

Ellensburg School District Education Foundation

Monthly Meeting - Wednesday, September 11, 2019 - 6:45am – Palace Café

Board Member attendance:

Michele Cawley

Jesus Baldovinos (absent)

Tor Blaisdel

Tara Brown (absent)

Amy Cziske

Deborah Gauck

Mary Gordon

Jinger Haberer

Kirk Holmes (absent)

Cara Marrs

Mike McCloskey

Lowell Murphree

Noreen Norfleet (excused)

Brandon Robertson (excused)

Maureen Rust

Dan Shissler (absent)

Dick Wedin

Guest attendance: None.

Meeting was called to order - 6:45 am by President Tor Blaisdell.

The minutes from the June 2019 meeting and the strategic planning retreats were tabled until next month, as pages were missing.

Deb will send minutes to all members for review before meetings.

President's Report:

Communications/Correspondence: No communications/correspondence.

Brief overview of strategic planning retreat: The Board identified the following strategies at the strategic planning retreats: supporting kids, fundraising, community engagement, organizational health. Jinger asked about the “lack of District participation” in the SWOT analysis. This may be due to transition in staff/Board; one solution is to schedule meetings at times that work for staff/Board. Jinger reiterated the District’s support for the Foundation and the importance of alignment. Tor will send a Doodle poll for a May strategic planning retreat; and may reach out to Cathy Bambrick or others for professional facilitation. Mary suggested that officers should decide this.

Treasurer's report:

Balances as of August 31, 2019:

- Checking \$31,033.09
- Unrestricted \$44,559.87
- Restricted \$37,091.25
- Edward Jones \$989,285.35
- Storms fund \$19,150.00

Dick and Mary met with Grebb, Johnson, Reed & Wachsmith about providing financial services. The cost would be \$200/month. Mary made a motion to employ Grebb, Johnson, Reed & Wachsmith for Foundation financial services. The CPA at Grebb, Johnson, Reed & Wachsmith who will handle the Foundation financial accounts is Madeline deMaintenon. Amy seconded the motion. Motion passed. Suggestion that funds for services should come from scholarship administrative fees; will require a change in bylaws. For now, funds will come from fundraiser proceeds.

Superintendent's Report:

Jinger reported that Baccalaureate cannot be a school-sponsored event because it is faith-based. The District’s solution is to pull faith leaders together and ask them to sponsor it. Jinger will ask Beau Snow about discontinuation of the top 10% program. Jinger reported on the new elementary school. The District hired an engineering firm to do feasibility study and based on initial results,

moved forward with the purchase. Now the Department of Ecology has designated more of the property as wetlands; mitigation costs plus new City of Ellensburg improvement requirements would put the bond budget over by \$6 million. Instead, the new design of two buildings on the Mt. Stuart site will satisfy the District's pledge to voters regarding the number of classrooms and cost. Jinger will send out Board "ends" (or strategies) and hopes that mini-grants will be in alignment. She reminded the Board that the District's fund balance will continue to decrease with salary increases. The District is designing a new website that will roll out next week.

Committee Reports

Mini Grants: No report.

Super Bowl Warm-up: The Board will send invitations after the holidays. Question about also sending save the date postcards; the PR Committee will decide. All tickets will be \$28. The fundraising goal is \$30K, which equates to 20 tables, or 160 people in attendance. Michele handed out a donation sign-up sheet. Cara said we'll need 20 desserts for the dessert auction.

Communication/PR: No report.

Caring Cupboard: Mary is reaching out to all new counselors and is approaching Bluestone for haircuts.

Scholarships: Mike reported that the Scholarship Fair will be Monday, September 23 from 6-8 and asked Board members to bring cookies.

Mailing Lists: No report.

Tile Wall: Lowell talked with Beau Snow, he recommended that Fast Lane Signs could engrave final tiles, and will check to see if maintenance can install them. Beau also suggested stenciling for the remaining spaces in the wall.

Parent/Umbrella Group Liaison: No report.

Nominating Committee: No report.

Kittitas County Youth Awards: Mike reported that the Youth Awards will be Monday, April 6.

Bylaws/Mission Statement Development: No report.

Grant Writing: No report.

Cross Training: No report.

Website Update: Michele will check the website to ensure mini-grant procedures are posted.

Professional Development: Lowell talked to National Association of School Foundations; membership is \$150. Decision about whether or not to join tabled until next month. Lowell will determine the cost of attendance for the national conference.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None.

Other: None.

Meeting adjourned at 8 a.m. The next regular board meeting will be held Wednesday, October 2, at 6:45 a.m. at the Palace Café.

Submitted by Deb Gauck, Secretary