

# Knowledge Quest Academy (KQA)

## Regular Session Minutes

### Date and Time:

Thursday, March 17, 2022 at 6:30 pm

### Location:

Knowledge Quest Academy, 705 Schoolhouse Dr., Milliken, CO 80543

### Leadership in attendance:

Tauna Esslinger, Chair

Douglas Chinn, Secretary

Malyka Korgan, Director

Julie Maslowski, Director

Gabe Thexton, Co-Chair

Chester Gemaehlich, Director

Sheree Baker, Treasurer

Linda Spreitzer, Principal

### Leadership absent:

### Leadership late arrival:

**Guests:** Brenda Chinn, Isaac Korgan, Tish Thompson (prospective board member), Dan Johnson

- I. Call to order at 6:30 p.m.
- II. Roll Call
- III. Pledge of allegiance/KQA code of honor
- IV. Approval of the agenda  
Motion made by: Tauna, Motion 2nd by: Chester to approve the agenda as presented.
- V. Public comments: Tish Thompson, prospective board member gave a brief bio.
- VI. Items for Discussion:
  - A. Tech Program discussion  
Gabe began with a brief overview of the future tech program and the research that's been performed. After some research, the tech committee has not found anything remarkable and relayed the fact that there are very few "curriculums" out there and many of the local area schools just "make it work". Dan reiterated some discussion he's been part of with vendors and other schools. There are opportunities to access grants to reduce costs of a tech program. Dan went through a list of potential costs for various features/fixtures outlined in the grant program. Doug mentioned the need to develop a vision for our technology program. Back and forth discussion ensued. There is a recurring question "we don't tell art and PE what to do, why are we telling tech. what to do?". Moving forward, we as a board need to further the discussions and possibly involve parents or community members to define the "vision" and what sets KQA apart. Time constraints may drive different decisions. Dan and Gabe are concerned about the timing to get the grants, purchase or commit to purchasing a program or commit to using the PLTW grant program and execute the training necessary to be ready for next year. Tauna to further the discussion for future meetings.
  - B. Curriculum proposal  
Brenda presented: The Curriculum committee recommendations:  
The Kindergarten Phonological Awareness/Phonetic program. The cost equates to a total one-time cost of \$480.16. Under Linda's spending limit.  
The K-3 History curriculum (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt – Intro Social Studies). The cost equates to a total 6-year subscription, including consumables for a total of \$14,877.  
The 3-5 Grammar and Writing curriculum (Zaner-Bloser Grammar, Usage and Mechanics). The cost equates to \$16.44 per kid per year on a yearly subscription basis, for a total of \$2,687.94

## Knowledge Quest Academy (KQA)

per year.

The 3-5 Writing curriculum (Simplify Writing). The cost equates to \$11.88 per kid for an all in total of \$1,782.00 per year. Under Linda's spending limit.

The 6-8 ELA curriculum (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt – Literature) The cost equates to a total 6-year subscription, including consumables for a total of \$43,029.

The total requested costs is \$62,856.10.

Motion made by: Tauna, Motion 2nd by: Malyka, to approve the K-3 History curriculum (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt – Intro Social Studies) for a 6 year subscription totaling \$14,877, with unanimous approval.

Motion made by: Malyka, Motion 2nd by: Julie, to approve the 3-5 Grammar and Writing curriculum (Zaner-Bloser Grammar, Usage and Mechanics) on a yearly subscription basis, for a total of \$2,687.94, with unanimous approval.

Motion made by: Doug, Motion 2nd by: Chester, to approve the 6-8 ELA curriculum (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt – Literature) for a 6-year subscription, including consumables for a total of \$43,029, with unanimous approval.

### C. Capital Constriction update

Doug gave a brief update.

### D. Staffing discussion (Executive session under C.R.S. 24-6-402 (4) (e)-Contract Negotiation Strategies,)

Tauna presented the Retention bonus letter that will be given to staff this year.

Motion made by: Gabe, Motion 2nd by: Julie, to approve the retuning staff contract signing bonus in accordance with the letter as presented by roll call vote, Chester yay, Doug abstain, Sheree yay, Julie, yay, Gabe yay, Malyka yay and Tauna yay, motion passed with majority vote.

Linda is requesting the following staffing change: Add full-time Assistant Principal (converting the 60/40 Dean position to full Assistant Principal, Isaac Korgan), extension/increase to a full-time counselor position a half-time IT tech support and pursuing a contracted night custodial service provider.

Motion made by: Gabe, Motion 2nd by: Doug, to approve the creation of a full-time Assistant Principal position beginning July 1, 2022, by roll call vote, Chester yay, Doug yay, Sheree yay, Julie, yay, Gabe yay, Malyka abstain and Tauna yay, motion passed with majority vote.

Tauna informed the board regarding non-salary schedules staffing and the proposed 2% rate increase as discussed in our last meeting and that we're going to modify that to a 7% rate increase.

Motion made by: Tauna, Motion 2nd by: Sheree to exit Regular Session and enter Executive session under C.R.S. 24-6-402 (4) (e)-Contract Negotiation Strategies, with unanimous approval.

Exit Regular Session at 8:36 pm

Resuming Regular Session at 8:48 pm All board members present.

Motion made by: Gabe, Motion 2nd by: Julie, to set the Principal's 2022-2023 School Year at \$120,000, with unanimous approval.

### VII. Calendar and announcements

Next meeting is April 5 (Tuesday). All future meeting will happen in the Cafeteria from this point forward. Tauna is wanting to get each board member the "How not to be a terrible school board member" book.

Tentative board training June 18<sup>th</sup>(Saturday).

### VIII. Adjournment:

Motion made by: Tauna, Motion 2nd by: Chester with unanimous approval. Meeting adjourned at 8:58 pm.

**Knowledge Quest Academy (KQA)**

| Action Items/Directives | Responsible Person | Expected Completion |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|
|                         |                    |                     |
|                         |                    |                     |

Submitted by Board Secretary; Douglas W. Chinn