
Ascent Academy (West Jordan) School Land Trust Meeting Minutes

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

Date: Oct 13, 2016

Time: 6:00PM

Member's: Michael Clark, Jeff Kemp, Maria Baldwin, Windie Darrington, Byron Densley, and Richelle Smith, Justin De Jong, Veronica Palma, Liz Roundhouse, Clint Barnett, Angelica Kemp, Megan Burr, Bailey Jones

In Attendance: Jeff Kemp, Maria Baldwin, Justin De Jong, Veronica Palma, Liz Roundhouse, Clint Barnett, Angelica Kemp, Bryon Densley

Agenda and Minutes from 10/13/2016

(red is follow up items or assignments, black is the original agenda, blue are the minutes, purple is additional information not discussed)

- 1) Welcome
- 2) Approve August 31st minutes:
 - Motion to approve: Michael Clark
 - Second: Maria Baldwin
 - Vote: passed
- 3) We need to have a date for Annual Elections set up.

Need to vote in Tiffany Herrera. School Counselor.

Proposal: Place Tiffany Herrera as member of the committee

Motion: Maria Baldwin

Second: Bryon Densely

Vote: passed

(Mr. Clark to update website with her information)

- a. Near the beginning of the school year or in the spring to be completed before the last week of school. Timing of elections should remain consistent for at least four years.
- b. Proposal: elections to take place by the end of the two weeks following the first day of school.
(This information needs to be posted on the website; Mr. Clark)
 - Motion: Veronica Kemp
 - Second: Justin De Jong
 - Vote: Passed

4) Prior to October 1: The business administrator enters the prior year expenditures on the School LAND Trust website (website) consistent with the Annual Program Report. This report generates financial information for the Final Report. Mr. Clark completed this prior to October 1st.

5) Review training and what questions or suggestions that were brought up from the trainings.

Encouraged attending the October 26th American Fork SLTC Training.

Last year there was an extensive training and dinner hosted in January in conjunction with the USBA Conference, However I couldn't find one scheduled for this year.

Encouraged everyone to again review the training links and materials:

<http://www.schoollandtrust.org/training/>

<http://www.schoollandtrust.org/training/films>

<http://www.schoollandtrust.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/32/2016/02/15-Rules-of-Order-12-14-Both-Pages.docx>

<http://www.schoollandtrust.org/local-school-boards>

<http://www.schoollandtrust.org>

<http://www.schoollandtrust.org/program/appropriate-expenditures>

<http://www.schoollandtrust.org/program/steps-to-receive-funding>

Discussed failure to post agenda and meeting times 24 hours in advance online and in a public location, and process to update the website with the approved agenda notes after the meeting.

6) Review the Budget and Expenditures:

Total Budget	\$57,467	
Plan:	Planned Budget	Expenditure
After School Tutoring (Need to add to Ascent Website)	\$10,000	\$10,000

Science Lab Fume Hood	\$3,000	still working
EM Confratute	\$18,767	\$18,767
Additional Teacher's Aide	\$10,400	\$10,400
Science Weekly	\$4,000	\$4,000
SBE Science Curriculum Books	\$3,000	\$3,000
Mobile Science Lab	\$3,000	still working
Brain Pop	\$2,300	\$2,300
Total:	\$54,467	\$48,467
Need to allocate \$3000	Discussed: \$1200 K-2 Books \$800 Photography \$800 GradeCam	

- a. Proposal made by Liz Roundhouse made to change k-3 science tutor to writing/handwriting tutor.
Motion: Liz Roundhouse
Second: Clint Barnett
- b. Review motion and vote for the Reading Books and Photography: Proposed: \$1200 for K-2 take home book reading program, \$800.00 Photography club funding. **Angelica Kemp is working with the teachers and publishers to finalize this.**
- c. What the committee can do to assist with the hood, and science lab: **The hood has been purchased we are just waiting for delivery and installation.**

Mobile Science Lab: The Cart for the lab would be nearly \$800.00 so Mr. Clark proposed and motioned to create a science library that teacher could check out resources and manipulatives. **(Mrs. Roundhouse to Assist with Mr. Clark on creating this)**

Motion: Michael Clark
Second: Bryon Densely
Vote: Passed

- d. I know that we briefly reviewed the budget expenses but for the new people it might be nice to have a little better definition of what the SEM is once more, Science Weekly, USBE Curriculum, Brain Pop, Science lab etc... Perhaps we could see some examples of the books and materials that have been purchased?

SEM Confratute: <http://gifted.uconn.edu/>

Ascent Academies of Utah (AAU) places student learning and individual development first by fostering small classes and a personalized education led by supportive faculty. True to the AAU mission, students achieve academic excellence through the integration of the Schoolwide Enrichment Model. Our core academic vision is achieved through igniting a passion for learning in our students that is unrivaled in other academic settings. Watch the video below to experience AAU, learn more about the model, and hear why parents and students call Ascent their school.

The Schoolwide Enrichment Model (SEM) (Renzulli, 1977; Renzulli & Reis, 1985, 1997) is widely implemented as an enrichment program used with academically gifted and talented students and a magnet theme/enrichment approach for all schools interested in high-end learning and developing the strengths and talents of all students. The major goal of the SEM is the application of gifted education pedagogy to total school improvement. The SEM provides enriched learning experiences and higher learning standards for all children through three goals; developing talents in all children, providing a broad range of advanced-level enrichment experiences for all students, and providing advanced follow-up opportunities for young people based on their strengths and interests. The SEM focuses on enrichment for all students through high levels of engagement and the use of enjoyable and challenging learning experiences that are constructed around students' interests, learning styles, and preferred modes of expression.

Confratute is a combined CONFerence, and an instiTUTE with a lot of FRATernity in between. Confratute is geared toward providing educators with research-based practical strategies for engagement and enrichment learning for all students, as well as meeting the needs of gifted and talented students.

Mr. Clark and Mrs. Round house discussed the experience at the confratute and how they were able to capitalize on the experience and bring that back to the other teachers and assist with SEM training at a local level and more importantly they have been able to empower students in their own classes and enrich the students engagement.

Discussed Mr. Barnett and because he is new and didn't attend Confratute how he felt that the SEM training benefited he and his students and he shared that he likes the concept and he has received basic training has enjoyed instituting it in his classes but that he could use additional training and support to enrich the SEM experience and implementation.

Brain Pop: Teachers LOVE it and most seem to be using it.

<https://educators.brainpop.com/about/>

Science Weekly: Weekly newspaper and online style articles and activities to help support science learning. Discussed that some teacher are not using, other are using parts of it. More significantly Science Weekly is going to discontinue the paper publications next year and make it an online program only. (Mr. Clark is going to follow up with this item) The question is whether this is a viable and useful allocation of our resources? Mr. Barnett was given the assignment to send an email or survey to all the teachers about their use and implementation of it and their opinion of whether we should continue to fund it.

USB Science books: No sample, Science workbooks covering age appropriate materials for 7-9th. Reported that they are using and appreciating this resource.

Teacher's Aide: Hired and then quite unfortunately. Currently looking to fill the positions ASAP with a qualified applicant (Mr. Clark is working on this.)

7) Discuss ideas for the remaining \$800-\$1000:

Mr. Clark Proposed that we institute a program that 4th - 9th has been using on a free trial basis called "Grade Cam" that teachers that have started using it have really appreciated because it allows them to grade all tests and then gives them instant feedback on testing concepts that the class in general is not understanding for immediate learning opportunities. It was \$850.00 for a year of software access for 4-9th grades.

<https://gradecam.com/>

Motioned and Voted on an \$800.00 allocation for this expenditure:

Motion: Michael Clark
Second: Veronica Kemp
Vote: Passed

8) Discuss afterschool tutoring, initial interest and attendance and feedback from the tutors.

a. (If possible it would be great if we could invite the afterschool tutors to the meeting (we already have 2 on the committee)and receive feedback from them directly. (Mr. Clark?))

We have 3 tutors for K-3 Math, Reading, and Science and 4-9 Math and Science.

Attendance has been 0-12 students most days. K-3 Science Tutor has almost no attendance because most K-3 classes don't have homework for their students and as such has been helping out with Reading.

Motion to eliminate K-3 Science tutor and add an additional K-3 Reading tutor: 9 Yeah / 0 Nay

Discussion around some of the frustrations of the tutoring program. Some students come unprepared without learning materials and the tutors are not in a position to efficiently assist the student with appropriate materials.

We need to figure out a way to effectively communicate to the teachers and parents that students that are attending need a plan and materials to help get the most use out this incredible and FREE resource.

9) Discuss Agenda for Nov 10th Meeting

Motion proposed to cancel the Nov 10th meeting and February 23rd meeting:

Motion: Michael Clark
Second: Angelica Kemp
Vote: Passed

Ideas for next meeting:

Digital Citizenship

Sage test and results

Follow up with red items

Expert budget discussion

10) Other:

After Mr. Clark left we discussed the agenda for the March meeting to finalize the budget and resubmit it and realized that we need a meeting prior to the 10th. Motioned to reinstate the February 23rd meeting: Approved 8 Yeah / 0 Nay.

As part of that discussion we discussed that as a council it is our duty to safe guard the money for which we have been entrusted. We felt that we have a lot of really good ideas and programs in place however many of the parents and facility come to table from an unformed position and occasionally we are making decisions that we don't fully understand or are voting on programs that we don't fully know how they will be implemented or how they will truly benefit the children. As such we discussed taking the next 3 months to speak with our teachers, and other parents about the programs we have implemented and sharing those ideas in email. In February we will come to the meeting prepared with information on each of the past budget items and the feasibility. More importantly we will come prepared with appropriate support for current allocations, recommendations or substitutions for next year's budget and the February meeting we will propose, debate, review and dissect the budget and then allow the following month to put the details into place.