



THE Vanguard School

Board of Directors Meeting Location: The Vanguard Library

This meeting will also be livestreamed.

A link and instructions to view will be emailed to our community within 24 hours of this meeting.

******* Wednesday, March 20, 2024 *******

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 6:09 P.M. Rene' Chatham, Tracy Coons, Matt Hughes, Eric Koppisch, and Kurt Peters were present.

2. Approval of Agenda

Kurt Peters moved to approve the agenda. It was decided to strike item #10, Executive Session. Tracy Coons seconded the motion. All voted yes. The motion was approved.

3. Consent Items

- Approval of Minutes, February 21, 2024
Rene' Chatham moved to approve the February board meeting minutes. Tracy Coons seconded the motion. All voted yes. The motion was approved.
- New Hires:
 - Kristene Dey Grade 3 Teacher
 - Rebecca Hookey K-3 Groups Teacher

4. Treasurer's Report

Eric Koppisch presented the Treasurer's Report and reviewed the financials as of February 29, 2024.

5. Review of Board Election Process

Matt Hughes reviewed the board election process:

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

- Interested candidates must notify the Board in writing of their intent to run for office by this date.

Wednesday, April 17, 2024 - Regular Board Meeting

- Board will verify by resolution that the candidates are eligible to run.

- *Meet the Candidates Forum* at 7:00 P.M. (following the Board meeting in the Vanguard library) / This will be livestreamed and also posted on our website during the election timeframe.

Tuesday, May 7, 2024

- Voting begins via online questionnaire. Up to two parents or legal guardians of a child enrolled at The Vanguard School are entitled to one vote each for the open Board position.

Tuesday, May 14, 2024

- Voting ends at 4:00 P.M.
- Results will be announced at the regular board meeting on Wednesday, May 15, 2024

Wednesday, June 12, 2024 – Regular Board Meeting

- Current and new Director attend
- New Director is sworn in

Wednesday, September 18, 2024 – Regular Board Meeting

- Board reorganization is considered

6. Strategic Plan Update

Health

- Our AED program is getting re-authorized this month.
- The secondary school went through a short-notice audit from the El Paso County Public Health Department and passed with zero discrepancies.

Security

- Lockdown drills were held across all campuses on March 11. These regularly scheduled drills are part of the school's annual training plan. This drill was instructional in nature with the primary objective of raising awareness among our students and staff. The drill focused on educating students on the basics of these plans. Teachers spent time discussing the purpose of these procedures and stepping through the proper response actions.
- The second security patrol vehicle is complete with the addition of an emergency light bar.
- Planning has begun for security coverage during summer semester.

Enrollment

- We have 217 newly enrolled K-11 students, with 140 in kindergarten.
- We had 26 applicants at our placement testing held last Saturday.
- The Annual Enrollment Update started on March 13 with a deadline of March 29.

HR

- Upcoming career fairs have been scheduled at the University of Northern Colorado, the University of New Mexico, and the University of Denver in April.
- Erick Macher recently attended the annual American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE) event in Aurora. This was an opportunity for the school to network with educator programs within and outside the state and gather hiring trends we will face in the upcoming year.
- Through our Student-Teacher Program with UCCS, we were able to hire one of our student teachers for a junior high history teaching position for next school year.

IT

- We were awarded a security grant for approximately \$40,000 to upgrade our aging fleet of radios, which act as our primary means of mobile emergency communication.
- We were also awarded \$80,000 through the Emergency Connectivity Fund to expand student computer access, primarily in the elementary school. Laptops will support expanded online testing requirements.

- Along with our Communications Officer and AdPro, our website hosting provider, we are working to ensure compliance with website accessibility requirements that go into effect July 1.

Facilities

- The Waco Scaffolding Company erected scaffolding for painting the mural on the high school.
- A new flagpole will be installed next month at the turf area.
- Next week the alarm system in the Corona campus buildings will be shut down with new modifications installed to eliminate numerous individual systems and reduce false alarms for the future.
- A mobile stage was ordered for graduation to eliminate the annual rental expense.

7. Executive Director's Report – Renee Henslee

General / K-12 Overview

- CMAS training and testing is right around the corner. Grades 3-8 will do CMAS testing between April 8 and April 26. Content assessed will include ELA and Math, as well as Science for grades 5 and 8. Grade 11 will do CMAS testing in Science on April 8. Administrators and teachers will be implementing support strategies based on the recent ITBS results to help prepare students for the upcoming CMAS tests.
- Detailed teacher evaluations have begun which synthesize multiple classroom observations from department chairs/team leads and building leaders. This provides a comprehensive picture of staff performance during the course of this school year.

Elementary / K-6

- Upper Elementary Student Council members attended Lower Elementary assemblies shared positivity and enthusiasm for the club and presented the character trait of the week.
- Kindergarten Readiness Night drew over a hundred parents who appreciated the information and are feeling more confident about sending their young ones to school next year.
- Knowledge Bowls are on the horizon; parents are signing up to run the events.
- Our seniors will be visiting kindergarten for the annual Bunny Hop, an event that is a highlight for both grade levels.

Junior High / 7-8

- Shadow days for eighth graders went well. While at our high school, they got to visit teachers, dress like high school students, attend clubs, and then talk about their experiences with their classmates and teachers.
- Mrs. Gregor put together a meeting with an astronaut for our students, and they really enjoyed the experience.
- The eighth grade Moving Up Ceremony is in the beginning stages of planning; it will be held on Thursday, May 30.

High School / 9-12

- Our varsity Matchwits team fought hard at the State Knowledge Bowl competition last week and earned third place among 3A teams and seventh place overall.
- Our EF Tour group left earlier today for their ten-day trip to Austria, Germany, and Switzerland. Six chaperones will accompany thirty-six of our students.

Athletics

- Our boys basketball team earned a spot at the State tournament, and the school spirit that was witnessed during this event was inspiring. Not only did every building on campus stream the game, but we had over one hundred fifty students and staff attend the games to cheer our boys. It was an amazing example of being a K-12 school! The boys finished the season with a 25-2 record and won District and Regional championships, as well.

- The boys lacrosse team is off to a strong start with a 3-1 record, and they are currently recognized as one of the three top attackers in the state.
- Spring high school and junior high sports are in full swing with 227 students participating in athletics this season – our highest participation rate ever. High school has 125 students, and junior high (including sixth graders) has 102 students.

8. Board Items

Board Comments

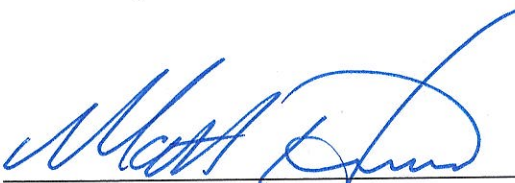
- Rene' Chatham commented that it was good to see Matchwits continue, and she offered kudos to Mr. Bishop and the students for their accomplishments.
- Tracy Coons expressed her excitement about having a mural on both campuses. She congratulated the students who were selected to attend the choir competition and also noted what an awesome experience the trip to Germany, Austria, and Switzerland will be for students and staff.
- Eric Koppisch thanked all who attended in person and online. He commented that the Knowledge Bowls going on this week are fun to watch, and he encouraged people to try to attend. Mr. Koppisch also offered congratulations to our Matchwits team, the boys basketball team, and Ms. Motaei, staff, and students who put on the junior high Shakespearian play.
- Kurt Peters commented on how well the lacrosse team is doing this year and how fantastic it was for our Matchwits team to win third place. He congratulated Mr. Wetters for leading the boys basketball team to second place in the state, and praised Ms. Lively for the girls team going to District. Dr. Peters added that we are getting good college acceptances so far, and we have to be proud of the school and what we are doing.
- Matt Hughes thanked all for joining the meeting this evening. He stated that the board is planning to hold another town hall soon. He noted that the Benefit Bash was a great success and offered special thanks to Kathy Kilimann, Debbie Gard, and all who supported this event. Mr. Hughes reminded parents that it is not too late to consider running for the open board seat for next year, if eligible; notice must be given to the board by April 3.

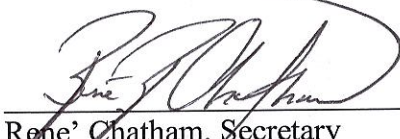
Upcoming

- The next public board meeting is scheduled for April 17, 2024.

9. Adjournment

Kurt Peters moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:28 P.M. Eric Koppisch seconded the motion. All voted yes. The motion was approved.

 4-17-2024
 Matt Hughes, President Date

 4/17/24
 Rene' Chatham, Secretary Date