

Great Expectations School

Growing Hearts and Minds, One Child at a Time

Regular School Board Meeting at Great Expectations School

Tuesday, November 13th, 2012, 4:00 p.m.

Approved Minutes

1. Call to Order/Welcome & Introductions- the meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm

Present: Allison Lowe, Sara Hingos, Mary Haussner, Susan Miller, Jonathan Hedstrom, Jeff Kern, Amanda Hand

Also present: Amy Henrikson, Peter James, Jeanne Smith

2. Reading of the Mission: Jeff read 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- Jonathan made a motion to approve the agenda, with the addition of adding the attendance record. Also adding the Green Schools Workshop in the committee section (7.3) Jeff seconded -- Ayes all.

4. Consent Agenda- Susan made the motion to approve the consent agenda, Jeff seconded, ayes all.

- 4.1 Approval of minutes from October 16th 2012- ayes all

- 4.2 Review of Expenditures and Fund Transfers

5. Treasurer's Report- Jonathan mentioned special education revenue is up, but just because that is the way the funds are dispersed. Maintenance costs were less as one staff member declined insurance. However, GES spent more on equipment by about \$3,500, partly because of the new building. The equipment budget line item will have to be reviewed in January when the budget is proposed. The finance committee will be pursuing a cash flow loan program; borrowing money from individuals from the month of March through the month of July. Pete explained the options and program ideas and will be unveiling the idea that Annual Meeting this Thursday. Amy reminded the board that the audit will need to be approved before the end of the year.

6. Director's Report –Pete supplied a written report.

Jeff moved to hire a general education paraprofessional (one who is already a part time para-educator here at GES) for the Fawns classroom for 45 minutes per day to help support reading - Aye- Jonathan, Aye-Mary, Aye-Susan, Aye-Jeff, Aye-Sara, Aye-Allison, Aye Amanda.

Jonathan made a motion and Amy seconded to hire a long term “employee” for the Otter classroom to take over for an employee who is taking a long term leave (4weeks) Pete reminded the board that any sub working more than 15 consecutive days needs to be hired as an employee- ayes all.

Jeff made a motion to allow Pete to interview teachers at GES for an independent Master's of Education project. Educators will have a choice if they want to participate, they are in no way required.—Ayes all

7. Committee Reports -

7.1 Board Development – Amanda welcomed Jeanne and let the board know Jeanne will be on the slate at the annual meeting for a 3 year term. Tom Jack will also be on the slate for a 1 year term. The Board Development committee will commit to keeping track of board member's terms so recruiting can begin in advance. Amanda shared a draft of Jeanne's biography.

7.2 ACNW Retreat Recap – Amy and Sara attended the Audubon Retreat. ACNW is having a teacher appreciation maple syrup-ing gathering March 15, 2013...one GES teacher should attend if at all possible.

7.3 Green Schools Workshop put on by MDE- on November 28 in Two Harbors- Amy described the program and said she will attend and asked for support

7.4 The communication committee met and designed a tally sheet for educators to track their communication with parents. Hopefully this is a simple way to track this communication. The website was discussed- Many teachers may prefer a blog style site.

7.5 Facilities- Jonathan will be installing a dusk to dawn light to illuminate the path to the new parking lot.

8. Old Business-

8.1 Annual Meeting- Sara has the agenda ready for the membership, and Pete will mention that we added \$29,000 dollars to our fund balance. Sara reviewed the slate, and appointments.

9. New Business-

9.1 Board and Committee Calendar- Sara introduced the calendar and asked for changes and additions. We will be doing committee assignments in December.

9.2 January Retreat – Monday, January 21^s is a day to work on clear and measurable Board goals and establish expectations.

10. Adjournment- Susan moved to adjourn Allison seconded at 5:48 pm. Ayes all.

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 30 minutes prior to each meeting. We invite you to share your ideas, suggestions, and concerns with our hosts during this time.