

Ellensburg School District Education Foundation
Annual Meeting - Wednesday, April 7, 2021, 6:45 AM – Zoom

Board Members Present:

Michele Cawley Deborah Gauck Mary Gordon	Jinger Haberer Mike McCloskey Lowell Murphree Brandon Robertson	Maureen Rust Dan Shissler Dick Wedin
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Board Members Excused: Tara Brown

Board Members Absent: None

Guest Attendance: Danae Cramer (Lincoln Parent’s Council), Lisa Favero (Morgan Parent Group), Jen Lyons (Mt. Stuart Parent Group)

Welcome and Introduction of Board: Mike called the meeting to order at 6:48 AM and welcomed guests.

Approval of March Minutes: Maureen moved to approve the March 3, 2021 minutes. Dick seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer’s Highlights: Dick reported that Grebb, Johnson, Reed & Wachsmith prepared the March 31, 2021 and March 31, 2020 financial statements. Assets as of March 31, 2021 were:

- General checking: \$41,140
- Storms payment account: \$66,900
- Edward Jones accounts: \$1,422,184
- Net assets, restricted: \$1,466,460
- Net assets, unrestricted: \$63,764
- Total net assets: \$1,530,224

Dick reported that the majority of assets are restricted to scholarships; the ESDEF manages 11 scholarships. Financial information is available on the website under the financial tab. In 2021, instead of hosting the Super Bowl fundraiser, the ESDEF sent a solicitation letter, and has raised \$11,275 to date. Dick mailed out liability insurance agreements to all Associates, and has received four agreements back. The current policy expires on April 10, at which time the ESDEF will enter a new policy period. Liability insurance is offered at a reasonable cost for Associates.

Highlights of the Year:

Caring Cupboard: Mary gave an overview of program; she reported that there was an anticipated lull in distributions in the spring. All expenses are on reported on the website, which is very transparent, listing all financial and giving information.

Envelope Fundraiser: Mary reported that in its letter campaign, the ESDEF solicited from its most active participants, and is pleased with the outcome.

Mini-Grant Program Update: Michele reported that applications were down this year. The ESDEF is available to help write applications. Mini-grants support all ESD constituents in supporting learning and other needs that are not funded by the ESD budget. The due date for applications is November 1.

Scholarships/Unified Scholarship Program: Mike reported that the ESDEF manages the unified scholarship program, in which students can apply for 18 scholarships via one form. Applications are due April 15 and are announced in the first week of June. The ESDEF is always looking for more scholarships.

Legacy (Tile) Wall: Dick reported that Fast Lane signs engraved donor names on the wall. The ESDEF sells tiles for \$100; brochures are available at EHS.

Strategic Planning Update: Maureen reported that the Board worked with Cathy Bambrick to develop a 3-year plan with four goals: aligning ESD and ESDEF strategies and assessing outcomes, fundraising and development, developing board roles and responsibilities, and communications. There are subcommittees for each goal.

Kittitas County Youth Awards: Mike reported that the ESDEF partners with Rodeo City Kiwanis and other school districts to host this program. Applications are due in February. All nominees receive a letter. There is a virtual ceremony in March, and awards are hand-delivered in April.

National Conference: Maureen reported that she attended the 4-day National School Foundation Association conference, which will aid the ESDEF as it implements its strategic plan.

Superintendent's Report: Jinger expressed her thanks to the ESDEF, especially to Dick for managing financial accounts and to Mary for managing the Caring Cupboard. She reported that the CDC has changed guidelines for social distancing; students are now allowed to sit three feet apart. The ESD negotiated with various stakeholders and set April 19 as the first day for primary students to return to in-person classrooms five days/week, and April 26 for secondary students. Jinger reported that it will be harder to implement this return at the secondary level; parents can request that ESD look at students' schedules to see if it is possible. Jinger said she appreciates the strong team throughout the ESD.

Associate Reports:

Mt. Stuart Parent Group: Jen Lyons reported that the Group carried over \$6K in surplus funds from last year to this year because they couldn't do their fundraiser this year. They were able to implement several activities this year: prizes for doing good things in school, two virtual book fairs, kindergarten t-shirts, and staff support (BBQ, scones and coffee, gift bags). The Group will host a 5th grade day camp and a field day at the end of the year.

Lincoln Parent council: Danae reported that the Council implemented several activities: annual poinsettia sale, gratitude café breakfast for teachers, water bottles/t-shirts for all students, one virtual book fair, "Saving Winslow" for all students, and spirit gear. They will host another book fair in the spring, as well as a year-end celebration with a lip-sync contest and fun fair.

Valley View PTA: No report.

Morgan Parent Group: Lisa Favero reported that the Group had a quiet year. They were not able to have their fundraiser, but did host donut/bagel days and a cocoa bar for staff. They will have nominations/elections at their next meeting and hope to help fund the 8th grade party.

EHS Band Parent Group: No report.

EHS Senior Party: No report.

FBLA Parent Group: No report.

Kittitas County Early Learning Coalition: Michele Cawley reported that ESDEF has been key partner for the Coalition, contributing books for families to build libraries. With COVID, the Coalition has pivoted to delivering books. It has also distributed books to developmental preschool and ELL teachers. The Coalition received funds from United Way for social-emotional learning books for primary students.

EHS Bulldog Gridiron Club: No report.

EHS Bulldog Hardwood Club: No report.
Kittitas Valley Music Education Parents: No report.

Mini-Grant Recipients:

Jeff Treadwell, digital camera equipment: No report.

Katy Cavanaugh, iPads: Katy sent an email expressing her appreciation for this grant, reporting that the iPads will expand learning opportunities, e.g., coding.

Effany Martinson, developmental preschool home resources: No report.

Juli Hamilton, books: No report.

New Business:

Save the Date, Super Bowl Kick-off 2022: The ESDEF moved its 2022 fundraiser up one week; it will be two weeks before the Super Bowl.

Election of Officers/Board Members: Brandon reported that Maureen will serve as President, Mary as Vice-President, Dick as Treasurer, and rotating members as Secretary. Michele moved to approve this slate of officers. Dick seconded the motion; motion passed unanimously. Michele expressed her thanks to the outgoing and incoming executive committee members. Both Mike and Maureen said they were excited about strategic planning efforts next year. Mike thanked guests for attending.

Adjournment: Maureen adjourned the meeting at 7:38 AM. The next regular Board meeting will be May 5, 2021 at 6:45 AM via Zoom.

Submitted by Deborah Gauck, Secretary