

# VSSA PTA Minutes 2/1/17

## 1. Attendees:

Kim Strauch  
Kim Kohlhofer  
Geoff Grimmer  
Ashleigh Gore

## 2. All Approved November 11, 2016 Meeting Minutes

## 3. Treasurer Update

John Strickler has assumed role of PTA Treasurer. Stacey will transfer all files, checks and other info to John week of Feb 6, 2017.

## 4. Headmaster Report – Geoff Grimmer

### **Entire VSSA staff attended NorAms 2/1**

The day started with a breakfast. Cindy Suplizio who raced at CU gave staff general tutorial of the ski-racing scene.

The intent was for staff to learn more about how to appreciate a ski race and to team build as a group with some skiing in between. Also staff hopefully learned more about VSSA students' overall experience and will have greater empathy.

- Realize intensity of the sport
- Understand the build up and disappointments – miss a gate and you're out for the day!
- What does it mean to place top 10 vs 60
- Insight into how the athletes are feelings

To support traveling athletes academically, coaches fill out a Google Doc for teachers to know which students have excused absence 2 weeks in advance. Gibby and all staff can see this list of students. (It was noted that students in the past have claimed to be traveling but were not.)

Teacher empathy will grow organically through understanding.

To solidify learning, Geoff Grimmer proposed a follow up discussion or activity at staff meeting the following Monday.

### **Results from Parent Surveys**

Results will be shared with VSSA families week of Feb 6.

4 parents offered to participate on a steering committee. Geoff will follow up with them and start a focus group early February.

### **Red Sandstone Elementary**

Red Sandstone Elementary School is seeking approval for K-5 ski release program. This has been a big project that began this summer working with Marcie at Red Sandstone. Kids would ski with SSCV full days on Saturdays and Sundays, and then ski Tuesdays and Thursdays early release at 1:30pm. The program will not be snow sport specific. Kids will be exposed to many snow sports. A tutor will be included in the program. Kids would miss specials classes. First year goal is to enroll 20 kids.

The overall goals are to get more kids on skis younger and increase enrollment of Red Sandstone. This program will feed into VSSA and allow for greater student body planning. Enrollment at Red Sandstone has dropped from 280 to 215 and operating at a loss. District is considering bus service from Gypsum to Vail to support this and other programs.

Geoff Grimmer expressed concern of over-professionalizing and urges SSCV to keep it fun.

Proposal goes to the school board Feb 8.

### **Academic Fund**

Geoff has encountered overall positive responses. \$31,000 has been raised. Exceeded target by \$6,000. Appreciation dinner was a success!

### **VSSA Capital Improvements**

Eagle Valley has a 26 million budget for upcoming growth projects. 1.7 million is earmarked for VSSA facility but some estimate that number will be closer to 4.7 million if larger projects come in under budget. VSSA is perceived to have more resources than most other schools in Eagle County therefore is lower priority. Some work might begin summer of 2018. Majority of projects will occur summer 2019.

Geoff was able to higher professionals to help facilitate improvements:

- Haselden Construction - <http://www.haselden.com/>
- TAB Associates, Inc. - <http://www.tabassociates.com/>

VSSA organized a small committee of students, parents and staff. Lance Richards is acting as leader in this effort and welcomes questions, comments and concerns from all by email: [lrichards@hotmail.com](mailto:lrichards@hotmail.com).

This committee toured VSSA with construction experts to assess and prioritize VSSA facility needs. Initial thoughts: restrooms, roof, water heater, safety and security improvements and other obvious needs, as well as new entry stairs to changing lockers to cubbies.

Working document of Facility Needs is attached.

Geoff is looking for more input. He would like a lot of input from many different sources.

## **5. President's Report**

### **New School Calendar**

We need to make calendar easily accessible to all families. It is on the Yeti times currently in the side bar and VSSA-PTA.com.

Yeti Times needs to highlight new calendar for 2017-2018 to make sure everyone knows!

*Other note:* SCCV is working to redesign its website and will make a section that will be primary website of VSSA. <http://www.skiclubvail.org/academics>

### **VSSA Capital Improvements**

Geoff is looking for more volunteers to participate in assessing and designing VSSA Capital improvements. In addition to construction knowledge, he would love people with design background and knowledge of VSSA culture.

Geoff likes idea of sending Capital Improvement survey. All agreed we would get greater response from survey than open-ended responses.

Survey will ask user to prioritize improvement list and then provide space for additional thoughts.

### **School Events**

#### **Parent Social (April)**

#### **Teacher appreciation week (May 1 -5)**

Kim Strauch is leading this effort and will meet with Sherri Woodland for ideas. Gibby might have list of parents who offered to help from initial survey. Geoff reiterated the staff is very appreciative of just about anything! Ideas: chair massages.

#### **8<sup>th</sup> Grade Continuation**

Cindy Suplizio is leading this event

#### **Senior Graduation**

Geoff and seniors lead this event. Committee has met twice already. Gretchen Hennem is committee chairperson.

#### **Yearbook**

Katie Smith is lead and running photos advisory class. Yeti Times needs to call for more photos for a few weeks.

## **Wrap Up**

Next meeting is 3/22/17. Meeting adjourned at 4:56 p.m.  
Minutes compiled by Ashleigh Gore, parent