

Great Expectations School

Growing Hearts and Minds, One Child at a Time

Regular School Board Meeting at Great Expectations School Thursday, September 15, 2016 4:00-6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order: Jeff Kern called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m.
 - 1.1 Attendance
Present: Suzy Schweig, Kathryn Nelson-Pedersen, Mike Carlson, Jeff Kern, Alyssa Hedstrom
Also present: Beth Ferry, Clara Weitz, Peter James
 - 1.2 Check-In
2. Reading of the Mission: The mission of the school is to develop in each child: a love of learning; critical and creative thinking skills; mastery of the academic building blocks; the ability to nurture family, friends and self; a strong commitment to being a contributing member of a community; open-heartedness toward others; and a passion for life-long learning.
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Consent Agenda
 - 4.1 Approve Minutes
 - 4.2 Approve Expenditures, Deposits and Fund Transfers

Motion by Suzy, seconded by Alyssa, to approve the consent agenda. All in favor – motion passed.
5. Treasurer's Report
 - 7.1 Final Budget Review and Approval
Mike reported that finances have been difficult. We are deeply in debt because we are missing a large lease aid payment. The delay is a result of conditions not being met that are required by the Fire Marshall, such as the moving of the hoop house and a new plastic covering. A consequence is that we are paying \$250 per month in loan interest.
6. Director's Report
See Pete's report for details.

Motion by Jeff, seconded by Mike, to hire Kati Stieler as a general education paraprofessional. All in favor – motion passed.

Motion by Jeff, seconded by Suzy, to fill 2 additional paraprofessional positions. All in favor – motion passed.

Motion by Jeff, seconded by Kathryn, to adjust paraprofessional wages with a 5% increase. New paras will start at \$14.50 per hour; licensed teachers who work as paras start at \$15 per hour. All in favor – motion passed.

Motion by Kathryn, seconded by Jeff, to designate Peter James as the Identified Official with Authority for GES. All in favor – motion passed.
7. Set Date for Annual Meeting and Board Election

Motion by Suzy, seconded by Alyssa, to reschedule the October board meeting to October 13th due to the MEA weekend. All in favor – motion passed.

Motion by Jeff, seconded by Suzy, to set the annual meeting and board elections for Tuesday, November 15th at 6:30. All in favor – motion passed.

Committee Reports

8.1 Facilities Update

Jeff reported that he met with Nina Simonovicz. Her recommendations include:

- Acknowledge Karina Roth and Jerry Starr for the work they do for GES.
- Pete and Jeff go to the GEF board and give them a preview of the building plan.
- Form a Building Expansion Committee that includes a GEF member, GES board member, parents, people with construction expertise.
- Create a Building Finance Committee as well.

Short list of people to recruit for finance committee and who will call them: Nina Simonovicz (Beth), Mark Glasnapp (Jeff), Beth Kennedy (Alyssa), Pat Campanaro (Pete), Patricia Hvidsen (Mike), Lisa Luttinen (Alyssa), Deb Benedict (Suzy), Grant Adams (Kathryn), Karen Blackburn (Jeff). Invite them to an informational meeting on Thursday, September 22 from 5:00-6:00 with snacks served. Pete will send a statement to the board tomorrow to use when calling potential committee members. The committee will meet several times before Nov. 15.

8.1.1 Set Schedule for Special Meetings: The first meeting will be 9/22.

8.1.2 Plan for getting more parents involved

8.1.3 Construction Budget: We need an estimate of how much space we need and what the cost is per square foot. Discussion about decisions that need to be made.

8.2 Policy Update

8.2.1 Plan for next policy review

8.3 ANCW Retreat Nov. 11/12

8.4 Communication

8.4.1 Discussed idea of assigning a board member to a parent group. Would communicate by email, soliciting feedback on various board issues/upcoming projects. Discussion about parent groups, how to include and inform new parents.

8.5 Personnel Update

8.6 Enrollment Update

9. New Business

10. Upcoming Actions

11. Check-out

12. Adjournment at 6:04 **Motion** by Jeff/All in favor.

GES Board meetings are open to all. While guests may not participate during the business meeting, our host team is available to visit, answer questions, and discuss your issues 15 minutes prior to each meeting. We invite you to share your ideas, suggestions, and concerns with our hosts during this time.