



Board of Directors Meeting
Location: The Vanguard Library

***** Wednesday, May 17, 2023 *****

Working Session 5:00 P.M.
Public Session 6:00 P.M.

Minutes

1. Call to Order

Matt Hughes called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. Matt Hughes, Eric Koppisch, and Kurt Peters were present. Rene' Chatham attended via phone. Sperry Redd attended virtually.

2. Approval of Agenda

Kurt Peters moved to approve the agenda. It was decided to strike item #12, Executive Session. **Eric Koppisch seconded the motion. All voted yes. The motion was approved.**

3. Consent Items

- Approval of Minutes, April 19, 2023
Kurt Peters moved to approve the April board meeting minutes. Eric Koppisch seconded the motion. All voted yes. The motion was approved.
- Separations
 - Monique Griffin K-3 Non-instructional Aide
 - Bianca Salcido K-3 Non-instructional Aide
- New Hires
 - Caleb Knierim Custodian (summer hire)

4. Treasurer's Report

Diane Borre presented the Treasurer's Report and reviewed the financials as of April 30, 2023.

5. 2023-24 Budget Approval

The board was presented with the first draft of the 2023-24 budget, and Matt Hughes read the following resolution:

Be it resolved by the Board of Education of The Vanguard School District/BOCES in El Paso County, that the amounts shown in the following schedule be appropriated to each fund as specified in the Adopted Budget for the ensuing fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2024.

	<i>Appropriation Amount</i>
<i>General Fund</i>	\$ 18,705,277
<i>Bond Redemption Fund</i>	\$ 1,500,000
<i>Enterprise Funds</i>	\$ 254,000
<i>Total Appropriation:</i>	\$ 20,459,277

Kurt Peters moved to approve the 2023-2024 budget resolution as read. Eric Koppisch seconded the motion. All voted yes. The motion was approved.

Kurt Peters moved to approve the increase in Student Instructional Materials Fees from \$100 to \$125 for the 2023-24 school year. Renee Henslee explained that the bulk items, which are hard to store at school, are being removed from the materials list which will balance out the small increase in the fee. Eric Koppisch seconded the motion. All voted yes. The motion was approved.

6. Board Election Results

Mr. Hughes announced that of the three candidates, Tracy Coons, D. Scott Hartman, and Tiffany Wherry, who ran for the open board seat in the 2023 election, Tracy Coons won the election with 57.7% of the votes cast.

7. PTO Bylaws Approval and Reinstatement

Kurt Peters moved to approve the revised PTO Bylaws. Eric Koppisch seconded the motion. All voted yes. The motion was approved.

Kurt Peters moved to reinstate the PTO at The Vanguard School. Eric Koppisch seconded the motion. All voted yes. The motion was approved.

Matt Hughes stated that initial officer positions of the PTO will be appointed by The Vanguard School Board of Directors and officers shall remain in office initially for a period of two years for all positions except the President, who shall step down after one year and enter an advisory position during the second year. The President shall be replaced by the person who was appointed to the temporary position of President-Elect during the first year. After the initial two-year period, elections will be held for PTO officers.

Mr. Hughes announced the following appointments for 2023-24 PTO officers:

Veronica Hughes	President for first year, then advisor to President-Elect during second year
Alisha Bond	President-Elect
Ariel Ryan	Vice President
Erylin Serra-Ward	Treasurer
Ashley Warner	Secretary

He added that school administration will determine the school liaison.

8. Strategic Plan Update

Health

- The school went through a short-notice, low-risk health inspection on May 5. The inspection focused only on our K-3 school. Overall, the inspection went extremely well, with only four findings, none major. We are preparing a response that is due back to County Public Health on May 22.

Security

- The school's annual spring Secure/Lockdown drills were held on April 27 (Elementary) and May 11 (Secondary). Drills went well and accomplished all stated objectives.

Enrollment

- Courser Roundup Day was held on May 6. The event included support from enrollment, nurse, business office, and information across all grade levels, athletics, and volunteer support. Over four hundred families attended over the course of the day.
- The current enrollment projection for next year stands at 1650, which is higher than our intended target number. We continue to assess numbers at each grade level and are enrolling accordingly.

HR

- We launched our new HRIS platform BambooHR on May 5. Since the launch, we have received over thirty applications for our job openings, as our recruiting/hiring process will continue during the summer break. We have not only expanded our job advertising with ZipRecruiter, Glassdoor, and Indeed, but have posted our open positions with the University of Denver, CSU-Pueblo, UCCS, Colorado College, and Pikes Peak State College on their job boards.
- Mr. Krueger and Mr. Macher attended the UCCS student-teacher orientation meeting with the UCCS College of Education department on May 8. It was the first step in bridging our two organizations, as UCCS has identified potential student teacher candidates to participate in the program with The Vanguard School.
- Mr. Macher met with Derrick Martin (CDE Teacher Recruiting Manager) and Sherry Jenkins (Transition Manager at Fort Carson) to have discussions and gather insight into strategizing methods for teacher recruitment and retention. We are also in the early stages of being part of the Troops-to-Teachers program, as that program is returning in support of service members pursuing a teaching career.

IT

- Devices from our laptop order should begin arriving this month.
- End-of-year event planning and A/V support are underway. We are partnering with Woodmen Valley Chapel again for baccalaureate and graduation support.
- We saw virtual demonstrations for two viable options for emergency response systems that support mobile communication, emergency attendance tracking, and reunification management. We plan to discuss these options in depth in early June.
- A new radio repeater will be installed in early June which should provide better coverage across all channels and decrease the chance of having "channel busy" issues.

Facilities

- The new turf scoreboard was recently installed with a plan to provide power this week by trenching means, if the weather permits. During the same timeframe, electrical conduit will be installed underground connecting to each of the four field lights to allow installing an outside exterior speaker system in the near future for emergency broadcasting and sporting event announcements.
- Work on a new kindergarten office is scheduled to begin in June which will provide a location for staff and family members to meet with counselors and other staff in a quiet setting.

- Construction plans are being considered that would convert Mod E to an open exercise facility location for smaller, diverse, specialized exercise classes.
- The Vanguard School is currently participating in the Colorado Water for Kids NE Region water testing program which requires every school to test their drinking and cooking water by the end of May 2023.
- Both the Wahsatch and Corona campuses will have a new coat of asphalt applied starting June 5, followed by painting the parking lot spaces.
- The Modular I foundation construction project is scheduled to begin on June 7.
- Plans are being developed that would repair and renovate both the kindergarten and K-3 playgrounds with a new resurfacing turf material, modernized playground equipment, fencing, and landscaping modifications.

9. Executive Director's Report – Renee Henslee

General / K-12 Overview

- Staff were well cared for during Teacher Appreciation Week by both administration and parents.

Elementary / K-6

- Color Day was full of team building and sportsmanship across both campuses to include relays, homeroom activities, and character and culture building across grade levels. Staff members shared that it was good for students to see teachers and administrators highly involved in the events. Students shared that it was fun, and they valued the time spent with kids in other grades.
- Sixth graders visited the junior high Dome to familiarize themselves with the building and teachers and to practice with the lockers.
- Fifth- and sixth-grade music concerts have shared beautiful sound resonating in the Cafetorium. Fourth graders will share their recorders at the May 19 assembly.
- Kindergarten students did their Poetry Recitations on May 12, and students in grades 1-6 will have an end-of-year Poetry Recitation during the week of May 22.
- Across the elementary, we are gearing up for Field Day on May 26 and hope to have parent volunteers and high school students support our efforts.

Junior High / 7-8

- Student Council hosted a successful dodgeball tournament where seventh- and eighth-grade homeroom teams were paired together to compete in a bracket leading to the ultimate challenge of taking on their teachers. The tournament was a great success.
- The Moving Up Ceremony is coming up on May 25, when we will celebrate the achievement and progress of our eighth-grade class of 2023, as they move into high school.
- Students and staff alike are preparing this final week for the upcoming Spring semester exams by completing course study guides and reviewing together in their classes.

High School / 9-12

- Two of our juniors deserve recognition for these outstanding achievements: Ruoxi Hu took first place and earned the highest score in Colorado in the American Mathematics Competition. William Mays earned the Ira C. Eaker Award and the rank of Lt. Colonel in the Civil Air Patrol.
- Gear Up for College and Signing Day were both attended by the entire high school. Underclassmen were able to see how our seniors' hard work and diligence paid off.
- Senior semester exams are taking place this week, and students in grades 9-11 will take their exams next week.
- Baccalaureate is this Friday evening followed by graduation on Saturday morning. For our sixty-four seniors and two foreign exchange students, this is the culmination of their Vanguard experience.

Athletics

- Junior High
 - Coach Gregor and her girls soccer team ended their season with an admirable record. Coach Gregor spoke at the last assembly about how she was so proud of the development she saw over the season from such a young team and their heart to compete at a high level.
 - Both boys lacrosse and track and field will wrap up this week. Both teams have enjoyed great success throughout this spring season, and each athlete has worked very hard to maintain eligible grades in order to support their team.
- Girls Golf
 - Freshman Lily Blanchard earned Tri Peaks League All-Conference honors.
- Track and Field
 - Tri Peaks League All-Conference
 - 1st Team / Girls: Isabel Perez and Elizabeth Poli
 - Honorable Mention / Boys: Matthew Campos
- Girls Tennis
 - The entire varsity team qualified for the 3A State tournament.
 - Senior Jordyn VanManen won third place in #1 Singles.
 - The varsity team won the 3A Region 6 Championship.
- Boys Volleyball
 - Varsity coach Andrew Soeldner was selected as Coach of the Year for the Pikes Peak 2 League.
 - 1st Team All-Conference: Lucas Soeldner, Alex Gritsyna, and J.J. Wetters
- Boys Lacrosse
 - The team earned their first two victories in program history this season.
 - 1st Team All-League: Jordan Colt
 - 2nd Team All-League: Joseph Steadman
- Congratulations to our four senior student athletes who signed their National Letters of Intent to play collegiately next school year:
 - Hailey Blanchard / Maine Maritime Academy - Girls Basketball
 - Juliana Garcia / Colorado College - Girls Basketball
 - Matthew Campos / UCCS - Cross Country & Track
 - Luciano Camarena / Adams State College - Boys Soccer

These four were recognized in front of their families and peers on May 8, during activities period.

10. Board Items

Board Comments

- Rene' Chatham congratulated the Matchwits team for an outstanding year.
- Kurt Peters commented that it is great that we got the scoreboard, and it will be exciting to have for next year. He added that the lacrosse season has been fantastic, and the concert was well done with student conductors. Dr. Peters concluded by saying he was looking forward to having the band play for graduation.
- Eric Koppisch thanked all in attendance as well as the three strong board candidates. He offered his congratulations to Tracy Coons. Mr. Koppisch added that Color Day was fabulous with all the classes in different colors; the administration in rainbow was a nice touch.
- Eric Koppisch showed a video clip of the 5th/6th grade choir concert noting that these concerts don't get as much recognition as some events. He added that the students did a fabulous job with the last song of their concert which made the important point that "we are one."

- Sperry Redd congratulated Ms. Coons on her board election win and thanked her for her interest in contributing to our school. He stated that he is happy that PTO is back online and thinks it is a great way to involve more parents. Mr. Redd concluded by congratulating all our graduates.
- Matt Hughes commented that *Seussical* and all the choir, band, and strings concerts were wonderful. He stated that he is happy to have PTO back, and parent participation is needed. Mr. Hughes congratulated Ms. Coons on winning the open board seat.


Upcoming

- The next public board meeting is scheduled for June 14, 2023.

11. Adjournment

Kurt Peters moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:34 P.M. Eric Koppisch seconded the motion. All voted yes. The motion was approved.


Matt Hughes, President 6-14-2023
Date


Rene Chatham, Secretary 6/14/23
Date