - b. 2016 - Mar 16, Apr 20, May 25

[Revised and Approved Meeting Dates and times are as follows:](#)

- a. 2015 - Oct 28, Dec 9
 - b. 2016 – Mar 9, Apr 13, May 25, Aug 3
 - c. All meetings from this date forward will begin at 6:00 p.m.
 - d. Wade will update the document on the website
4. School Improvement Plan and survey results
[Board is still in discussion about the School improvement Program. There is nothing official on this matter yet. The survey results found that there is a need for more volunteers for Clusters, and more interesting Cluster options available to the students. One way of supporting this is to provide the subsidy/reimbursement for the Background Checks. The survey results found that Ascent Academy could benefit from a better after school tutoring program and a longer time to be spent in after school tutoring. One way of supporting this is by opening up the new positions for after school tutors and extending the times of after school tutoring to one hour.](#)
 5. Review historical SAGE data
[The Sage testing data showed strong results in Math and a weakness in Science and to some degree Language Arts so Land Trust spending will be primarily focused on shoring up these areas and providing more individualized instruction. The school will send out an invitation to families to encourage students to attend after school tutoring \(with a special effort to invite those students who are struggling academically\).](#)

6. Communication of historical spending and results to the community

A one Page summary of Historical Spending was prepared by Bryon Densley (by Monday, November 2, 2015) and will be posted on the Front door of Ascent Academy and on the website this week.

7. Digital citizenship (safe technology environment) training and the rules of order and procedure

Motion: Jeff Kemp

Second: Maria Baldwin

Approved by unanimous vote

8. Subsidy for background checks

Motion: Jeff Kemp

Second: Bryon Densley

Approved by unanimous vote

Parents will be reimbursed for a Background Check after 15 volunteer hours (request they be in class) or after committing to run an eight-week Cluster.

Jeff Kemp will create a communication to send to parents explaining the program for Background Check fee reimbursement.

Motion to Adopt: Jeff Kemp

Second: Aaron Janssen

Approved by unanimous vote

9. Discuss other ideas to improve learning outcomes

*After School Tutoring: We will create four new positions open to all staff first, and then placed on the Ascent Academy Website under the regular Job Board. The open positions will be for 3 Math Tutors and one Reading Tutor. The school has already initiated an invitation to all staff for the positions of Math Tutor (3) and Reading Tutor (1). Would like to keep the student to teacher ratio at a manageable level (around 6 to 8) in order to increase the effectiveness of instruction.

*Ascent Academy will continue using Utah Compose, Moby Max, Raz-Kids, and Eureka Math.

Land trust dollars will fund the following:

- Total projected 2015/2016 spending \$54K
 - Eureka Math (\$1.5K).
 - Follow up SEM (Schoolwide Enrichment Model) training (\$5K).
 - Purchase additional iPad mini's with keyboards and purchase keyboards for existing iPad mini's (\$23K).
 - Purchase science manipulative kits to facilitate hands on learning (\$8K).
 - Reimburse parents for background checks after volunteering 15 hours (\$8.5K).
 - Pay for after school tutors Monday thru Thursday for 1 hour (\$8K).

*Ascent Academy will look into and choose an effective Keyboarding program then add into the existing curriculum.

In regards to the curriculum/programs Ascent Academy provides, teachers need to utilize these programs and communicate with parents in regards to how they can be utilized at home as well. Discussed the need for a volunteer coordinator and the need for more parent involvement, as well as the need to communicate the actions of the committee to Ascent Academy parents.