



College Prep in a Small School Environment

Minutes of the Special Meeting and Executive Session of the Peak to Peak Board of Directors

Thursday, May 13, 2021 at 4:00pm

Videoconference: zoom meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84823572460>

The Peak to Peak community will inspire students to fulfill their academic dreams for college, to develop their creative passions and athletic talents, and to be responsible citizens.

1. Call to Order: Colleen Elliott @ 4:03 PM

In attendance by video conferencing:

Voting Board: Ari Axelrod, Heather Caruso, Colleen Elliott, Elizabeth Gable, Eveline Grady, Thomas Willetto

Ex-Officio: Melissa Christensen, Clara Quinlan, Kelly Reeser, Sam Todd, Kyle Mathews

Guests: Jennifer Dauzvardis, Keri Dunphy, Traci Schoeneweis, Holly Monarsky, Kristianna Vedvik, John Wilcox, Vicki Lundquist, Annie Taylor, Tracy Durland, Todd Dierking, Terri Tarbutton, Tina Le, Stephanie Branscum, Scott Hudson, Sasha Viers, Sari Watkins, Sarah Greene, Sandy Ray, Ruby Carrier, Ray Caruso, Raj Chaudhari, Paula Greenspan, Mary Kathryn Wood, Mary Campbell, Marti Oliva, Macaela Holmes Fuller, Louise Peng, Lora Averill, Lisa Blumensaadt, Lindsay Wright, Joanne Hyman, Joseph Barbour, Kang Ahn, Kate Martin, Kathy Lowrimore, Kimberly Livingston, Jill Chen, Jennifer and Chris Douglass, Jen Jouzdani, Jaimee Miller, Helaine Bader, Heather Szott, Gayle Van Tol, Erin Manzanares, Dorothy Bass, Daniel Mesward, Corinne Lythgoe, Colleen Wilcox, Cori FIscher, Coco Nevadomski, Christine Botvinik, Christie French, Chirag Shah, CBS4 News, Carla Flanhofer, Catie Ramsburg, Brooklyn Mesward, Brian Knox, Brandi Scott, Annie Taylor, Annie Sasseville, Allison Seeber, Alison Griffin, Ace Eckstein, Allie Cross, Andy Matthews, Beth Custard, Boulder 2010, Cathay Rein, Dave Fitzgerald, Helaine Bader, Megan Holstein, Meredith Gimble, Michelle Eckstein, Anthony Viers, (and many unidentified phone numbers and first names only or incomplete names)

2. Consider action related to website

Discussions were held around the anonymous website p2pexposed which most board members believed contains falsehoods about the P2P leadership.

- Ignoring the anonymous website could be dangerous.
- Falsehoods and inflammatory language could be very damaging for the reputation of the school and may chip away at some of the opportunities presented to the school's students.

- Board members expressed anger about the website as some believed it's content to be slanderous.
- It was shared that p2pexposed.truthaboutrayhelm.com is connected to the p2pexposed website and that there is a link to Mr. Ari Axelrod.
- Board members wanted to know if Mr. Ari Axelrod is the author of the website or in any way associated with the website as there is a strong indication based on urls that this is the case.
- Mr. Ari Axelrod denied being associated with the website in any way and assured the rest of the board that he had not contributed to its content.
- Negative publicity puts students at great risk, especially those who are in a crucial phase of college admissions. It's unconscionable to put our student's future at risk.
- Board members expressed that the gravity of the anonymous website is undeniable. Especially at the tailend of a very difficult pandemic year.
- We are a school of choice.
- Board needs to have a red line when it comes to abusive behavior.

3. Executive session - legal session related to website

Colleen Elliott shared her belief that Mr. Axelrod is somehow associated with the anonymous website. She asked him to recuse himself from the upcoming executive session based on conflict of interest.

Barry Arrington explained that a board president cannot exclude a fellow board member from an executive session. That decision lies with board members individually.

Ari Axelrod said that he would go ahead and recuse himself from the executive session.

There was a discussion around Sunshine laws.

Barry Arrington informed the board of directors that a conversation, a text exchange or a forwarded email between two board members does not constitute a meeting. It is also not considered a meeting if one board member talks to another board member and then again another board member separately on the same subject.

Motion to go into executive session per C.R.S. & 24-6-402(4)(h) (Colorado Revised Statutes, title 24, Article 6, 402, 4 h) for the purpose of a legal session to discuss the website at hand, by Colleen Elliott

Second: Thomas Willetto

Motion was approved: 5-1-0 at 4:34pm

Yay	Abstain	Nay
Heather Caruso Colleen Elliott Elizabeth Gable Eveline Grady Thomas Willetto	Ari Axelrod	-

The executive session started at 4:34pm and concluded at 5:11 pm when the board resolved back into it's special session. (Legal counsel Barry Arrington has submitted a certificate that the executive session of the Peak to Peak board of directors from May 13 2021 constituted a privileged attorney-client communication.)

4. Action related to website

Discussions started at 5:14pm

- Board members talked about the option of a lawsuit.
- Defamation, slander etc. run into first amendment challenges. The bar is very high for a public entity to meet the qualification of slander.
- While the behavior displayed around the anonymous website is immoral and reprehensible, it's protected by the 1st amendment.
- Board members shared that hiring a cybersecurity company could be an option.
- Main goal is to reduce the risk and exposure for our students.
- Information was shared to explain why most board members believed to see a connection between the anonymous website and Ari Axelrod. Listeners were invited to enter into their browser p2pexposed.truthabouttrayhelm.com which in turn would take you to the p2pexposed website.
- Board members asked Mr. Axelrod directly if he had any direct or ancillary involvement with the p2pexposed website. Mr. Ari Axelrod denied providing content for the website or being associated in any way.
- Suggestion was made to hire public relations support. It is possible that the behavior displayed won't stop and so our school may need that additional resource.
- During discussions it was discovered that after refreshing p2pexposed.truthabouttrayhelm.com the window showed 'internal server error'.
- The question was asked why Ms. Axelrod's name appeared throughout the website.
- Top priority of the board of directors should be the wellbeing of our students.
- Work of the board of directors is appreciated, but current discussions are distracting everyone from the work that needs to be done to function at the high level we are accustomed to.

5. Adjourn Peak to Peak Board meeting 5:32pm

Motion to Adjourn: Thomas Willetto

Seconded: Heather Caruso

The motion passed 6-0

Respectfully Submitted,

Eveline Grady

Eveline Grady, Secretary

Peak to Peak Board of Directors

Values of the Peak to Peak board of directors: trustworthiness, honesty, diligence, open communication, fairness, and politeness