

Board of Stewards meeting December 10, 2007
5:30 PM Delta VISION Office

Stewards present: Kimborlee Etter, Jim Wood, Barb Hulet, Jim Link, Ann Stinson and Snub Lilies.

Directors: Sara Sharer, Caryn Braddy, Amy Miller and Moni Slater.

DO personnel: John Jones

Others: Dick Nunamaker, Trona Denny (Delta students: Marylee Couch, Amanda Gresham)

Meeting officially began at 6:10 PM

There is discussion of rescheduling the January Stewards meeting to give time for the Delta VISION to present their contract proposal to the BOS. The decision is to leave the meeting scheduled for the 14th of January at the Paonia VISION office.

Approval of minutes is tabled as they have not been completed.

Ann Stinson will resign from the BOS effective 3/31/2008. She is giving the North Fork and the BOS a four month notice so a replacement may be found.

Program percentage rates for legal fees are as follows: Delta – 58%, Surface Creek – 30% and North Fork – 12%.

Discussion on the budget response from the DO regarding carryover and budget reporting. The DO will still provide the programs with an excel spreadsheet showing their actual monthly budget, but those amounts will not be reflected on the Alpha Micro system and reports that go to the BOE.

Sara reported that Randy Fisher CPA firm in Paonia has stated that VHCP can merge into the TLC 501c3. The TLC has to agree to adopt the VHCP bylaws or there may need to be some minimal revisions. Sara will continue communications with the TLC board. They have signed a power of attorney with Randy Fisher so he can contact the IRS and continue with the legal requirements of the process. A final proposal will be presented at the January BOS meeting to adopt the TLC 501c3 or move forward with a new 501c3. TLC would like to maintain the ability to do separate fundraising and retain a separate financial account for that purpose, it is possible that both entities would operate under one board.

Students from the Delta VISION Journalism class are introduced to the BOS.

Treasurers report from Jim Link: Jim is now officially on the VHCP, Inc. bank account located in Paonia. Jim proposes that we have 1 or 2 people prepare invoices, pay bills and reconcile the bank account. It is also proposed that the account be a “two signature” required account for processing payments. There will be 3 people as designated signatory and they will be the President, Secretary and treasurer of the BOS. The proposal passes by consensus.

5 year planning committee reports that they have looked at several strategic plans from other schools. Each program is conducting different surveys for their communities. There are 8 critical questions that need to be addressed. Responses will be back by 12/17/2007. Barb Hulet will present the questions to the DAC on the 12/14/2007. A report will be presented to the BOS at the January meeting. All programs will need to include their budget needs.

Discussion on the Surface Creek facility crisis. Amy Miller presented cost projections from the District Office for use of the old Cedaredge Middle School rooms. Those are \$330 per month for 2 small office spaces, they are unclear of the cost of classroom space. There are questions about cost and a District policy that states that schools and other non-profits can use at “no charge” space that is available and not being used by the District. The District office would also ask that the Surface Creek office pay for all improvements needed to make the space useable by the program.

The discussion moves to creating an MOU that clearly states that any monies spent on improvements to the District facilities are credited back to the program for a “future facility”. The current facilities being used by the Surface Creek office do not meet District School codes. There is also discussion of using capital reserves which is currently \$290 per student (those monies have never been accessed by the VISION programs).

North Fork report: They currently have seven new student inquiries, have new computers in their office and are moving forward with the Self Design paperless proposal. NF has several new academic programs in place which include; Learning Labs, Pizza & Practice, and Internships for students.

Sara’s update on the new Learning Plans. She is very impressed with what she is seeing and feels like the RC’s are understanding the process. John feels that the DO can help us write goals and the Individual Learning plans need to include more specific data. Mastery is the key goal.

Delta update on the BOE meeting. Delta presented statistics for CSAP and sample sizes. They will be working on other measures of growth. Delta is contracting with Scantron to show qualitative methods and additional ways of showing program growth. John felt the report was well received by the BOE overall.

The VHCP is looking for ways to help the BOE understand that statistics are important and we need to deflect the negative PR that is still being generated and presented to the public regarding CSAP scores.

Discussion for the timeline on contract negotiations. The District would like to begin that process shortly after the first of the year. The BOS need to determine “WHO” should be involved in the negotiation process. They will include the Directors in those initial discussions and processes. It is also necessary to compare the current MOU to the approved Montessori contract. The non-negotiables need to be mapped out and agreed upon before the process begins. Ideas and suggestions need to be brought to the January BOS meeting.

Trona moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Trona Denny