

**Two Rivers Community School
Board of Directors Agenda
November 28, 2022**

Present: Melissa Thomas, Dawn Shumate, Helen Root, Cacey Wells, Amy Gardner, April Flanders, Twila Wingrove, Natalie Oransky, Clint Byers

Absent: Carole Greene, Tara Stollenmaier

Meeting Opening

The meeting was called to order by the Director, Melissa Thomas, at 5:35. Oransky moved to add discussion of the dispute resolution policy to the agenda. Flanders seconded. Flanders moved to approve the agenda with that amendment; Wells seconded. Unanimous Approval.

Wells moved to approve the minutes from the October meeting; Thomas seconded. 8 in favor, 1 abstention.

Thomas provided opportunity for declarations of conflict and public comments. None made.

Flanders read aloud Board of Directors Policy 5: Governance Process, Board Leadership, Ends, and Executive Limitation Review. Wells moved to affirm the policy, Thomas seconded. Discussion followed. Board members agree that they should consider clarifying the language that speaks to the principal's roles and responsibilities when the board begins their review of the Board policies. Unanimous affirmation of current policy.

School Beautification

Oransky shared staff feedback with the board about desired campus improvements. Discussion ensued as to where the efforts should begin (inside versus outside; main building versus classrooms). Gardner suggested we write a grant for Lowe's to complete a project. Thomas agreed to draft an email to the PR officer to share our mission and find out more information about the Lowe's Charitable and Educational Grant program.

Oransky stressed that she's going to start giving tours in March, and so if we're going to update campus, we need to start. PTO would like to organize time for volunteers to come to campus and help with updates/repairs. Byers suggested getting community partners to sponsor rooms.

Strategic Planning

The Board discussed the challenge that TRCS is not up to enrollment, so it is hard to plan for a new campus. Oransky posed the question whether the next five years should be focused more on campus updates and enrollment rather than property purchasing. The Board consensus was that we should focus on enrollment, beautification, and exploring land opportunities to get a sense of baseline costs.

Fundraising

Vidalia fundraiser has to be canceled due to sickness. Looking at next spring. The aim of the event is getting our message out to potential donors in the community. The 5K that the Board considered organizing isn't going to happen this year.

PTO Updates

Working on teacher appreciation for next month, trying to coordinate a social event—bowling for the school for students and families. T-shirt fundraiser—ask Valentine to print some; holiday store is accepting donations—families donate items, kids pay \$1 to buy presents for their families; in person scholastic book fair/family night with food and family activities

Policy

Wingrove announced she will send around a technology policy draft to be reviewed before the January meeting.

McKinney-Vento Dispute Resolution Policy

Oransky explained that the dispute resolution policy must be updated by January 31 as mandated by the state. The McKinney-Vento dispute resolution policy is state-directed. Oransky circulated the draft. Wingrove moved to approve the policy, Thomas seconded. Unanimous approval.

Executive Reports

Thomas announced that Board member Connie Root resigned.

Director's Notes:

State Compliance:

- It has been difficult to schedule the TRCS audit, but Oransky is working on it.

Finances:

- Two recent favorable changes: Adding Wilkes County to our budget with 3 new students; Ashe County's per pupil amount increased. With these changes, the shortfall has reduced quite a bit.
- TRCS will need to hire speech therapists and will need increases in building/repairs budget items.
- The fundraising letter went out to the TRCS community.

Staffing:

- Two unfilled positions: kindergarten teacher; unfilled after school position

Enrollment

- Shared enrollment plans, including intent to return forms, timeline, and open houses

Marketing Discussion

The Board decided to move forward with advertising on the digital billboard at the intersection of Highway 421 and Old Highway 421. This will cost about \$2000 for 3 weeks.

Staff Representative Report

There has been continued professional development on Restorative Justice. The staff appreciate that this training has been ongoing and is really becoming ingrained in the school environment. One concern that some folks had was the idea that there were no consequences with a restorative approach, so they are working on correcting that misunderstanding.