

Ellensburg School District Education Foundation

Annual Meeting - Tuesday, April 5, 2022, 5:15 P.M. – The Palace Café

Board Members Present:

Jen Carkner Jinger Haberer	Mike McCloskey Maureen Rust	Dick Wedin Jason White
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Board Members Absent: Michele Cawley, Lowell Murphree

Guest Attendance: Beau Snow, Michelle Bibich, Liz Whitaker, JoAnne Duncan, Pauline Clyburn

Welcome and Call to Order: Maureen called the meeting to order at 5:16 p.m. She welcomed new board member Jen Carkner to our group and thanked the guests for coming.

Approval of March minutes:

Mike pointed out a typo correction in the minutes. Dick moved to approve the March minutes and Mary seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: March financials have not been received from Grebb, Johnson, Reed and Wachsmith so Dick reported on December 31, 2021 numbers. Restricted monies \$1,551,985.00 and unrestricted \$64,249.00. Total \$1,616,234.00. Most restricted funds are in 11 different scholarships we process. Our most recent envelope fundraiser netted \$4100.00 so the need to get back to an in-person fundraiser is clear. Our fundraising event will be held on Friday, February 10th, 2023 and the venue is reserved. Dick let everyone know our financials are transparent and can be found on our website.

Activities Updates

Caring Cupboard: Caring Cupboard is going strong and helping kids. Conversations continue on how to best incorporate Family Liaisons into the process to reach more kids. Mary will be meeting with counselors and Family Liaisons soon to facilitate planning for the Giving Tree for 2022.

Envelope Fundraiser: Dick reported income to date of \$4100.00.

Learning Enhancement Awards: Five awards were presented in 2021:

1. Teresa Torrence Smith- MMS, \$150 for her classroom library- no report
2. Cathie Idler- Early Learning Teacher, \$1350 for learning materials to send home- no report
3. Juli Hamilton- Director of Early Learning, \$1500 for distribution of books- no report
4. Mandi Laurent- Bookmobile, \$500 for new books to distribute- no report
5. Tyler Douglas- Excel student, \$250 to promote Substance Prevention Club- no report

Scholarships: Mike reported that the Unified Scholarship is happening and students have to submit their applications by April 15. There are 20 different scholarships on one application. Donors choose the recipients and winners are announced at Senior Recognition Night.

Youth Awards: Mike reported the Kittitas County Youth Awards were presented March 28th. This program is county wide and a wonderful way to acknowledge student achievement. This year 31 kids were celebrated and 12 students took home plaques as category winners.

Legacy Tiles: Dick reported two tiles have been sold. He gave the history of the wall at EHS where families can purchase tiles to commemorate their graduates, family members and other accomplishments. Applications are available on our website and at the EHS office. Tiles are now 'engraved' with vinyl by Fastlane Signs in Ellensburg.

Strategic Planning: Maureen explained our strategic planning process to date. Pre-Covid we worked with a consultant to develop a 3 year plan regarding our board, and established some strong statements on our mission and beliefs. Losing board members during Covid requires us to regroup and push the pause button until we grow our board.

Associate Reports:

EHS: Principal Beau Snow reported that things are going well at EHS. He is very appreciative for support from ESDEF and the help Caring Cupboard gives to students in need.

Lincoln: Principal JoAnne Duncan gave an overview of the things happening at Lincoln. Housed at the new elementary Ida Nason Aronica this year, the staff and students have been busy and things are returning to normal after the turmoil of Covid. Upcoming activities include raising salmon, 5th grade camp, poetry month, an Ag Day field trip, family bingo night, the Lincoln Fun Fair, and the Heart, Body, Mind challenge. The current core value is 'Hope'. JoAnne thanked ESDEF for their support of Lincoln staff and students.

Mt Stuart: Parent group treasurer Jen Lyons sent this report via email: We can report it has been a fairly quiet year as we again could not hold large group events due to covid. That said, we have held 2 book fairs during fall and spring conferences that were very successful, and we have focused our other attention on staff support--lunches, staff room treats, classroom \$ allotments, monthly Eagle Buck store prizes for students (the positive behavior incentive program all 3 elementaries operate) as well as fulfilling other requests such as books for the library, PE equipment, playground balls, etc. We have offered money for field trips and will wait and see what the school district allows this spring with as far as travel goes. I believe 5th grade is going to a Mariners game in June and 5th grade camp is a-go for mid-May! We will help with field day volunteers in June as well as provide some funds for the Mt Stuart girls' robotics team headed to Worlds in Dallas, TX mid-May. We hope to begin active fundraising and hosting large group events again next fall as covid restrictions lift.

As many of you know, the schools will be splitting into 4 elementary buildings next fall and thus, we will be looking to form a new board in the fall as 2 of our officers will be moving on. We have been in discussion with Lincoln board members (and soon Valley View) about helping Ida Nason Aronica's PTO begin a new non-profit and help set them up with some seed money to start off positively next year. We truly hope this shuffle is a positive move that opens up

communication lines with all 4 Parent Organizations and helps us work cohesively to support all 4 elementary schools and support services as we will have many ties and resources to share between old/new members...we look forward to it! Thank you for your time and support!

Morgan Middle School: Principal Michelle Bibich gave a report on the activities happening at MMS. A lot of reengagement with students and families is now happening after the shut downs and virtual aspects of Covid. She praised the resilience of both staff members and families. The MMS Parent Group is sponsoring a Bulldog 5K soon, and everyone looks forward to resuming Family Nights, including Spanish Speaking Nights. There is hope to resume all clubs and social activities for students and families in the fall of 2022. Michelle has been hosting virtual Q & A sessions with families who have questions and concerns about middle school activities and operations. Book Fairs have been held this year which are always popular, with some BOGO offers. The 8th Grade Party is happening, and some options for the missed 6th grade San Juan trips are being offered, including a day trip to Seattle. The Power Incentives Store is in full swing, recognizing students for good behavior. Thanks was given to ESDEF for the many Caring Cupboard drops, support for the music programs and the grants given for classroom libraries.

EHS Band Parent Group: Parent Group VP Pauline Clyburn reported that both the MMS and EHS bands are happy to be done with masks while playing instruments. All music programs took a hit with Covid so they are struggling with numbers. There have been multiple concerts and several EHS students applied for and earned attendance at an esteemed conference held in Seattle in the fall of 2021. Many workshops were held and it was a great opportunity for our band students to learn from professionals. Marching Band and Pep Band are in full swing.

Ellensburg Orchestra Program: Parent Group President Pauline Clyburn reported that everyone is thrilled to be able to hold concerts again in the Morgan Performing Arts auditorium. Numbers enrolled in orchestra are also down due to the pandemic. She stressed the importance of growing the program in the elementary years. Two scholarships for Orchestra Camp are available and due April 15th. Many of our orchestra students participated in and did very well during the annual Solo and Ensemble contest.

Kittitas County Early Learning Coalition: Liz Whitaker reported on the many books purchased with Learning Enhancement Award funds for early learning. She shared a few books and talked about the outreach activities happening for 0-5 as well as getting a book to every child entering Kindergarten. There has been some collaboration with Juli Hamilton, ESD Director of Early Learning to reach more kids. Providing books for English language learners is a focus. Liz also let us know the United Way of Central Washington was bringing Dolly Parton's Imagination Library to our area.

Lincoln Parent Group: no report

Valley View PTA: no report

EHS Senior Party: no report

EHS Bulldog Gridiron Club: no report

EHS Bulldog Hardwood Club: no report

New Business:

Fundraiser: Our annual fundraiser will be held on Friday, February 10th, 2023. Planning will begin soon.

Election of Officers for 2022/2023:

Mike moved and Jen seconded the following slate of officers:

President- Mary Gordon

Vice President- Maureen Rust

Secretary- Mike McCloskey

Treasurer- Dick Wedin

The motion carried.

Adjournment: Maureen adjourned the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

Submitted by Mary Gordon, Rotating Secretary for April.