

**LCEFC/RMDS Board Agenda**  
**Thursday, February 25, 2010**  
**6:00 PM**  
**1921 Youngfield St.**  
**Golden, CO 80401**  
**APPROVED**

Present: Christine Pendley (Board President)  
David Wilcox (Board Vice President)  
Stephanie Carson (Staff Representative)  
Kelly Baldwin (Staff Representative)  
Lisa Hann (Educational Representative)  
Anne Marie Baer (Community Representative)  
Rob Gerk (Community Representative)

Absent: Lara Balczarck (Educational Representative)

Guests: Alison Talbert, Bob Hughes, John Dickinson, Eric Pendley

Interpreters: Lynda Rimmel, Tricia Frank

Meeting called to order at 6:06 pm by Chris Pendley.

Overview of Agenda: No changes to the agenda.

Approval of the minutes - December 3, 2010 minutes approved as written. January 28, 2010 minutes will be brought before the Board for approval at the next meeting.

Staff Representatives Report - CSAP testing will take place for the next 2 weeks. Literacy night was an Olympic theme and we had the book fair at the same time.

Owner's Rep/Building Report – Bob Hughes reported that he just came from a meeting with the BEST staff. They understand and stated in a public meeting that RMDS is in an old, decrepit and unsafe building for students. We will be completing and submitting the BEST grant application by the target date of March 12. We want to review the application carefully and set the bar high. The Governor's Energy Office wants to be involved in the new school and has a memorandum to be signed by Chris and Janet.

Boetcher foundation - turned in application

Gates Family foundation - asked the committee to submit a request

Pinnacle Insurance - questions on the amount for this foundation

Suncore Energy - has requested the committee to submit a request

Denver Rotary Club - looking into working with RMDS

Golf tournament - finding sponsors

RMDS has covered \$8000 for Building Team/meeting interpreter's fees. With recent donor commitments, this expense should be able to be reimbursed back to RMDS via the Building Fund then covered through the BEST grant upon approval.

The topic of property acquisition needs to be added to Executive Session so Chris can update the Board regarding a recent change.

Owner's Representative - The Building team recommends SEH Inc. as Owner's Representative. The role of this person is to go over building costs, plans, and goals. This individual is responsible for the general contractor bids, contractors, and overseeing the construction. SHE Inc is familiar with the BEST and LEED building standard and has the capacity for back up support. This individual has been raised within the Deaf culture and community. Has been involved with the Iowa School for the Deaf and is already very involved with fund raising.

**Rob Gerk moves that we sign with SEH Inc. as our Owner's Representative for RMDS.**

**Kelly seconds the motion**

**All in favor**

**Discussion - none**

**Motion passes**

Staff Salary Increases - Year end projection is \$28,457 with the two students added. We still owe Jeffco \$17,104. With the proposed 50% increases we would pay off the Jeffco deficit and carry forward \$11,353. PPR is believed to be at 5.2% (roughly\$6000), it is not included in these current numbers but is expected to be rescinded. Alison clarified that Jeffco did receive a step increase and it is an on going increase.

**David Wilcox moves that we table the Staff Salary Increases until we have enough present for a quorum. Hold the motion for the March 6<sup>th</sup> meeting.**

**Rob Gerk seconds**

**All in favor**

**Motion passes**

**David Wilcox moves that we authorize the chair of the board and the director of the school the authority to sign documents related to the BEST grant that do not included monetary commitments.**

**Rob Gerk seconds**

**All in favor**

**Motion Passes**

Building Fund Budget – A 501c3 has not been established for the Building Fund; therefore any funds directly donated to this fund are not tax deductible. Currently Melissa Peterson is the only signer on the account but a second signer on the account is recommended. The process for the 501c3 is for funds to be deposited into the Clerc fund as a line item then transferred into the Building Fund account.

Director's Report – The Building Lease will be up soon and the options we have are to sign a 3 year lease with a one-time pull out for when the new building is complete. The landlord is aware that we will not sign a new lease until some things are repaired. We would like to set up a 2 year lease with a 1 year option to pull out once the building is complete. We will not sign until we see the environmental testing report for the unit adjacent to RMDS in order to see if it is environmentally safe to expand our high school into this unit.

High School - We have the possibility of having 6 new students. We need to consider where they can be put. If we are able to expand into the next unit over, it would be an additional \$1000 per month. Alison is comfortable with negotiating with the landlord for the new lease. Right now we are in a research stage and the lease does not expire until June.

Deaf Plus Program – Janet reported that currently there are 3 students that are on the autism spectrum in this program. There are 5 students total; 3 all day in self contained classroom and 2 partial days. Janet currently has a waiting list for this program. Research from Gallaudet shows that of every 3 deaf children, 1 is also identified as autistic. The questions that Janet poses to the Board are:

1. How do we identify these students?
2. Do we keep the Plus Program?
3. Do we expand the program?
4. What is the percentage of students that we have in the school?
5. How much of the student population do you want to have in this school with this program?

Janet does not want to expand the program more than what the board's vision may be. The program could have a cap to insure we meet the needs of these students. It is suggested that this should be researched more before a decision is made. Consideration for this program is important because it impacts the design of the new building. If we are going to expand this program, it needs to be included in the BEST grant application. The Board can address this further.

Staff Surveys – When collecting the survey results, “good” and “excellent” were grouped together while “needs work” and “poor” were grouped together. The survey results were shared with the board. All the staff comments from the survey will be brought to the retreat.

Parent Survey – David Wilcox reported the survey results from the parent survey. There were 16 or 17 respondents. Most results show a positive perspective. One trend that seems to occur year after year is the issue of “deaf of deaf” and “deaf of hearing”. This may be a cultural identity that needs to be addressed. Another issue that is reoccurring is the topic of Spoken English. These are items that should be considered to be addressed.

Board enters Executive Session at 9:57pm.  
Board exits Executive Session at 10:19pm  
Meeting adjourned at 10:19pm