

Ellensburg School District Education Foundation

Monthly Meeting - Wednesday, October 4, 2017 - 6:45am – IHOP Restaurant

Board Member attendance:

Curtis Bull	Lowell Murphree	Jeff Slothower
Michele Cawley (absent)	Mike Nollan	Dick Wedin
Deborah Gauck	Noreen Norfleet (absent)	
Mary Gordon (absent)	Brandon Robertson	Tor Blaisdel (guest)
Linda Graf	Maureen Rust	
Mike McCloskey	Staci Sleigh-Layman	

Meeting was called to order - 6:45 am by President Mike McCloskey

Minutes approval

Jeff made a motion to accept the minutes, Linda seconded. Motion carried.

Treasurer's report (Dick Wedin)

No changes since the September 13 meeting. Payments and bills are coming in.

Superintendent's report (Mike Nollan)

- Superintendent search: Phase 1 complete (stakeholders identify criteria). Now in Phase 2 – meeting with search firm to convey identified criteria. Position posting is anticipated in November/December, with screening in December/January.
- Facilities: The district is working with CWU to explore some ideas regarding property and facilities.
- Survey will go out next week to community regarding district facilities. Putting 2019 bond package together. Need to determine what to do with Lincoln School, once it is vacant. Possible repurposing for school district use or community use.
- Working with property lawyers, the Mt. Stuart property issue is close to being figured out. 18 acres will be set aside as recreation property (accessible 5pm and on) to comply with estate requirements. The district will reserve the right to possibly change use later on for new construction.
- Working to support elementary school projects without ASB support (examples: wind turbine projects, robotics). The district may approach the Education Foundation for some grants in this regard.
- Kindness initiative based on the book *Wonder* by RJ Palacio has a lot of community participation. Central office had book discussion recently. There will be a Kindness Fair at Lincoln November 8. Gallery One involved. A movie based on the book is opening November 17.

Mike M. noted the students at Morgan are also reading *Wonder*. Former staff members are invited to a guided tour of the renovated building next week, followed by tours for Team for a Common Vision and community neighbors. Members of EHS Classes of '57 and '62 in town for reunions were also given tours. Great reviews.

Correspondence

Three grant applications have been received.

Progress on goals:

- Welcome Back Activities (Sept.) Linda and Mary heading up. Linda passed around a sample of the Welcome Back notecard that will be distributed to all faculty and classified staff members, along with a piece of candy. Numbers are higher than anticipated. Jeff made a motion to approve up to \$75 for candy purchase. Maureen second. Motion passed. Thanks to Linda for her work on this.
- Communication with District/Staff (Sept.) As above.
 - Website Update (October) – Mike will forward the notes to Jeff, who will create an RFP.
 - Need to add information about the Super Bowl fundraiser.
 - Request to have the ability to take payments, registrations, and donations online.
 - Add a “Projects Funded” tab with more photos of successful grant projects. Highlight bigger ongoing projects (bookmobile, Caring Cupboard).
 - Seek an easy process for uploading monthly agendas, minutes, funding reports.
 - Ensure links are current (still linking to former school district website). Tara Long at the school district is the contact for updating the district websites.
 - Add a separate tab for grant-writing training.
 - Pictures of kids? Parents have the option of signing an opt-out form. Generally best to use pictures including children from behind, i.e. not identifiable.

Superbowl Kick-off

In Mary’s absence, Dick distributed silent auction sign up forms. \$2900 has been committed so far in corporate sponsorships (Lions Club, Shirts & More, local accountants, businesses, financial advisors, insurance companies, mortgage companies, etc.). Dick and Brandon will get a list out of folks already asked, to avoid duplication. Dick proposed giving an Apple award for contributions of \$1000 or more. So moved by Stacy; Dick seconded. Motion passed. The awards will be given out at the fundraiser. Mike encouraged all to get items in as soon as possible.

Old Business:

- Communication with District/Staff (Sept.) Thanks to Mike Nollan for promoting mini-grants
- “Thank you” awards for Patti and Jim Gylling and Trish Perna have been ordered.
- Tile Sales – Mike connected with engraver at Yakima fair. There are still ~500 tiles available.
- Potential Board Members (Carkner, Blaisdel) The board welcomed Tor Blaisdel. He is excited to be a part of the Education Foundation. There will be a vote by email following the meeting. (Following a subsequent eMail vote, Tor was unanimously elected to the board).

New Business:

- Parent Group Umbrellas: Lincoln and Morgan parent groups want to use the Education Foundation's 501(c)(3). Need to clarify what umbrella groups can use under the agreement with the Education Foundation. There are two benefits to the ESDEF umbrella organizations – one to be covered by ESDEF insurance and one to use the ESDEF 501(c)(3) for fundraising activities. Jeff noted it is a common misconception that “nonprofit” means 501(c)(3) status has been granted. Obtaining 501(c)(3) status requires an extensive application process. ESDEF can be a solution. Staci noted the school district needs to provide more effective guidance for parent groups. Mike Nollan will get wheels turning.
- Proposed: Youth Recognition Awards
- Mike M. floated the idea based on a similar program in Yakima. Leaders of Learning is now in place for faculty recognition – how can we recognize students? Potential categories: arts, community service, groups. Possibly to present to winners at ESDEF fundraiser.
- Scholarship fair report: Very successful; best attended ever. Mike elected not to purchase a gift card door prize this year. The increased attendance indicated that a door prize isn't needed as an incentive to attend.
- Lowell – grant training is almost scheduled. It will require online search capability of grants database. Lowell made a motion to authorize up to \$130 for database access; Dick seconded. Motion passed.

Other Business:

Tor noted he is bringing opera productions to the school district, funded by a CWU Thayer grant.

The meeting was adjourned by President Mike McCloskey at 7:45am. The next regular meeting of the ESDEF is scheduled for Wednesday, November 1, 6:45am, IHOP Restaurant.

Submitted by Maureen Rust, Secretary