Minutes for Wednesday, December 8, 2021

2pm, Virtual Option or at Library meeting room for in-person option

In attendance: President Meghan Agresto, Treasurer Bryan Daggett, Secretary Allison Broughton, Susan Taylor, Frieda Harris, Marcy Moore. Teacher/Admin Sylvia Wolff. Members of the public: Mark Adams, Karen Clark, Trinity Yanez.

The meeting was called to order at 2:00pm. A quorum was established.

Board action

* Approve November minutes- Bryan made a motion to approve the November meetings. Susan seconded and all voted in favor.
* Face covering policy review – Currituck up 7.7% positivity rate (red) and Dare increased (from 10.57 to 15%, still red) so no need to revisit mask policy.

President’s Report

* Epicenter Performance Review – Admission and lottery policies submitted with no changes from last year, along with renewal work for charter renewal. Charter renewal is in good standing, all seems to be in place for a successful renewal.
* Lottery update: 7 k/1 (2 siblings), 1 2nd grade, 1 3rd grade, 2 7th grade 1 8th grade = 12 enrolled in lottery so far (6 students will be graduating in 2022, and there is some talk of another student’s leaving). Two prospective kindergarteners fall under multiple birth policy.
* Reported ADM for next year stating that enrollment will not grow by more than 20% and there will be no additional grade levels added (didn’t have to commit to exact number after all).
* Covid update: WEVS folks in quarantine/positive cases (2 active)
* Another picnic table was donated thanks to Sherry and Patrick of Upside Restaurant
* Licensure update (none) – Still waiting for Teacher Fretwell’s license to be finalized.

Treasurer’s Report

No information yet from Acadia for November due to early meeting date this month.

Received some money from the state since last meeting. There is $233k in the operating account, and $175k in school building account. Much of that was moved over from a maturing CD. Taxes for the year (Form 990) are complete and ready to file.

Annual appeal: About $9000 was received from the annual appeal. Meghan will post a social media reminder that the appeal has gone out. Teacher/Admin Wolff is processing PayPal emails. Allison is sending paper letters to $1000+ donors.

Committee Reports

* Curriculum/Teacher Eval/Professional Development – PDPs, scheduled evaluations, PD. Susan needs to observe Teacher-Admin Wolff and needs to talk with Teacher Fretwell regarding her lessons. Observations are scheduled in late March. There will be a surprise evaluation for Teacher Fretwell in late May. At next PLC, Teacher-Admin Wolff will get access to 2-weeks-out plans for all teachers in case of emergency time out of school. Susan will follow up with Teacher-Admin Wolff to make sure the Board knows where to find this information. Marcy to attend Susan’s observation of Teacher-Admin Wolff as well.
* Capital Campaign – After a recommendation from David Shufflebarger to seek counsel to move forward, Teadcher-Admin Wolff spoke with Outer Banks Relief Foundation and Outer Banks Hospital, both of which hired a company to help raise funds and found the contribution from the outside companies they used to be critical. However, often these outside companies just push the Board to do more work. More people with more time to devote to the campaign are needed. The formation of a committee of 7-9 people to drive this campaign is essential. Action plan: Working on OBCF grant for funds and possible donor connections. Talk to Pastor Jim Southern re: who to speak to on chapel board. Email to possible committee members to see if they’d like to meet via Zoom. Sylvia will host a Zoom call for potential committee members on 12/22 at 4pm. Create timeline and discuss hiring of outside firm, large donor asks, and naming options.
* Grievance Committee – n/a
* School Improvement Planning (SIP) – successful first First Friday, next one will be the first Friday in January. Committee members discussed athletics and the possibility of starting a school team. Bob Steinburg is introducing new wording to allow home school and charter school students to participate in public school sports if their school doesn’t have them. HB91; talking about school sports potential—will do more research (interest, cost, legality, transportation) and make recommendations. Meetings are last Monday of every month at 4:30.

New Business

* Getting ready to send out commitment to return/attend next month
* Program from Gallop called strengths finding that is now being used often in middle schools so that students can play to their strengths, even regarding their future careers. Bryan offered to fund the program for students if Board is interested. WEVS students have used Renzuli program for similar purpose. Dare county has been using Gallop program and Bryan is looking for more information.

Old Business - none

Teachers/Admin update

* Teacher Voldish’s professional development – Greensboro Special Education conference. Came back with a lot of information and useful tools to achieve specific goals.
* Covid testing – 2 confirmed current cases, website has been updated, health department has been notified. Neither case can identify the source.
* Holiday events and parent support – Christmas in Corolla is raising about $100/night. About 60 people attended middle schoolers hosting at the Whalehead Club. Caroling this Friday. Thanksgiving lunch was a success.
* First field trip to Jennette’s Pier and Roanoke Island Festival Park-- students built solar cars
* Academics- looking to revise Portfolio schedule. ELA check-ins have occurred with no surprises.
* Projects – trivia games with environmental theme.
* Calendar- Late start (after Labor Day) for 2022-23 school year due to a conflict with a chapel event. Will be presented at January meeting.
* Two excellent hires at the beginning of this school year who have contributed so much to the school including School Psychologist and new teacher.

Public Comment - none

Closed session

Meghan made a motion to move to closed session. Bryan seconded and all voted in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:35pm.