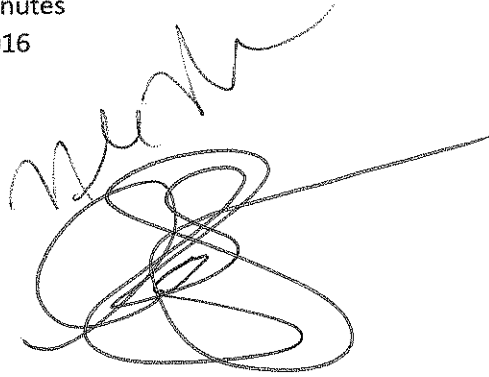


Aquarian Charter School
Academic Policy Committee
Meeting Minutes
10.17.2016

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Harings', written over a large, stylized circular scribble.

Members:

Rich Crosby
Nicole Thibodeau
Greg Carr
Hope McClurg
Laura Kanyer
Robin Reich
Jess Malone
Melissa McDermott
Lynda VanWinkle
Mollie Harings
Meghan Steenburgh

Nonvoting Members:

Lucas Saltzman

Visitors:

Darrell Vincek

Meeting called to order: 5:49 PM

Minutes review and approval from 9.26 – Mollie Harings motioned to approve and Melissa McDermott seconded. All were in favor.

Principal's Report:

Upcoming events:

- Oct 20th – A-Thon
- Oct 21st – Inservice Day...no school for students
- Oct 26-28th – Parent/Teacher Conferences
- Oct 25th – Explorations

Projects/Committee Updates: ASD is going beyond the State mandate and requiring all schools to submit a School Improvement Plan. It is a good way to get involved in the data and understand our school better. I'll host lunch on Nov 8th for anyone interested in seeing the process.

Budget: Our current enrollment is 377. Our budget is built on 375 so we anticipate a small surplus if enrollment stays at 377 through the count period. Lucas will present next year's budget at our Nov APC meeting.

Presentation by Principal:

Current charter says "school proposes to have 400 students divided into classes of 24 in the primary grades and 25 in the intermediate grades." Waitlist is 663. 11, 12 enrollment is 385.

Intermediate class size has been high for five years. At least ½ the intermediate classes each year have class size between 27 & 29.

Classroom placement for intermediate students has gotten progressively more difficult.

Current stats: the school enrolls 60 new K a year. Historically school lost 20 students as they got older. Currently the school loses about 10 by 6th grade.

3 multi K/1, 2/3, 4/5

10 straight

2 combo ¾, 5/6

Multiage same teacher for two years, alternating science and social studies, approach from the 70s.

Multiage is NOT acceleration in anyway (unbalanced classes are very difficult to teach)

Creates confusion with the ¾ and 5/6 classrooms. They are not multiage options as many parents assume.

Considerations:

Space: computer lab

Planning Time: increases to classroom teachers creates more instruction for Specialists, PE, Music, Intermediate Spanish and Art are very close to the planning time limit allowed in the contract. It is possible that they may not be able to teach math if we add classrooms.

Cost: a loss of students and/or increase in staff. Teacher = 100K and 10 students 10K

Climate: both options have parents with very strong feelings about the options

Possible Scenarios:

- Reduce K entry numbers and go to straight grades
- Add one teacher and end multiage at 3rd grade (Lucas recommendation)
- Add two intermediate classrooms
- Stay the same but improve communication and supports (Lucas recommendation)

Lucas will be talking to teachers about this after conference.

Long-Range Technology funding plan

5 chrome book carts. 20 ipads prior to that 10 ipads. We have 10 old ipads. 10 ipads a year at 4,500. Chrome book buy 15 a year at 3,900 - \$260 a piece

Teacher laptops won't need to be on our annual budget, because we are moving into a lending pattern through the ASD.

15K a year is what we typically spend on maintenance. Recommended to use the \$25 from the student activities fees. Transfer \$7,500 from teaching supplies and use the student activity fund as a matching scenario. Give 3K budget buffer for replacing equip as it breaks.

Rich Crosby motioned to use \$7,500 this year from the student activity fees and the school will match the \$7,500 from our budget to update and replace technology. Melissa McDermott seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Accounting:

Went to an ASD budget meeting last week.

Teacher Representative:

Melissa McDermott – grading day is coming up. Presentors will come to our school to do training with us here on-site.

Lynda VanWinkle – NEA Fall Conference (ESSA group will be having a community forum Nov 19th.)

Survey Committee:

Going over Math survey draft

Melissa McDermott motioned to move the December APC meeting to Dec 12th at 5:45. Mollie Harings seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Regular Meeting adjourned at 7:29 PM.

Called into Executive Session to discuss finances as it relates to personnel. Executive Session was adjourned at 7:40 PM.