

APPROVED



The Riveredge Outdoor Learning Elementary School

Minutes

ROLES Governance Council Meeting

2020-2021 Budget and School Calendar Adoption

Date and Time

Friday June 12, 2020 at 10:00 AM

Location

meet.google.com/oof-rscn-ver

OR

502-482-5845 PIN: 764 950 664#

Directors Present

Ami Rosengren (remote), Amy Levash (remote), Becky Wollner (remote), Cecilia Guajardo (remote), Dan Davis (remote), Mary Ann Christopher (remote), Mia Arter (remote)

Directors Absent

None

Guests Present

Amy Pollard, Ashley Gauger (remote), Christina Knoske, Greta Malek, Katie Popp, Korrine Haeffel, Laura Wollersheim, Monica Ammerman, Moriah Butler, Sara Christy, Sara Fisk, Sara Neumann, Sarah & Brian Fortney, Sunny Knutson (remote), Taylor Hoge

I. Opening Items

A. Welcome, Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Mia Arter called a meeting of the board of directors of The Riveredge Outdoor Learning Elementary School to order on Friday Jun 12, 2020 @ 10:02 AM at

meet.google.com/oof-rscn-ver

OR

502-482-5845 PIN: 764 950 664#

C. Agenda Overview

Mia gives an Agenda Overview and shares some guidelines for using the "Chat" function.

D. Approve May 21, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Amy Levash made a motion to approve the minutes from ROLES Governance Council Meeting - May 21 on 05-21-20.

Cecilia Guajardo seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

E. Approve May 22, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Dan Davis made a motion to approve the minutes from May 22, 2020 ROLES Governance Council Meeting on 05-22-20.

Becky Wollner seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. FY2020-2021 ROLES Budget

A. Review Proposed FY2020-2021 ROLES Budget and Proposed Grant Modifications

- Becky Wollner gives an overview of the Budget and who has been working on it, and adjusting the budget this year from what we learned last year.
- We have a budget deadline with NOSD on Monday.
- We have a non restricted carry over from the this year due to Covid-19.
- According to the DPI, we must spend the rollover money in the categories we committed to last year, but we have asked for an approval to have more flexibility in the way we allocate the funds.
- The Golf Cart will not be purchased and the funding will be used toward a similar solution.
- Other extra money will be spent toward the Administrative salary.
- Mia Arter gives an overview of the Grant budget.
- The Grant needs to be used for foundational start-up costs.
- Once this budget is passed, we can submit it, and will be able to modify some categories in July and others in September.
- Our contact at DPI believes that the modifications will be approved.
- Cecilia Guajardo asks if the Marketing budget can be adjusted. Mia Arter & Becky Wollner respond that it should be an easy shift to make.
- Dan Davis explains the increase in rent in the operating budget is related to the extra cleaning and maintenance for the upcoming year.
- Christina Knoske asks about the food service category. Becky & Sunny respond that it is for the Planet Lunchboxes that were provided to students, donated for free from the company.
- Becky gives an overview of the Operational Budget.
- We budgeted for 3 different scenarios recommended by NOSD, since we do not know the funding we will have per student for the upcoming year.
- Dan asks about the summary of the operating budget revenue. Becky explains the summary numbers are flexed with the Grant Budget.
- Becky is confident that we will be able to adjust where it is needed to stay within budget.

B. Adopt DPI Grant Budget Modification Request

Ami Rosengren made a motion to Approve DPI Grant Budget Modification.

Dan Davis seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Adopt FY2020-2021 ROLES Budget

Mary Ann Christopher made a motion to Adopt FY2020-2021 ROLES Budget.

Amy Levash seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

III. FY2020-2021 ROLES School Calendar

A. Review Proposed FY2020-2021 ROLES School Calendar

- Kayla, Sarah, & Ashley have prepared the calendar.
- Ashley explains the 2nd Friday in November & December are not the best fit for the teachers working needs.
- 205 working days for the teachers
- 1010 Instruction hours, field days are 2 hours, which brought back about half of those hours.
- Wednesdays were not as productive for the teachers as they had hoped.
- The work with the RNC staff and NOSD needed to be scheduled in longer blocks of time to accomplish the tasks
- Ami Rosengren asked for a more detailed description of a Field Day. Ashley explains that it will be a project for students to accomplish at home.
- Cecilia asks for clarity. Ashley responds that the students will be required to bring a form of reflection to show that they will have completed the project.
- Mia asks if a student does not complete the project or is doing something else that day will it be considered absent? Ashley has a question out to the DPI to better clarify.
- Cecilia brings up the concern of the challenges working parents will face. Ashley explains they have thought about those concerns and explains in more detail the reasons for specific dates.
- The option of having 5 substitute teachers was discussed. Ashley thought it wouldn't be the best solution.
- Cecilia questions if the field day in April could be changed. Mia agrees it could be flagged for future discussion as an addendum to the motion.
- Greta Malek reviews the data she gathered from local school calendars and is concerned about the extra PD days that the Riveredge School is proposing.
- Greta Malek also asks about the options for a Riveredge or YMCA program on those days. Ashley responds that we are looking into using those resources for possible optional childcare for families.
- Greta Malek expresses concern that these extra days will also put a strain on working families. Ashley explains that this school requires more from the teachers than a typical local school.
- Taylor Hoge agrees with not comparing this to another school.
- Korinne Haeffel is concerned about field days putting a strain on families not having time or supplies to support these field days.
- Ashley reassures everyone that the staff is looking into always supporting these concerns and making sure there is flexibility and support for families.
- Cecilia asks if the end day is the same as NOSD. Ashley confirms that it is.

B. Adopt FY2020-2021 ROLES School Calendar

Mary Ann Christopher made a motion to Adopt the calendar with the Adendum to remove the April 9th PD day.

Cecilia Guajardo seconded the motion.

Cecilia would like to continue the discussion of supporting families who are challenged by the days off. The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

IV. Governance Council Updates

A. Update on Job Description for School Administrator

- Amy Levash explains the team working on the job description is trying to move forward to get it finalized and posted. The team has been working together collaboratively and feels they are moving forward in a positive direction. They met with Tomorrow River Charter school and felt it was productive.
- Amy asks if the Governance Council needs to approve the job description.
- Dan responds that he supports the Governance Council approve the job description. He supports the hiring of the Administrator to help the school move forward.
- Amy explains that the candidate will need to support the philosophy of the school.
- Cecilia is on the team and even though it is taking a longer than planned, many people are involved and they are making sure it is well thought out.
- Amy Levash addresses the question regarding if the person could be used as a substitute teacher when needed. She states that this person will be qualified to support the school if it is in need.
- Mia explains that our DPI Grant for contracted support would fall into the Administrator position as 2 separate contracts.
- Ami Rosengren supports the 2 separate contracts for one person.
- Ashley is concerned about losing a good candidate due to having strengths in one area, but weaknesses in another area, such as finance.
- Ashley is also concerned about finding a person this year.
- Sunny states that we have a good financial system in place, and CESA 6 can provide more support.
- Cecilia states that we heard Ashley's concerns and need a Plan "B".

B. Discuss Next Steps for ROLES Stakeholder Team

- Mia proposes pausing this project over Summer Break.
- Ami asks for a better summary to be sent out, since there was confusion at the PTO meetings as the purpose of this group.
- Cecilia thinks it should be put on hold to work more on this development and definition of the group before it is launched.
- Greta wants to make it clear that the PTO is not inclusive, everyone is included.
- Mia and Cecilia respond that this group will be better defined for clarification.

C. Discuss Next Steps for Governance Council Recruitment

- Mia states we have 2 open seats and this would be a good time to hear if anyone is cycling off.
- Cecilia requests that we should have a better description of the roles with the time commitment for new candidates.
- Ami Rosengren announces that she will cycle off for the next term.
- Mia explains there are other ways to support the Governance Council with teams and committees.
- Mia requests volunteers to create a team for recruiting new members. Mia, Amy Levash, & Becky Wollner volunteer. Sunny notes that this falls to the Executive Committee. Mia would like to continue to use teams to accomplish tasks.

D. Update on ROLES Governance Council Response to Family Concerns

V. School Management Updates

A. ROLES Planning & Leadership Coordinator Update

- Cecilia requests that we have a staff handbook.
- Ashley responds that we are excited about the 2 new hires. They are both a good fit. Katie Popp and Walter Sams are both natural fits.
- Ashley's biggest take away from the Tomorrow River Community is that decisions should be well thought out and the Governance Council should think about that also.
- Sunny reached out to Katie & Walter for bios and photos. She will post them on the website soon.
- Cecilia asked how parents got feedback on their students if they did not request a conference. Ashley said that they did their best to fill parents needs to give feedback during conferences.
- Ami Rosengren asks when parents will be given a date that class structure will be announced. This was due to concerns discussed at the PTO meeting. Ashley plans to do this early August. Mia would like to see some explanation and research for combined classes. Ashley agrees to do this. Ashley will reach out to other staff members to see if they will work on class structure over the summer.

VI. Other Business

A. Public Comment

- Sarah Neumann would like the staff to take into consideration the Parent's view on combined classes. Several parents do not support combined classes.
- Sarah Neumann also is curious about the Lottery Level Groups, and questions if this means that the combined classes are set. Mia states this will be flagged for a future follow up.
- Taylor Hoge says "Thank you" for the help. She also shared an idea for the PTO to host a PTO day with substitute teachers, to create more adult support with the students, if the teachers were off property. She also states that other avenues should be open, besides the PTO, for parents to voice their concerns.

The following is a transcript from the Chat portion of the virtual meeting:

Harrison Knoske

9:59 AM

Christina Knoske

Eric Butler

10:00 AM

Moriah Butler

Taylor Hoge

10:00 AM

Taylor Hoge

Sarah Neumann

10:00 AM

Sarah Neumann

Brian Fortney

10:00 AM

Sarah and Brian Fortney

Monica Ammerman

10:01 AM

Monica Ammerman

Greta Malek

10:01 AM

Greta Malek

Amy Pollard

10:01 AM

Amy Pollard

Cecilia Guajardo
10:02 AM
Cecilia Guajardo
Sarah Fisk
10:02 AM
Sarah Fisk
Pete Christy
10:04 AM
Sara Christy
Korinne Haeffel
10:08 AM
Korinne Haeffel is here.
Cecilia Guajardo
10:15 AM
I have a question
Taylor Hoge
10:55 AM
I have a comment
Korinne Haeffel
10:58 AM
I have a comment.
Harrison Knoske
10:59 AM
question
Harrison Knoske
11:11 AM
question
Harrison Knoske
11:13 AM
more a comment could this person be a substitute to cut down budget?
Laura Wollersheim
11:14 AM
It sounds like this has been really thought through by the whole team-thank you all for your time and hard work!
Ashley Gauger
11:18 AM
I have one quick comment/request
Greta Malek
11:28 AM
i have a comment on that
Taylor Hoge
11:29 AM
I have a comment
Taylor Hoge
11:33 AM
Disregard my comment
Laura Wollersheim
11:37 AM
You are awesome Ami! Thank you for all you did!
Sarah Neumann
11:46 AM
I have a question
Laura Wollersheim
11:57 AM
Very cool idea!
Sarah Neumann
11:57 AM

question

Taylor Hoge

11:58 AM

I have a comment

Harrison Knoske

11:58 AM

class numbers size what are you think?

Greta Malek

11:59 AM

Thank you Sarah Neumann

Brian Fortney

12:00 PM

We're also not in support of combined classes. In our professional opinion, we found the work was not differentiated appropriately.

Brian Fortney

12:01 PM

The group vs grade level approach was confusing to me as well.

Laura Wollersheim

12:02 PM

That would help with parent inclusion and community building as well!

Harrison Knoske

12:03 PM

Agree with teacher days, however with covid and the unknown i dont want to add extra screen time with virtual learning and keeping all fridays might work best for childcare options. except that two learning days in April!

Taylor Hoge

12:05 PM

Thank you all

VII. Closing Items

A. Thank You and Conclusion

Mia thanks everyone for participating and gives a summary of work moving forward.

B. Adjourn Meeting

Amy Levash made a motion to Adjourn at 12:05.

Cecilia Guajardo seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mia Arter