

Ellensburg School District Education Foundation
Annual Meeting - Wednesday, April 4, 2018 - 6:45am – Palace Café

Board Member Attendance:

Amy Cziske
Deborah Gauck
Mary Gordon
Linda Graf
Mike McCloskey
Noreen Norfleet
Brandon Robertson
Maureen Rust
Dan Shissler
Jeff Slothower
Dick Wedin

Absent:

Tor Blaisdell
Michele Cawley
Lowell Murphree
Mike Nollan
Stacy Sleigh-Layman

Guests attending:

Trish Perna
Kirk Holmes
Morgan Middle School
Kate Sanders
Pauline Clyburn
Ellensburg High School
Rachel Case
Pam Wilson
Mt. Stuart
Lesley Lindsay
Stephanie Jackson
Dan Patton, Principal
Lori Stevenson
Lincoln Elementary School
Nichol Thomas
John Graf, Principal

Meeting was called to order at 6:45 a.m. by President Mike McCloskey.

Board members and guests introduced themselves.

Morgan Kidwind

Members of the Morgan KidWind Team presented information about their upcoming trip to the Nationals Turbine Competition May 8-10 in Chicago. They requested funding to help offset their travel expenses. Other fundraising they have already done: yard sale, raffle tickets, firefighters funding, doughnut sales, Indian John Hill rest stop concessions, Cornerstone Pie takeover. Following the meeting, via email, Maureen made a motion to approve funding in the amount of \$500 for the KidWind Team to attend the national competition; Mary seconded. Motion passed.

Minutes approval

The March 7, 2018 minutes will be amended as follows: under New Business/Storms scholarship, meeting attendance will include Michael Johanssen and Anna Charlton. Dick made motion to approve the corrected minutes; Mary seconded. Motion passed.

Superintendent's report (Mike Nollan)

Mike was called away. He will report at the May 2 meeting.

Treasurer's report (Dick Wedin)

Preliminary balances (as of March 12):

Checking	\$33580.62
Money Market	\$49303.81
Unrestricted	\$29845.39
Restricted	\$53503.04
Edward Jones	\$81123.07

Highlights of the Year:

- **Caring Cupboard (Mary Gordon)** Caring Cupboard, one of the ESDEF budget lines, is in its 4th year serving the needs of vulnerable students identified by school counselors and principals. So far approximately 100 kids have been supported by an estimated \$10,000 worth of school supplies, winter clothing, snacks, and other items intended to encourage student success by meeting unique needs of students. Mary reported the program has really hit its stride.
- **Mini-grant Program Update (Jeff Slothower)** In the past mini-grant applications were accepted and considered throughout the year. After researching other education foundation procedures, the Foundation instituted a new system this year, identifying a specific window for application (deadline November 1), with all applications considered at the December board meeting. This resulted in a more efficient process. The Foundation was able to fund twelve mini-grants totaling over \$11,000, representing every public school in the district. Mike noted that the Foundation holds back a certain amount to fund special requests for unplanned opportunities and expenses, such as KidWind.
- **District Grant Writer – Deb Gauck**, a six-year ESDEF board member, has now been contracted as a grant writer by the school district. The district is applying for a large grant to provide a comprehensive behavioral health care program delivered by local providers to benefit Ellensburg students. The district will be notified in October about awards.
- **Superbowl Kick-off Fundraiser – Mary Gordon** The Annual Superbowl Warm-up fundraiser is the major source of revenue used to fund the mini-grants. Turnout and net profit was up this year. Mary encouraged guests to spread the word at their schools and among their parent groups.
- **Addition of Board Members (Tor Blaisdel, Amy Cziske, Staci Sleigh-Layman)** Three new members joined the ESDEF board this year. Unfortunately, Staci Sleigh-Layman has tendered her resignation, due to personal conflicts.
- **Storms Scholarship – Dick Wedin** reported that long-time EHS scholarship funder, Edwin “Sandy” Storms, passed away, leaving half of his estate (approximately \$840,000) to the continuation of EHS scholarships, making a significant impact on that program. A committee will establish investment of these funds, the earnings from which will be used for the scholarships.

Coming Attractions:

- **Website Refresh – Jeff Slothower** An RFP for updating the ESDEF website resulted in proposals exceeding the anticipated cost. The hope is to coincide the new website with the new school year. Proposals are still being accepted and will be discussed at the ESDEF summer retreat.
- **Kittitas County Youth Awards – Mike McCloskey** The ESDEF is pursuing establishment of Youth Awards celebrating student academic and creative achievements throughout Kittitas County. They are patterned after a similar program in Yakima County, which is holding its ceremony April 23rd. Our goal is to give our first awards in Spring 2019.
- **Reallocating Investments – Dick Wedin** and Brandon Robertson made recommendations to reinvest a portion of the money market account to enhance return. The account will be reallocated as follows: 1/3 checking, 1/3 Certificate of Deposit, 1/3 investments.

Associate Reports:

- **Mt. Stuart Nature Study Area (Dan Patton)** There were restrictions on this land when it was deeded to Mt. Stuart. Mercer Creek Church provides some maintenance now that the school district has quit maintaining the area. The district is in the process of determining a way to keep the nature study area as a safe place for students, while complying with the deed terms. Dan also took a moment to thank the Foundation for the mini-grants that help fund his book give-away incentives.
- ~~**Morgan Performing Arts Center (Kathleen Beach)**~~ Not present.
- **Mt. Stuart Parent Group (Stephanie Jackson)** The parent group has been able to fund iPads for the school library, and \$150 stipends to the drama, chess, KidWind, and robotics clubs. The robotics club also received \$500 to attend the world competition. All teachers and counselors are given a \$150 stipend for classroom supplies, and the parent group awards \$1000 per grade level for teachers to use on a large project. They are currently saving to purchase new playground equipment. Mike McCloskey asked if the new bond will cover playground equipment purchases. Dick Wedin pointed out a condition of the ESDEF \$500 Robotics fund was a match by the parent group, a collaborative way to fund special school projects.
- **Lincoln Parent Council (Nichol Thomas)** Lincoln Parent Council provides \$150 for each teacher and \$300 for specials including the library. Money collected intended for playground equipment is on hold pending the upcoming bond. The group experienced low turnout this year, and they have scaled back on fundraising accordingly. This summer the group will reevaluate their fundraising efforts. The fun fair is scheduled for May 18.
- ~~**Valley View PTA (Marie Vineyard)**~~ Not present.
- **Morgan Parent Group (Pauline Clyburn)** The group invites new ideas for products to sell at the school store. They have been conducting fundraisers and provide scholarships for all-states (orchestra, band, choir). They also fund field trips, snacks, and soccer pins.
- ~~**EHS Booster Club (Ammy Snow)**~~ Not present.
- **EHS Band Parent Group (Rachel Case)** The band has performed in the new middle school auditorium and received new uniforms (boys) this year. They are looking to update jackets for the marching band, estimated at \$5400 for 100 jackets through Shirtworks. A self-funded trip to Disney is planned for 2020.
- **EHS Senior Party (Pam Wilson)** The Senior Party is June 6 following graduation. They are in fundraising mode now, including Flamingo Flocking.
- ~~**FBLA Parent Group (Marcy Matthews)**~~ Not present.
- ~~**Inspired Families (Michelle Bibich)**~~ Not present.
- ~~**Kittitas County Early Learning Coalition (Michele Cawley)**~~ Not present.

New Business

- **Partnering with Parent Groups for National Championships** Mike noted the increase in partnering across district programs for these non-athletic opportunities, such as the school district covering registration fees, and the ESDEF and Mt. Stuart Parent Group matching funds on behalf of the robotics club.

- **Election of Officers/Board Members** Nominations for 2018-19 ESDEF officers are:
 - President – Mike McCloskey
 - Vice-president – Michele Cawley
 - Secretary – Maureen Rust
 - Treasurer – Dick Wedin
 - Board Members – the following board memberships were renewed:
 - Deborah Gauck (Through 2021)
 - Mike McCloskey (Through 2021)
 - Dick Wedin (Through 2021)
- There being no additional nominations (invited three times), Jeff made a motion to accept the nominees as next year’s officers, and to renew the recommended board memberships; Mary seconded. Motion passed.
- Following the meeting, by email, Maureen made a motion to invite Kirk Holmes to sit on the board; Mary seconded. Motion passed. Welcome Kirk!

Honoring longtime board members

Mike thanked former board members Patti and Jim Gylling, and Trish Perna. All will be presented with a commemorative apple award

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 a.m. The next regular meeting of the ESDEF is scheduled for Wednesday, May 2, at 6:45 a.m., iHop restaurant.

Submitted by Maureen Rust, Secretary