

Ellensburg School District Education Foundation

Board Meeting • November 5, 2014 • Bar 14 • 6:45 a.m.

Board Members Present: Michelle Cawley, Sue Connolly, Deb Gauck, Paul Farris, Mary Gordon, Jim and Patti Gylling, Mark Larson, John MacRae, Mike McCloskey, Trish Perna, Jeff Slothower, Richard Wachsmith, Dick Wedin

Board Members Absent: Missy Davis, Bob Titus

Meeting was called to order at 6:46 a.m.

Guests Present: None

It was moved and seconded to accept our new Board member, Mark Larson.

Approval of November 5th Agenda

Upon a motion made by Mike and seconded by Deb, the November 5th agenda was approved.

Approval of Minutes:

A clarification with the October, 2014 minutes: Richard questioned the statement that we had waived the ESDEF 1% fee on Caring Cupboard donations, as we didn't actually vote on that issue. Jeff suggested we make this decision with discussion later in the agenda.

With that clarification, upon a motion made by Michelle and seconded by Richard, the October 2014 minutes were approved.

Superintendent's Report:

Paul mentioned the ESD Facebook page as an area going well, with positive feedback. The Team for a Common Vision, responsible for researching options for Morgan, presented Option H to the School Board, which offers a hybrid approach to the project (building new and remodeling the older section). Paul feels this decision corresponds well with the results of the community survey results, with 55% wanting to build new and 40% wanting to remodel. The District continues to move forward in the areas of Early Learning, Communication, Facility Update and Security. Cameras are being installed in the entry areas of each building to improve visibility and increase safety. In the area of technology, Jeff Cochran is working with staff to increase and improve the use of technology in the classroom, and Mike Welch is establishing policies regarding technology that are helpful as we move forward. Mike McCloskey spoke positively regarding his personal experience with his computer and the improvements he's seen this year.

Treasurer's Report:

Richard presented the financial report. We have \$5,501.00 currently in unrestricted funds, after \$500 was gifted to Dan Patton at Mt. Stuart for books per our vote in October. For restricted funds, cash donations of \$1000.00 were received for both The Caring Cupboard and Kittitas County Early Learning Coalition. Mike asked for clarification on the Cissel scholarship; Richard confirmed that the Cissel scholarship has \$607.00 remaining so this will be the final

year it's offered. Richard announced that Pam Wilson has volunteered to be the treasurer of this year's EHS Senior Party.

Upon a motion by Mary and seconded by John, the treasurer's report was approved.

Committees:

Scholarships

Mike reminded the group that the EHS Fall Scholarship Fair will be held on Monday, November 17th. Mike let us know that Mike Johansen at EHS is tweaking the format to possibly include Senior Night as well. Set up help and finger snacks are needed (cookies, etc.); please deliver by 5:30 p.m. on the 17th. Those able to set up, please arrive at 5 p.m. Mike will provide bottled water.

Finance-Insurance

No report.

Communications

Jeff received the newsletter from the American Schools Foundation Alliance; he will scan and send out electronically.

Fund Raising

Fundraising Objective

Mary gave an overview of the meeting held to finalize our fundraising objective, Literacy. The take away was that there are many areas supporting literacy that can use financial assistance in every building. Michelle reiterated the need for more funding for Early Learning, mentioning the need to increase the Ready Program and the continued hope to reach the highest risk families. Deb suggested we continue to tie all efforts to the Strategic Plan now that it is available for viewing. John reminded the group that our mission is to improve education for the Ellensburg School District, and there may be some gray areas with Early Learning as they are not yet students in our district. The fundraiser focus will remain as 'Literacy' with distribution of funding decisions occurring once we know the dollar amount we have to give.

Event

The Gyllings have secured the food vendor as a donation. Our venue has been confirmed. Missy will be asked to head up games again, and Trish offered to do the detailed financial work with RSVP's and ticket sales. We will look into using a Square for payment. John discussed the purpose of sponsorships and how to tell the difference between a sponsor and a donor. Mary encouraged everyone to be thinking of friends and family who might donate auction items. She will get paperwork out soon. It was decided to mail invitations again for the benefit of donations received from supporters who are unable to attend. Mary will work on invitations, finalizing the poster and sending information to Jeff Cochran for the district FB page.

Associate Groups

No report

Grants

We will meet on Tuesday, November 18th from 5-8 pm at Mary Gordon's house for grant writing training. Members are asked to bring a laptop if possible. Michelle Cawley will invite Mike Nolan and Ann Wichterman from the Early Learning Coalition. Jeff will invite Jeff Cochran and Mike Welch from the area of technology. Mary will send directions to Jeff to distribute to the group.

Mini Grant Requests

It was moved and seconded to grant \$1000 (from the restricted Technology budget line) to both Lael Wright and Kim Gaidos at Valley View for Kindle readers. This gift of funds is made with the knowledge that the Ellensburg School District will not support these devices, but knowing they are a technology addition that can be used on the current system. Motion carried.

It was moved and seconded to gift \$1000 to The Early Learning Coalition (from the restricted Louise Strange Memorial budget line). Motion carried.

Jeff will organize some positive PR for these grant requests, including the District FB page and the Daily Record. It was mentioned the Chamber has a large check we can borrow since we are Chamber members.

New Business

Caring Cupboard

Discussion followed regarding the 1% fee for The Caring Cupboard. Everyone agreed the 1% should be taken, in line with our normal policy. Mary gave a brief overview of expenditures so far, with plans to meet with Principals next week. Jeff asked to add a link on the website for information; Mary will write some information and send to Mike.

Strategic Plan

The Strategic Plan has been distributed. Dick reminded us this is still in draft form and has not been finalized by the School Board. Please send feedback to Dick in the next few weeks. Dick also spoke positively about the School District partnering with ESDEF to pursue a grant in any area that supports the Strategic Plan.

We will renew our membership with the Chamber of Commerce.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 3rd at 6:45 am at Bar 14.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Gordon, ESDEF Secretary