Minutes for Wednesday, March 11, 2020

2pm, Corolla Public Offices

In attendance: President Meghan Agresto, VP Al Marzetti, Treasurer Bryan Daggett, Secretary Allison Broughton, Susan Taylor, Gerri Adams. A quorum was established.Teacher Liz Fennimore. Telephonically Frieda Harris, Teacher-Admin Sylvia Wolff. Members of the public: Karen Clark

Meeting called to order at 2 pm

**Board action**

* + Vote to approve February 2020 meeting minutes- Gerri motioned to approve, Frieda seconded, and all voted in favor.
  + Educational leave applications review - none
  + Proposed 2020-2021 School Calendar. Meghan briefed the Board that a “Board Corner” section was added to the monthly newsletter. This month’s newsletter featured a link to the proposed school calendar for the 2020-21 year and requested that parents provide any comments or concerns via email or by attending today’s Board meeting. No comments were provided by parents or other members of the public. Susan motioned to approve the proposed calendar, Meghan seconded, all voted in favor.

**President’s Report**

* + Performance review update – Weighted lottery. The school received a letter from Office of Charter Schools the raised the issue of the WEVS lottery being weighted in favor of teacher’s children, which was not part of the original charter. Enrollment has never been impacted by weighting for teacher’s children. Meghan will submit the lottery policy as is to Epicenter.
  + Lottery update – The 2020-21 lottery was held Friday, March 6. Five new Kindergarten students were offered space. The first student drawn has two siblings, so they are numbers 1 and 2 on the wait list, which has eight names on it. As of now, the grade distribution for the 2020-21 school year will be Kindergarten- 5 students, 1st grade- 2 students, 2nd grade- 3 students, 3rd grade- 6 students, 4th grade- 5 students, 5th grade- 4 students, 6th grade- 7 students, and 8th grade- 4 students.
  + CIP update- no meeting this month
  + REAP grant – The application for this year was submitted. The application has been streamlined. There was no change from last year. Some federal funding associated with REAP is being cut, but it should not affect the school.
  + IEP renewals- Two IEPs were renewed. Angela Speck billed for the school psychologist portion of the work.
  + Coronavirus contingency plans - Students will attend class via Google hangouts. Discussion took place regarding possible concerns related to remote learning—i.e., it does not work for every student; some students may not have Internet access; hourly employees will not be working and earning their salaries in the event of a school closure. Options to address those concerns: the school could pay for Internet for student(s) without access. EC Aide Allen could possibly be present to teach one EC student. A work list could be compiled for Teacher Assistant Fretwell. Chromebooks could start going home nightly in case decision comes to close schools.

**Treasurer’s Report**

At the close of business on 2/29/2020 our Operating Account (Towne Bank) had $75,000 and our seven CDs (three different banks) totaled $471,000, for total current assets of $546,000.

For the month of February, revenues exceeded expenses by $9,000. YTD CEF is in the black $45,000. With 33% of our fiscal year remaining, we are on track to have expenses under budget by 8-10% and to have utilized most federal and state funding allotments. There were no unexpected or abnormal expenses in February.

Because it’s best practice to rotate auditing firms every several years, Bryan solicited bids from several audit firms. Our audit firm since inception has been Rives & Associates. The partner on the account, Jav Sharpe, has left Rives & Associates and formed another accounting firm. Mr. Sharpe’s new firm provided a competitive bid. A solo practitioner provided a bid that was $500 lower but there is a benefit to having someone familiar with our account as well as an additional review partner in the firm. Mr. Sharpe is also on Acadia’s list of approved auditors. As such, Bryan recommended that we retain Mr. Sharpe’s new firm, Sharpe-Patel.

Meghan moved that we retain Sharp-Patel, CPA as CEF’s new audit firm. Al seconded, and all approved.

There have been no significant changes to expenses or projections. Funding from Currituck County is two months’ late for unknown reasons. Checks were received in November and December, and nothing after that. Meghan will ask Dori to follow up with Currituck County. Bryan will put together 2020-21 proposed budgetprior to May board meeting.

**Curriculum Committee Report**

Susan observed Teachers Fennimore and Moore. She will observe Teacher Sonnenberg and Teacher-Admin Wolff tomorrow. Summative at end of year that Susan has been doing but they are all experienced teachers now so Susan only sees them for 20 min observation and there is much more to report. Discussed including input from other Board members who volunteer in the classroom regarding teacher/student interaction . Summative goes to teachers and the NCEES website. Gerri volunteered to help Susan with eval of EC Teacher Julie.

**Building Committee** - no report

**New Business**

* School Fire Drills. Corolla Fire & Rescue (CFR) Chief Shortway has requested significant advance notice of fire drills so that he can get them on the CFR calendar if school wants help with them or their presence.

**Old Business** – no update

**Teacher Report**

* + PLC meetings – occur weekly. There is a PD topic for each PLC; the last one was on technology tools. An EC PD will occur this month.
  + There is PRC118 money available (special education that is not autism-specific) for trainings, tangible materials, state licensure, membership/subscription dues, resource materials, treatment materials, assessment materials. There are upcoming VA Beach trainings with Kathy, including self-regulation for kids with ADD/ADHD. Teacher Fennimore plans to look for another academic assessment for speech students. The assessment is a requirement but the current one is time consuming. PRC118 funds could be used to reimburse school for EC Teacher Julie Allen’s praxis testing.
  + Info re: learning Platform (Renzuilli ) that Sylvia is investigating—program that asks students to assess themselves, puts together a learning profile, and suggests methods and directions for each child; on a trial period of 3 months, running all students through it; $10 per student per year after trial period.
  + Check-ins - are complete, no real surprises; Summer Reading Camp - not just for third grade; no one is flagged and in need. Students expected to pass portfolio.
  + Technology needed – new Chromebooks orders; just received iPads from CFR, students have been using them to listen to Audible.
  + Professional Development – Teacher-Admin Wolff attended Charter Schools Conference in Cullowhee, and thinks WEVS teachers should be presenters at some of these sessions.
  + Coronavirus - Deb Brown (2017-2018 NC Charter Teacher of the Year) and Mr. Harris of NEAAT have policies on record with the state regarding offsite schoolwork via the internet; schools are canceling sports and field trips, but none are closing as of yet.
  + EC update - There are three students in the IEP process; two are renewals and one was added this year. The school is expected to have between 4-6 IEPs at year-end. WEVS will be evaluated on progress through check-ins, EOGs, and state audits.
  + Teacher Work Conditions Survey- 100% of our teachers have completed the confidential 2020 NC Teacher Working Conditions Survey
  + Concerns- with increasing IEPs, there may be a need to look at the schedule for pullouts for next year. Will need to determine if hiring additional staff is necessary. EC Aide Allen could do some pullouts now that she has received her EC certification. An upcoming PLC should be used to determine the teacher schedule for next year.
  + Kidwind- scheduled for 3/21 at Coastal Studies Institute in Skyco.
  + Project update- Students are working on creating renewable and biodegradable packaging to protect a s’more. They are currently testing and getting feedback. Results will be presented at quarter end on 3/27.Ryan Riley used to substitute and is back volunteering with the business/planning/spreadsheet side of the s’mores project.

**Public Comment** – none

Meeting adjourned at 3:17pm.