Agenda for Wednesday, August 11, 2021

2pm, Virtual Meeting

In attendance: President Meghan Agresto, VP Al Marzetti, Treasurer Bryan Daggett, Secretary Allison Broughton, Susan Taylor, Gerri Adams, Frieda Harris. Teacher-Admin Sylvia Wolff. Members of the Public: Amy Boutin, Karen Clark, Erin Price, Nina Watkins, Jacquelin Winter, Annette Bailey.

The meeting was called to order at 2:01pm. A quorum was established.

Board action

* Approve July minutes – Susan made a motion to approve the July meeting minutes. Gerri seconded and all voted in favor.
* Update non-discrimination clause – Al made a motion to revert to our original non-discrimination clause and amend to include: “Any questions or concerns can be directed to the WEVS Title IX coordinator, or the Office of Civil Rights (OCR). Susan seconded and all voted in favor.
* Masks decision – Strong Schools NC Public Health Toolkit—recommendations, updated most recently yesterday. The ultimate goal is to keep kids in school (vs. a return to virtual school). If kids are masked, and there is a positive case among the school population, it is not considered a direct contact and therefore does not require quarantining. Dare county had its second highest positive rate since the pandemic began last week. Teacher-Admin Wolff’s recommendation is to require masks for everyone inside until local (Dare and/or Currituck) case numbers begin to fall. Per CDC’s index, both Currituck and Dare county are in the red—greater than 10% positivity rate. Teacher-Admin Wolff will give updates weekly or bi-weekly to re-evaluate. Susan made a motion to adopt Sylvia’s recommendation that all people indoors are masked at all times and for the Board to meet again to vote on masks when local rates (both Dare and Currituck) reach the green or yellow level per the CDC index. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/community/schools-childcare/indicators-thresholds-table.pdf> Bryan seconded. Two members abstained from the vote and five members voted in favor. The motion carried.
* Outdoor classroom discussion- The Board agreed that approaching the Lighthouse BOD regarding turning the former boat shed into an outdoor classroom is a worthwhile pursuit. Much of what would be needed to outfit the classroom is already on hand.

President’s Report

* School renewal website uploads delayed on OCS end
* Hiring update – Have one applicant for the psych professional position, which is paid for through the social/emotional grant. She looks great on paper and will be invited in for a meeting next.
* Schoolhouse Open Houses - big thanks to parents who participated in this successful outreach project!
* Waiting list update – Five names have been moved through to have a full school. Twenty names remain on the list (including two new names within the last 24 hours).
* Charter schools and virtual learning update- Charter schools may not have a virtual learning option, unless there is an actual virtual learning academy.
* Teacher-Admin Wolff has joined Leaders Making Leaders, roundtable discussions/mentoring. She meets with Tom Miller (who helped with a feasibility study for high school) tomorrow re: social-emotional, mental health, and mask plans.

Treasurer’s Report

Acadia reports to detail July revenue and costs have not yet been received. The following information is currently available:

There is $343K in CDs in accounts at Atlantic Union and First National earning a little interest

There is $ $235K in the Towne Bank operating account.

There is $23,405 in the Capital Account (Townebank) – Thank you board members @ 100%!!

The complaint with Johnson Controls continues as we have formally disputed their labor charges. Their invoices should not be paid until they return contact regarding the dispute.

Dare county informed us that they were missing some invoices and hadn’t made some payments due to the school. They allocated $12-13k more than was anticipated in the budget. They will make payments in August to correct accounts.

Committee Reports

* Curriculum/Teacher Eval/Professional Development – Susan and Teacher-Admin Wolff will discuss who and how to evaluate Teacher Allen (EC specialist).
* Capital Campaign – Bryan and Meghan met with Betty and Wayne Evans and Wayne has pledged at least $250k to kick off the campaign. When we are ready to reach out to the next contact, we are to talk to David Shufflebarger to make the plan. Teacher-Admin Wolff will make the call to set a meeting with the next prospect. 100% of the Board has donated to the campaign.

New Business

Old Business

Teachers/Admin update

* Communications that have gone out- bi-weekly parent updates
* Manual updates- parent/teacher manual has gone out; employee manual almost ready
* Summer School/ESY - mostly solid participation with goals reached.
* New students sent to PowerSchool and new roster started
* Mental health plan based on state published template- draft sent to board. Hope to consult MH professional (new hire) before sending to state.
* Teacher-training program update (SafeSchools) - begins a week from Tuesday. Teachers can do it independently ahead of teacher workdays if they would like.
* Spanish 1 and World History for 8th graders through NC Virtual Public Schools. Five students will utilize.
* Will have a new beginning teacher in two weeks, so will need to begin BTSP paperwork.
* PBL- Will be based on the quote: The power to change the world is in your hands.

Upcoming this month:

* working on our mental health plan based on template and self-assessments published by the state
* updating employee manual to reflect verbiage from state including mental health and title nine,
* starting files on and ensuring all proper paperwork/ received requesting records from old schools for new students.
* helping with capital campaign
* Working with Liz to define a Tier system that incorporates our current practices—weekly PLC. Flag with grades, attendance, teacher observation, parent input. Really just putting system we already use on paper. Melissa Kite is trained in tier system so she will look over
* starting bi-weekly parent updates (all while keeping an eye on NC interpretation of CDC guidelines.)

Public Comment

Question from parent: What would the steps be if an asthmatic student has an issue with a mask? Answer: Allow the student to step outside and remove his/her mask. Already, as much time is spent outside as possible. There were no issues at all last year with masks.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:12pm