

Great Expectations School  
Growing Hearts and Minds, One Child at a Time

**Regular School Board Meeting at Great Expectations School**  
**Tuesday, February 17, 2015, 4:00 p.m.**

1. Call to Order: Sara called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.
  - 1.1 Attendance  
Present: Sara Hingos, Sue Butter, Jeff Kern, Mike Carlson  
Also present: Nick Wharton, Peter James, Annette Block-Valdivia, Clara Weitz
  - 1.2 Check-In & Two Minute Story
  - 1.3 Dropbox Materials: Check the Dropbox for new materials, including a new folder with web links.

2. Reading of the Mission: Mike 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: **Motion** by Mike, seconded by Sue, to approve the agenda. Postpone 5.0 Board Training because Amy Henrikson is not present. All in favor.
4. Consent Agenda
  - 4.1 Approve Minutes from January 27, 2015 Meeting
  - 4.2 Review Expenditures and Fund Transfers**Motion** by Sue, seconded by Mike, to approve the consent agenda. All in favor.

5. Board Training-Finance Powerpoint: Postponed until March meeting.

6. Treasurer's Report
  - 6.1 Re-approve Budget Revisions
  - 6.2 Enrollment Recommendation

Sara reported on the Finance Committee meeting. She requested that the Board re-approve the revised budget due to a figure that was incorrect. **Motion** by Jeff, seconded by Sue, to re-approve the budget with the corrected figure. All in favor. The committee recommends that enrollment caps for K-6 be increased to 11 students per grade for 2015-16. The enrollment caps are set annually.

7. Director's Report  
Pete reported on several items:
  - The installation of broadband is complete; we now need to address our wireless network due to poor coverage throughout the building.

- GES is one of 22 charter schools statewide to receive the “High Quality Charter School” designation. We are too small, however, to qualify for federal grant funding.
- Mathcounts! team competed at UMD and did well, placing 6<sup>th</sup> out of 10 teams.
- Calendar for 2015-16: We will wait until ISD166 finalizes their calendar.

7.1 Set Grade Level Caps 2015-2016: Pete presented a chart showing the potential enrollment changes if the cap is increased to 11 per grade. It is likely that not every grade will fill up to 11.

**Motion** by Sue, seconded by Mike, to set the enrollment cap at 11 students for grades K-6 for the 2015-16 year. Grades 7 and 8 remain unchanged. All in favor.

7.2 Set Enrollment Deadline: **Motion** by Mike, seconded by Jeff, to set an enrollment deadline of March 27<sup>th</sup>. All in favor.

## 8. Committee Report

### 8.1 Communication

‘Share your love with GES’ survey was sent to the Newsletter email list – Sara has received about 20 responses, and will report on those at a future meeting. Sara requested that board members be included in group email lists when classroom news is sent out.

### 8.2 Policy

8.2.1 Bullying Prohibition Policy 1<sup>st</sup> reading: Mike said the committee made revisions based on board recommendations, as well as adherence to state law. There were no further suggestions at this meeting.

8.2.2 Crisis Manual & Policy: They are updating policy before starting work on the manual, which will include all the procedures in the emergency response plan.

8.3 Board Development: There is mandatory board training on board governance; free training is available until May through MACS.

8.4 Enrollment: A newspaper ad will run in the News-Herald to promote the Open Visitation Days on Feb. 20 and March 13, for all grades K-6.

8.5 Facility: Pete, Jerry Starr and Sara did a walk-through of the building. Sara prioritized items into three categories: those that need to be done ASAP, by end of the year, and those that can wait until next year. Jerry Starr and Mark Glasnapp will take the lead in getting things done, along with a volunteer committee they are recruiting. GEF has assigned a liaison to work with GES on any building issues and repairs. Kathryn is sending a letter to parents and staff inviting them to help with aesthetics.

8.6 Personnel: Jeff reported that they discussed staff roles; he will create a visual for the next work meeting. They also discussed time off, but did not come to any conclusions. MACS compensation survey showing what other schools offer is in the Dropbox.

8.4 March Committee Meeting (Policy/Personnel) plus enrollment recap: Tuesday, March 3 at 4:00 p.m.

## 9. Old Business

9.1 School Lock-up Procedure: Kathryn made a checklist that will be posted in each classroom for staff to follow at the end of the day.

9.2 Retreat Task List: This list is in the Dropbox.

10. New Business

10.1 Director Review Information: The review will take place in March; the results should be reported at the March meeting by the Personnel Committee.

11. Upcoming Actions

11.1 Review next FY Technology Plan

11.2 Review Financial Policies & Procedures

11.3 Director Evaluation

12. Check-out

11.1 Meeting Survey

13. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 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.

TASK LIST:

Report Training on Spreadsheet