

Great Expectations School

Growing Hearts and Minds, One Child at a Time

Regular School Board Meeting at Great Expectations School Minutes

Thursday, Dec. 15, 2016 4:00-6:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order at 4:12 p.m.

1.1 Attendance

Members present: Lee Stewart, Carolyn Fritz, Dylan Dragswiek, Mike Carlson, Anna Brown, Suzy Schweig, Alyssa Hedstrom

Others: Peter James, Clara Weitz, Beth Ferry

1.2 Check-In and introduce new board members.

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

Motion by Mike, seconded by Suzy, to approve the agenda. All in favor – motion passed.

4. Consent Agenda

4.1 Approve Minutes

4.2 Approve Expenditures, Deposits and Fund Transfer

Motion by Lee, seconded by Alyssa, to approve the consent agenda. All in favor – motion passed.

5. Treasurer's Report

Mike reported on the school's financial status. The line of credit is being used to cover expenses. A large payment to GES of \$48,000 is expected in February. We have transitioned our checking account from Security State Bank to North Shore Federal Credit Union.

6. Director's Report – Please see complete report for details. Some highlights:

A new 6th grade student will begin in January.

Increase in number of special education students, currently 27 out of 101.

Learning opportunities with community volunteers.

Report on workshop day last week.

Responsive Classroom training to be held next summer for all schools in county.

7. Committee Reports

7.1 Facilities Update – Architect Richard Olson did a walk-through of building and developed a proposal to design drawings for a potential construction. The cost is a \$3,500 retainer fee plus \$120 per hour. Pete put forth the options of either creating a plan based on future long term expansion, or solving immediate needs in 2017 which would become the first phase of a larger, multi-phase expansion. A decision needs to

be made by January in order for any construction to happen next summer. Discussion about various options. Suggestion to bring in people to help with design including Mark Pedersen, Anton Moody, Tom Dwyer, Mark Glasnapp, Jerry Starr and Jeff Kern. January 4th meeting will focus on developing some concrete options.

7.2 Policy Update

7.2.1 Personnel Policy Update: Beth and Pete have identified a number of practices that need to be clarified and become policy, including unpaid leave and continuing insurance coverage during the leave. Discussion regarding a current employee on maternity leave. Pete will respond to her. A sub-committee of Anna, Alyssa, and Beth will meet to talk about this, at a time TBD.

7.3 Personnel Update

7.4 Board Training Jan. 28 – for new board members, with Gene Piccolo, covering Governance and Personnel.

8. New Business

Auditor's report and FY16 financial statements were distributed to each board member. Review these prior to January board meeting.

9. Upcoming Actions

10. Check-out

11. Adjournment at 6:00 p.m.

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.