

**LCEFC/RMDS Board Agenda**  
**Emergency Board Meeting**  
**Thursday, May17, 2010**  
**6:30 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)  
Rob Gerk (Business Representative)  
Lisa Hann (Educational Representative)  
Anne Marie Baer (Community Representative)

**Guests:** Bill Bethke (RMDS Attorney)  
Nancy Bridenbaugh

**Absent:** Lara Balczarck (Educational Representative)

**Interpreters:** Tricia Frank and Kirk Neuroth

Meeting called to order at 6:35 pm

**Public Comments:**

Jerry Wilcox was not in attendance at the last meeting and is wondering what transpired to cause the director to resign. He is hoping to get some answers at tonight's meeting.

Jo Damita is shocked and wondering how the parents feel.

Bill Bethke shared with everyone that at the May 13<sup>th</sup> meeting the general view that was expressed was for Janet to stay; yet what was seen and the recent outcome are different.

Myra Martinez asked the board if anyone had reached out to Janet to specifically ask why she resigned. It leaves Myra wondering what has been happening behind the scene.

The President reassured Myra that one board member did reach out to Janet, but ultimately it was Janet's decision to resign. We, the board, cannot answer for Janet; if there was another reason why, that would be for Janet to say. Bill Bethke added that Janet's letter was positive. No one at the last meeting asked for her resignation.

Lisa Ruck raised the issue that thousands of dollars have been donated and raised with the understanding that Janet would be leading the new building project. A lot of people had trust and confidence in Janet and now are feeling perplexed; feeling that something is missing and parents have a right to know.

Nikki raised concern about a job that was recently offered to her to teach drama class at RMDS.

The President reminded the community that RMDS was founded 14 years ago; RMDS consists of staff, parents, students, the board and the community. It is important for RMDS to move forward. We need to show the Best Grant that we have goals and are united and strong. Janet's resignation is unfortunate but it is important that we pursue RMDS's goals. We still have a need to get the job done.

Ann Marie specifically asked Justin Buckhold about a prior relationship Veditz Center had with John Dickinson's company, Winter & Co, to see if there was connection between Janet's resignation and correspondence from the Veditz Center. Justin Buckhold responded by letting the board know that issue came up years ago and has nothing to do with the current situation.

Eric Pendley has been working a lot with Janet and the Building Team. He wonders if after all of the hard work that Janet has put into the school, that possibly she got to a point of being burnt out and felt it was time to move on.

#### Director's Resignation:

Janet Dickinson's Jeffco purchase card, school keys and access code are all taken care of. E-mail accounts will be taken care of Tuesday. Bill Bethke suggested that Janet be contacted to insure she doesn't have any school files, particularly student related information, on a hard drive at her home.

Two bank accounts need to have Janet's named removed and replaced with additional signers. Janet will need to be removed from the Building Corporation and another individual added as a signer to that account.

#### Public Comments:

Myra Martinez wonders how Janet's resignation will be explain to the kids and what should parents personally tell their children. Nancy Bridenbaugh informed attendees that she had a short meeting with the staff. Everyone has decided to be positive and support each other and move forward. Janet's resignation was announced to the kids.

Rachel Grumbach would like a letter to be sent out so that parents can be helping.

#### Appointment of a New Active Director:

Upon Janet's resignation and the President speaking with several different people, everyone the President spoke with mentioned Nancy Bridenbaugh as an appropriate person to fill the Director's position until someone is hired. Stephanie Carson informed the Board that the teachers and staff are supportive of Nancy and willing to step up to help get the job done. Bill Bethke suggested a search committee be formed; this is under the Sunshine Act. A Search Committee helps develop a job application, establish time frames, sets up the process and selection procedure.

Jane Johnson spoke to inform the Board that D'Evelyn experienced something similar and asked the staff, parents, and students to be involved selected the new director. Stephanie mentioned RMDS had a search committee in the past that included 7 staff and parents. Amy Novotny led the last search committee and would be willing to pass that information onto Stephanie.

David Anthony would like to see community reps. He feels it is important for the community reps to give a report to the deaf community. Gwen let Mr. Anthony know we post our agendas and past minutes on the RMDS website. Justin Buckhold suggested RMDS networking with other organizations in the deaf community to help keep people informed.

Julie Moers would like to see a marketing team and is willing to share some ideas at a later time.

The Board needs to decide what should be included in a letter to the parents in order to inform them that Nancy is willing to take on the Director's position until we can find a permanent replacement as well as a letter to Jeffco informing them of Janet's resignation. The points in the letter should include: date of resignation, Nancy's appointment, Nancy's involvement at RMDS, search for new director, BEST Grant and continued pursuit of new school, staff's positive support and commitment.

**Rob Gerck moves that the board to approve Nancy Bridenbaugh as the Interim Director until a new Director is hired.**

**Anne Marie seconds. All in favor. Motion passes**

Janet needs to be removed from the Clerc Fund accounts and new signers need to be added.

**David Wilcox moves for Rob Gerck and Nancy Bridenbaugh to be added as cosigners on the Clerc Fund and remove Janet Dickinson's name from the account.**

**Kelly Baldwin seconds. 6 in favor, one opposition. Motion passes**

An e-mail needs to be drafted and sent out regarding the search committee. It should be sent to the staff, parents, board and community. In the e-mail it should say that commitment to the search committee is long-term and should include a few questions regarding qualifications.

Charter Contracts/Waivers:

The previous motion to have the Charter Contract signed was too specific and now void so a new motion needs to be made. The contract has been approved electronically but Jeffco is waiting for the signed paper copy to be delivered so it can be added to the Jeffco agenda.

**Rob Gerck moves that the Vice-President of the board be authorized to sign the Charter Contract with Jeffco.**

**Stephanie Carson seconds. All in favor. Motion passes**

**Stephanie Carsons moves the Board enter Executive Session for discussion of letter of recommendation for Janet Dickinson at 8:43 pm – Personnel C.S.R. 24-6-402(4)(f)(II)**

**Kelly Baldwin seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.**

**Kelly Baldwin moves the Board exit Executive Session at 9:13 pm.**

**Anne Marie seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.**

**Anne Marie moves the Board President write a letter of recommendation for the former director to include her strengths and employment skills over the last four years.**

**Kelly Baldwin seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.**

Meeting adjourned at 9:23 pm