Minutes for Wednesday, September 8, 2021

2pm, Virtual Meeting

ANNUAL MEETING

In attendance: President Meghan Agresto, VP Al Marzetti, Treasurer Bryan Daggett, Secretary Allison Broughton, Susan Taylor, Gerri Adams, Frieda Harris.

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

Board action

* Approve August minutes- Bryan made a motion to approve edited August minutes. Susan seconded and all voted in favor.
* Elections for directors: The term has expired for one seat (Gerri Adams). Al nominated Mrs. Marcy Moore to take the vacant seat. Gerri seconded. No other nominations were made. All voted in favor of the pending nomination for Marcy Moore.
* Election of officers—Bryan made a motion to re-elect the current officers. Susan seconded and all voted in favor.
* Thank you to Gerri Adams for her three years of service to our board of directors!
* Review of mask policy—No action needed per policy set last month: Currituck 11.04% positivity rate (red/highest risk), Dare (19.1%) (red/highest)
* Confirm hiring of School Psychologist—Kerri Appelbaum’s contract has been signed. Susan made a motion to ratify the contract for Kerri Appelbaum as school psychologist. Al seconded, and all voted in favor.
* Approve Social-Emotional/Mental Health (SEL) plan— Susan made a motion to approve the social-emotional plan as presented by Teacher-Admin Wolff. Meghan seconded and all voted in favor.

President’s Report

* Waiting list update – There was some movement after Teacher-Admin Wolff sent out the link for beginning of the school year student information request- Two students left and two students claimed those spots. There are now 22 on the waiting list and many texts/emails coming in still.
* Covid update: Four students are quarantined (zero positive cases), following a positive parent who drove carpool on the first day of school.
* Facility improvements over the summer: Ceiling painted, bulbs changed (talking to Twiddy—there seems to be a bigger problem than bulbs in the track lighting), fence sign cleaned, filters changed, two new air filtration systems added to classrooms
* Governor signed Senate Bill 654 –re: School Report Card and Virtual learning
  + SBE will not calculate achievement, growth, & performance scores or display performance scores, growth designations & letter grades for schools for the 2021-2022 year based on the 2020-2021 school year data. − SBE will issue an annual report card for public school units for the 2021-2022 school, based on data from 2020-21 school year. This will meet the minimum accountability, school identification and related reporting requirements of ESEA as required under the federal waiver granted by USDOE. − Public school units will be required to display the annual report card information issued by SBE from the 2020-21 data.
  + Public School Units in a county receiving a good cause waiver, may use up to 15 remote instruction days or 90 remote hours when a school is unable to open due to: ♣ Weather conditions ♣ Energy Shortages/power failures ♣ Emergency situations Public School Units in counties without a good cause waiver, may use up to 5 remote instruction days or 30 remote hours when a school is unable to open due to the same reasons above. These days/hours will count towards the 185 days/1,025 hours required for instruction.
  + Boards must revisit mask policy monthly
* PRC 182 and 173 – both due at the end of this month. PRC 173 is for an (unknown) allotment to continue our grant (PRC 169) that allowed us to hire the school psychologist; PRC 182 is for improving learning loss ($16K) during covid and involves a narrative and a budget but includes things like facility repairs and air quality improvement to minimize transmission. Funds can be used to outfit outdoor classroom. Grants are due at the end of September for funds to spend this school year.
* Teacher Voldish has joined Leaders Building Leaders roundtable discussions for EC teachers.
* Licensure updates—Teacher Fretwell has completed her licensure requirements
* Employee Manuals are out for signature. Teacher-Admin Wolff edited it with the following changes:
  + Same change to Title IX- added same verbiage as parent manual.
  + Added an introduction, "Welcome to WEVS!" paragraph
  + Defined the three types of work days for teachers (school day, teacher work day, and teacher workshop day) and the expectations thereof (independent vs team expectation and definable outcome goals for non-team teacher work days.)
  + Copy/pasted the BTSP as an appendix
  + Referenced the SEL plan
  + Added more information about the calendar, clarified 1025 hours versus days, and linked the state requirements for a school calendar in the paragraph.
  + Included the the FMLA extension for COVID (FFCRA) for this year as well but made the leave for 8 days rather than 10 since quarantine for 10 days will include two weekend days no matter what.

Treasurer’s Report

As of today (Sept 7, 2021):

TowneBank Operating account: $ 212K

TowneBank Capital Campaign account: $ 24K

First National and Atlantic Union CDs: $343K

No progress on Johnson Controls dispute.

Stock donation proceeds and PayPal transfers can now be received directly into the Capital Campaign account.

Committee Reports

* Curriculum/Teacher Eval/Professional Development – PDPs, scheduled evaluations, -- Susan met with teachers during teacher work week. Observations are scheduled for October 18 and March 15. Teacher Fretwell will have an additional surprise observation in April or May. Susan will collaborate with Teacher Voldish to observe Teacher Allen using a narrative vs. a standard form. Teachers are working on a PD plan, most have submitted it already and those who haven’t received a reminder from Susan.
* Capital Campaign – Updates: Since the last meeting, Allison and Teacher-Admin Wolff met with Bernie Mancuso. Teacher-Admin Wolff would like to meet next with OBXTek, Ed Jessen—Meghan and Bryan will also attend that meeting. David Shufflebarger suggests that the capital campaign committee to meet weekly to sustain progress. Teacher-Admin Wolff will advise re: plans for a meeting with Ed Jessen.
* Grievance Committee – n/a
* School Improvement Planning (SIP)– elections will take place this month for classroom representatives to serve either for one-or two-year terms. One parent has self-nominated to serve. All positions are up for re-election. Will discuss at back-to-school night. Will provide an overview of how WEVS works at first SIP meeting.

New Business

* Might be worth sitting on the idea of a policy for finalizing enrollment in August with a time limit for filling out the link for student information so that we don’t end up with people not communicating with us about withdrawing students… We ask for a commitment in January but that’s it… A seed planted for consideration in the future
* New desks—5 @ $200 for adjustable desks to replace tables in the Chapel. Al made a motion to approve up to $1500 to buy new desks. Bryan seconded and all voted in favor.

Old Business

* Mental Health Template/Social Emotional Plan update from Teacher-Admin Wolff— Sent a preliminary document for board review. Verbiage answers the checklist that needs to be submitted to state by Sept 15. School psychologist Appelbaum will review today. PLC notes were adjusted to accommodate the tiered system to identify high risk students (data and action plan). Some aspects of the tiered system have been a part of teacher PLC for a long and some improvements to the system will be made. Plan must be reviewed and re-submitted every three or five years. Board must approve the plan prior to sending it to the state.
* Outdoor classroom and OBC/Lighthouse – OBC is happy to have WEVS put tables in the boathouse and use as needed until they come up with an official boathouse plan.

Teachers/Admin update

* EOG ELA updates from 2021 EOGs –Preliminary data says WEVS had a 77% pass rate in ELA, and a 58% pass rate in math. In 2019, those numbers were 85% in ELA and 81% in math. WEVS numbers are in keeping with the national trend following a year of virtual school; can’t compare to other school systems because no one is publishing yet
* BOG for 3rd graders – Thursday, September 16
* New students sent to PowerSchool and new roster started
* Teacher-training program update - went great. CPR certified. Still working on vector training. Great first PLC yesterday.
* Parent updates – not much feedback yet
* Back to school night – tomorrow. Board is welcome to attend. Trying to include all parents, including those who don’t read newsletters. Will define how teachers communicate on a regular basis and/or in the event of problems. Teacher-Admin Wolff would like to have a board-teacher get together.

Public Comment – none

Bryan made a motion to close the meeting. Frieda seconded, and all voted in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 3:23pm.