

**Ellensburg School District Education Foundation**  
Monthly Meeting - Wednesday, May 6, 2020, 6:45 AM – via Zoom

**Board Members Present:**

Tor Blaisdel Tara Brown Michele Cawley Amy Cziske Deborah Gauck	Mary Gordon Jinger Haberer Cara Marrs Mike McCloskey Lowell Murphree	Brandon Robertson Maureen Rust Dan Shissler Dick Wedin
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**Board Members Absent/Excused:** None.

**Guest Attendance:** None.

**Welcome and Call to Order:** Tor called the meeting to order at 6:46 AM.

**Approval of April Minutes:** Cara moved to approve the April 3, 2020 minutes. Dick seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Dick reported that Grebb, Johnson, Reed & Wachsmith prepared the April 30, 2020 and April 30, 2019 financial statements. Assets as of April 30, 2020 were:

- General checking: \$43,799
- Storms payment account: \$16,775
- Edward Jones accounts: \$1,197,782
- Net assets, restricted: \$1,200,436
- Net assets, unrestricted: \$57,920
- Total net assets: \$1,258,356

**Superintendent’s Report:**

Jinger reported that the District has operated its school meal program since the first day of school closure; to date, it has distributed over 35,000 meals. Staff also distribute materials for students without Internet access (about 88 students) and inform families about free Internet and school hotspots. The District plans to survey parents and teachers about ongoing needs. Jinger participates in the OSPI initiative on distance learning, which may include asynchronous learning (Loom), teacher office hours, etc. OSPI is suggesting that the fall term will most likely be a hybrid of distance and in-person learning, with parents most likely opting-in to this delivery method. Jinger is also participating in the Kittitas County Economic Recovery Group. Michele asked how the District is addressing family mental health needs. Jinger is looking at several options, including contracting with Comprehensive Healthcare, hiring an internal mental health professional, using interns, etc. Michele reported that there has been a decrease in child abuse reports because “no one has eyes” on these students; and an increase in marital/other separations. Amy asked Jinger about the students who are difficult to track. Jinger said the District has list of “off-the-radar” students and will begin home visits and other connection/outreach activities, e.g., via the Bookmobile. Mary will develop a Teacher Appreciation message and send to Jinger for website posting.

**Election of Officers:** Mary moved, and Lowell seconded, the following slate of officers and Board term reappointments:

- Slate: President - Mike McCloskey, Vice President - Maureen Rust, Secretary - Deborah Gauck, Treasurer - Dick Wedin.
- Board Term Reappointments expired 2019: Michele Cawley, Lowell Murphree.
- Board Term Reappointments expiring 2020: Tor Blaisdell, Amy Cziske, Mary Gordon, Brandon Robertson, Maureen Rust.

Both motions passed unanimously. In addition, Brandon moved, and Mike seconded removing Jesus from the Board; motion passed unanimously. Maureen noted that Noreen Norfleet resigned; the Board accepted her resignation email with appreciation.

### **Committee Reports/Activities**

**Mini Grants:** Given COVID-19, Deb asked the Board to consider awarding grants to a few strategic priorities this year instead of mini-grants; the Board will discuss at its strategic planning retreat.

**Super Bowl Kick-off:** Mary reported that the Kick-Off is tabled until a fundraising retreat can be scheduled and determined by discussions from the National School Foundations Association conference. The fundraiser room is reserved for the last Friday in January.

**Communication/PR:** No report.

**Caring Cupboard:** Mary reported that she:

- Plans to do a snail mail ask this summer to former donors and new prospects. If Board members have possible names they'd like included, please send her names and addresses. The Cupboard is down to the \$8,000 range and spending faster than it is taking in so she would like to replenish the account.
- Delivered clothing to an EHS senior who recently transferred from Easton and through a series of events is now living on her own- per Lisa Berthon, EHS counselor.
- Delivered clothing to a developmental preschool student- per Cathy Idler, teacher.
- Delivered five boxes of food to MMS for delivery on Friday to five families struggling to make ends meet- per Michelle Bibich.
- Delivered food to EHS for an EHS senior living on her own struggling to make ends meet with cut hours at work- per Courtney Schrader, counselor.
- Had a request to pay \$100 a month for May and June for a Lincoln family who does not have internet- per Kyoko Cleveland, counselor. Possibly two families. After discussion with Jinger and JoAnne Duncan (Lincoln Principal) it was decided this was not an appropriate use of Caring Cupboard funds as it does not have deep enough pockets to do the same for what might possibly be many other ESD families in the same situation. Free WiFi is also being provided within 250 feet of each school.

Tor also reported that the FISH food bank is seeing an incredible demand for services.

**Scholarships:** Mike reported that the unified scholarship application was updated and the deadline extended to May 4. Mike picked up applications; there is a similar number of applicants as last year. Mike will send applications to donors. Dick said some scholarships need to be extended to fall; can those deadlines be extended given attendance uncertainty because of COVID-19? Dick will extend his scholarship expenditure date. Mike said he tells students to talk about possible deferment in their applications.

**Mailing Lists:** No report.

**Tile Wall:** Dick reported that Fast Lane Signs will do mock-up of tiles to present to the Board; this is on hold given shutdown.

**Nominating Committee:** Brandon asked the Board to let him know of anyone interested in serving.

**Kittitas County Youth Awards:** Mike reported that he doesn't know if the May 11 ceremony will be rescheduled; one option could be home delivery of awards. Michele suggested an ESDEF parade to deliver awards.

**Website:** Mary reported that the website is up to date and that she will add April minutes once they are approved by the Board.

**Bylaws Update/Mission Statement Development:** Dick reported that the primary prompter for changing the bylaws was the inclusion of having Grebb, Johnson, Reed & Wachsmith, via Madelyn deMaintenon CPA, do the financial accounting for the Foundation. This changed the process for financial services and reports and the description of the Treasurer's position (Article XI, Sections 1, 2, and 3.) In addition, Dick deleted certificate of membership and status of membership sections since the Board has never implemented these activities (Article II, Sections 3, and 4.) He added a section on email and video conferencing as an additional means for voting (Article VII, section 4.) Mike moved to accept these changes. Mary seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously. Mary will post the bylaws on the ESDEF website.

**Grant Writing:** Deb reported that school districts should be receiving stimulus package funds soon. These funds can be used to provide mental health services and supports, among other activities. She has been working with District staff and federal/state funders to pivot as many grant-funded activities as possible to be provided virtually.

**Cross Training:** No report.

**Old Business:** No report.

**New Business:**

**National Conference Report:** Mike referred Board members to notes he and Deb developed about the National School Foundation Association's conference. The Board will discuss these notes at its strategic planning retreat. Regarding notes about annual campaigns, etc., Michele noted that Lowell has extensive development experience.

**Strategic Planning Zoom Retreat Date:** The Board set the first retreat date for June 11 from 4-8 PM. Mike and Deb will talk about developing an agenda based in part on conference notes. Questions include whether retreat will be one or more meetings, facilitation, and meeting method, i.e., in-person or via Zoom.

**Cap and Gown Request:** Dick reported that Haley Naboychik asked if the ESDEF could sponsor caps and gowns for students in need. He will ask her for more details and report back to the Board. Many Board members were reluctant to fund this request given more immediate needs due to COVID-19.

**Recreational Reading Books:** Maureen reported that Cathie Day at EHS and Pat Doughty at MMS are looking for funding to provide low-income EHS students with recreational reading materials during school closure. Maureen moved to donate \$500 for books. Mary seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously. Maureen will also check with libraries about loaning books, and whether the bookmobile can accept donations.

**Adjournment:** Tor adjourned the meeting at 8:10 AM. The next regular board meeting will be June 3, 2020 at 6:45 AM via Zoom.

Submitted by Deborah Gauck, Secretary