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4 Colorado ● Montana ● North Dakota ● South Dakota ● Utah ● Wyoming

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8 ASPIRE Board Meeting  
9 Holiday Inn Park Hotel – Missoula, Montana  
10 October 7, 2006

11  
12 **Approved Minutes**

13  
14 **OFFICERS**

15 Amy Verlanic, President  
16 Curtis Sandberg, Past President  
17 Allyn Kostecki, President-Elect  
18 Julie Jackman, Secretary (excused until 11:30)  
19 Krisan Crow, Treasurer

20 **GUESTS**

Carol Gritts, Development Chair

21  
22 **STATE PRESIDENTS**

23 Michael Manos, Colorado (President Elect)  
24 Aletha Stoval, Colorado  
25 Angelina Levandowski, Montana  
26 Karen Grabanski, North Dakota  
27 Charlie Luecke, South Dakota  
28 Barney Nye, Utah  
29 Sher Warren, Wyoming

30 Amy Verlanic called the meeting to order at 9:08 AM

31 Approval of Parliamentarian: In compliance with ASPIRE Operation Guidelines, 2.1.5.,  
32 President Amy Verlanic appointed Allyn Kostecki parliamentarian. Board approved  
33 unanimously.

34  
35 **Motion #1:** Sher Warren moved and Angelina Levandowski seconded to approve  
36 minutes with changes as presented and additional non-substantial changes forwarded to  
37 the secretary for inclusion. Approved unanimously.

38  
39 **Review of Expectations for 2006 Conference and Beyond:**

40 President's Reception is a tropical theme, please dress up and help add to the festiveness  
41 of the event.

42  
43 LDI: The Board will join LDI to help mentor the new board members and emerging  
44 leaders. We are to meet with our successors and provide training for their new roles.  
45

- 46 Emerging Leaders strand had only one participant and so it was merged with the New  
47 Board strand. Discussion occurred regarding the lack of enrollment;
- 48 • There may be apathy among some of the less seasoned professionals
  - 49 • Seasoned leaders and professional could be more strategic in encouraging their  
50 involvement.
  - 51 • The new capabilities of C-Vent could be used to target the “Y” generation that  
52 seems to want to know why we do things and what the purpose behind it.
  - 53 • The nature of some professional positions may make it difficult for service on  
54 the Board or another leadership position because they are out in the field more .
  - 55 • There is also a perception of LDI that it’s going to train for the job rather than  
56 training for leadership.
  - 57 • Board members need to go back to state organizations and encourage  
58 participants in LDI and emerging leaders and guide them forward.
  - 59 • Board members are responsible for speaking positively about service in the  
60 region while being realistic.

61  
62 It was announced that **Maureen Hoyler from COE** will be a guest to the Board  
63 tomorrow morning. She will help prepare us for the visit of the contractors who will be  
64 conducting the Upward Bound Evaluation.

65  
66  
67 **Discussion of the business meeting/draft agenda:**

- 68 • Amy Verlanic reminded the board in order to pass the motion for the move of  
69 ASPIRE, Inc. from WY to ND, we will need  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the membership at the  
70 business meeting to vote in favor. Please encourage members to attend the  
71 business meeting.
- 72 • Kathy Felker has agreed to serve as parliamentarian at the Business Meeting..
- 73 • Fuji Adachi received the Walter O. Mason award and will be recognized.
- 74 • Only 5 of 10 regions achieved Fair Share this year and ASPIRE exceeded Fair  
75 Share.
- 76 • The COE Fair Share plaque will be presented to Carol Gritts for her work as  
77 Development Chair for the ASPIRE region.
- 78 • 75% of the membership funds go the region and 25% go to the state. We will  
79 bring up the issue of membership at the board meeting to help the full  
80 membership understand how the funds are allocated.

81  
82 **Update on ATI: Sue Misock and Amy Verlanic** applied for a no-cost extension and it  
83 was approved. This extension will allow Sue to finish the annual report as well as  
84 liquidate the assets and close the office. Amy Verlanic was working with Maureen  
85 Hoyler from COE and Jean Robinson, Counsel to the Council to clarify if we should  
86 move forward with an appeal. Because COE’s argument is they were defunded based on  
87 the misappropriation of Prior Experience points and ASPIRE received all their’s, we can  
88 not join COE in their appeal. We would have to make our own. The board discussed the  
89 issue and felt we owed it to ATI to file an appeal. Discussion also resulted in Amy  
90 Verlanic agreeing to write a thank you letter on ASPIRE stationary to all the ATI trainers  
91 and Sue Misock for the work they did under this grant.

92

93 **Regional Student Leadership Congress Discussion:**

94 The congress was budgeted as a fundraiser for the region. Therefore, it is critical that all  
95 the board works actively to encourage attendance. If programs cannot pay for it,  
96 encourage students to go to other sources for funding (i.e. their local school districts,  
97 Kiwanis clubs, etc.)

98 The meeting recessed at 1:10 PM for a one hour break because three members of the  
99 board were presenters at LDI.

100

101 The meeting reconvened at 2:10 PM.

102

103 **Motion #2:** Allyn Kostecki moved and Barney Nye seconded to accept the President's  
104 and Committee reports to the board, as information, as presented in the annual report.

105

106 **Summation of State Reports:**

107

108 Colorado: For Trio Day, on February 22 2007, Dr. Mitchem will be the key note speaker.  
109 The General Assembly will be invited to hear him speak. He will also meet with key  
110 state agencies to advocate for and increase awareness of TRiO. Colorado is considering a  
111 pre-collegiate conference in March. The state is also looking forward to hosting the 2007  
112 ASPIRE Conference.

113

114 Montana: Bridges are being developed with new staff in Representative Dennis Reberg  
115 (R) office. His previous staff was very informed and supportive of TRiO and the  
116 Montana TRiO community wants to ensure that continues. Multiple contacts have been  
117 made with Senator Conrad Burns (R) requesting he craft a letter to Secretary Spellings  
118 regarding the proposed Upward Bound Evaluation. In July, Dr. Mitchem spoke in  
119 Missoula with TRiO students and traveled to Helena to visit with various state  
120 officials/agencies (Student Assistance Foundation, President of National School Board,  
121 etc.).

122

123 North Dakota: A cultural enrichment course on campus was held on a trial basis. This  
124 was designed to benefit students and staff. Faculty is being approached through various  
125 means for support of TRiO. Reaching out to alumni to help mentor students. TRiO day  
126 will encompass state initiative activities.

127

128 South Dakota: The first annual state Upward Bound symposium was held. There are  
129 discussions regarding a proposed partnership with GEAR UP. One hundred percent of  
130 UB projects in the state participated in the Summer Olympics. Upward Bound directors  
131 collaborated on an informal poll that found all UB students may be getting duplication of  
132 services. If any program in SD were to be selected for Department of Ed's current  
133 proposed evaluation program, it is highly unlikely they would have a true control group.  
134 SD wonders if that is the situation anywhere else.

135

136 **Joining the meeting at this point was Aletha Stovall, Colorado State President and**  
137 **Carol Gritts, Development Chair.**

138

139 Utah: The date on the report in the Annual Report needs to be corrected to October 2006.  
140 No additional information is submitted at this time.

141

142 Wyoming: The Student Leadership Congress is planned for next month to be hosted in  
143 Riverton. Sher Warren distributed registration materials and spoke highly of the event's  
144 organizers.

145

146 **Committee reports:**

147 Archives: Curtis will serve as the new chair of the archives committee because he has  
148 built a new partnership with The American Heritage Center at University of Wyoming.  
149 They have agreed to sort through all our current archives and anything anyone would like  
150 to send to organize and house our materials. They are interested in our items because we  
151 have had an impact on the development of education in the region as well as national  
152 policy.

153

154 Corporate Development: Darlene Sampson wrote and was funded for a \$1,000 grant  
155 from the Dennis and Phyllis Washington Foundation to support conference. She also  
156 secured a donation from Coca Cola of Missoula. Amy Verlanic had the bags for  
157 conference printed for free from Vermiere Graphics and also secured a donation from  
158 Dunnick, CPA to sponsor the President's Reception. This type of corporate sponsorship  
159 of the small conference costs is essential for the financial position of the organization.

160

161 Development: Carol Gritts gave a detailed development report. She reminded the sitting  
162 president's that the development committee is made up of the six past presidents. The  
163 phone a thon made significant difference in states' increases. The committee believes it  
164 was beneficial to combine COE and ASPIRE's development efforts as they confuse  
165 members. Carol Gritts developed an informational power point presentation and will  
166 give it to past presidents to help prepare for the next phone a thon, which will be the first  
167 two weeks of December 2006. Carol Gritts will send forms electronically so as calls are  
168 made forms are immediately available. Forms will also be made available for state  
169 meetings.

170

171 Personnel committee: Sue Misock submitted an ATI update and some requests to the  
172 board, which were reviewed by the personnel committee then shared with the full board.

173

174 **Motion #3:** It came moved and seconded from the personnel committee to (1) accepted  
175 Sue's report and to (2) allow the detailed budget concerns of ATI to be addressed by the  
176 finance committee with (3) the stipulation that ATI may no longer spend any of their  
177 indirect funds. Motion passed unanimously.

178

179 **Finance Committee Motions and Treasurer's Report:**

180 Krisan Crow presented the Treasurer's report. She indicated that the audit was just  
181 completed and it came back with three recommendations; which were;

182 (1) Cash balances were under collateralized at the end of the year. Ensure this does not  
183 happen in the future.

184 (2) The ATI lease agreement was renewed verbally for the year, all agreements should be  
185 done in writing.

186 (3) Not all 19 forms have been filled out completely on current personnel. It is  
187 recommended a procedure be in place to ensure paperwork is complete.

188

189 Krisan Crow and Kathy Hamilton have begun preparing the 2005 tax return and it will be  
190 filed by Nov. 15<sup>th</sup>. She renewed ASPIRE, Inc.'s liability insurance and bonding. Sher  
191 Warren asked if the Student Leadership Congress was covered by our insurance, Krisan  
192 Crow agreed to look into it.

193

194 **Motion #4:** It comes moved and seconded from the Finance Committee to have Curtis  
195 Sandberg dispose of the ATI inventory by the most appropriate venues. Passed  
196 unanimously.

197

198 **Motion #5:** It comes moved and seconded from the Finance Committee to close the ATI  
199 checking account at US Bank and transfer the balance as of September 30, 2006 to the  
200 Aspire, Inc. account. Passed unanimously.

201

202 **Motion #6:** Angelina Levandowski moved and Karen Grabanski seconded to have the  
203 ATI balance placed into Aspire, Inc's savings. Passed unanimously.

204

205

206 **Update on Incorporation of States:**

207 Colorado is currently working on incorporation.

208 Montana has filed initial paperwork with an anticipated completion date of December  
209 2006.

210 North Dakota has incorporated.

211 South Dakota reported they are still in the organizing phases.

212 Utah will be discussing the issue at their state meeting in the end of March.

213 Wyoming will be incorporated by January 31, 2007.

214

215 The states had lots of questions about the process of incorporation. Amy Verlanic  
216 indicated that Paul Schierer of Pence and MacMillian, LLC. is helping the region with the  
217 incorporation in North Dakota and is willing to help the states on a pro bono basis. He  
218 said all each state needs is to have bylaws, operating guidelines, articles of incorporation  
219 and a governing structure such as a board of directors. Most states already have these in  
220 place and the region has theirs available as samples. There were still questions so the  
221 discussion was tabled until the Wednesday board meeting.

222

223 **Mitchem /Oxedine Speeches from National Conference in New York, 2006:**

224 COE has requested that each region submit a letter of complaint to Margaret Spelling  
225 regarding Larry Oxendine's speech at the National Conference. Curtis Sandberg  
226 provided the board with recordings of both Dr. Mitchem and Mr. Oxendine's speeches.  
227 Possible action will be discussed in the morning.

228

229 Meeting convened at 6:15 PM.

230 October 8, 2006 at 9 AM Maureen Hoyler met with the board. Discussion included the  
231 ethical problems associated with the proposed evaluation.

232

233 Meeting reconvened at 10:26 AM

234

235 **2007 Conference Update:** The contract has been signed for Adam's Mark Hotel which  
236 is located in downtown Denver. Conference will be Sept. 30- October 3 with Leadership  
237 Development Institute on September 29. The negotiated room rate is \$159. Charlie  
238 Luecke suggested we try to get Ruby Payne as a speaker for the next conference. Her fee  
239 is \$2,175.

240

241 **Motion #7:** Sher Warren moved and Curtis Sandberg seconded to have Amy Verlanic  
242 write a letter to Secretary Margaret Spellings from the region.

243

244 **Motion #8:** Allyn Kostecki moved and Julie Jackman seconded that the content of the  
245 letter from ASPIRE to Secretary Spellings take the high road and not be a personal attack  
246 on Larry Oxendine. The letter will be dated October 8, 2006 and signed by President  
247 Amy Verlanic. Motion carried unanimously.

248

249 **Recommendations for committee chairs:**

250 Curtis Sandberg as Archivist

251 Need a membership chair

252 Aaron Poor Bear as Multi-ethnic Advocacy Committee

253 Need a Web Site Chair

254 It was suggested that Student Leadership Congress be expanded for all TRIO  
255 participants.

256