

# Great Expectations School

Growing Hearts and Minds, One Child at a Time

## **Regular School Board Meeting at Great Expectations School**

**Tuesday, February 19th, 2013, 4:00 p.m.**

### **Approved Minutes**

1. Call to Order/Welcome & Introductions- the meeting was called to order at 4:08 pm  
Present: Allison Lowe, Sara Hingos, Mary Haussner, Susan Miller, Jon Hedstrom, Amanda Hand, Jeanne Smith  
Also present: Amy Henrikson, Peter James
  2. Reading of the Mission: Jon 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- Susan made a motion to approve the agenda, -with the addition of committee reports 7.5 Board Development and 7.6 Technology. Mary seconded-- Ayes all.
  4. Consent Agenda- Jeanne made the motion to approve the consent agenda, Mary seconded, ayes all.
    - 4.1 Approval of minutes from January 15, 2013, ayes all
    - 4.2 Review of Expenditures and Fund Transfers
  5. Treasurer's Report- the committee submitted a written report
    - 5.1 Holdback Funding- the amount has changed that we will need funding for. It has increased by \$60,000. We initially thought we would only need to cover \$25,000. So we need to borrow approximately \$85,000. The plan is still to get loans from individuals. This change is due to some errors in estimates for special education expenses. Also, Spec Education funding was overpaid last year so this year the government will be taking back about \$10,000. The month of April and definitely May expenses will need to be covered by loans. In addition, the new lease aid has not been yet approved. These are not budget concerns, just cash flow concerns. Amanda made a motion to allow the finance committee to start soliciting loans to cover the cash flow gap. Mary seconded ayes all.
    - 5.2 Fund Balance Policy- Audubon has supplied some new matrixes to compare charter school financial performance. ACNW wants to see 25% fund balances. The GES fund balance is currently at 7%. The finance committee would like to update the minimum fund balance requirement in our policy from 4% to 5%. GES would need to call a membership meeting if the board was to budget below this number. This is the first reading of this policy change.
- Jeff Kern arrived at 4:26
6. Director's Report –Pete supplied a written report. Pete was happy to report that the students participated in Math Masters, came in 8<sup>th</sup> place out of 1413, even though they were missing a

team member and had to take a zero for the missing team member's score. Jeff Kern was the math coach for both GES and ISD166, and both teams shared the bus ride to UMD --other bridge of collaboration!

Jon made a motion to confirm the hire of Carolyn Fritz as a General Education Paraprofessional, Susan seconded, ayes all.

## 7. Committee Reports -

7.1 Personnel – Susan submitted a written report.

7.2 Environmental Committee – Sara and Amy- reviewed the Environmental documents that are already in place. The committee looked at the current environmental initiative and continued the discussion of the Green Ribbon Award.

7.3 Policy- the committee met and worked on getting the policies into an editable form. The committee purchased a PDF converter. The committee will also go through our policy manual to make sure we have all the necessary policies and ensure we review policies as required.

7.4 Dashboard – Sara reported 72 out of 77 parent teacher conferences were completed. That is 94% attendance.

7.5 Board Development- Amanda reported that she will send out a survey to solicit board development input/needs. Jon suggested we need a packet for new board members.

7.6 Technology Committee Report- the committee will be meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> of Feb at 4:00 pm the committee will discuss “e-rate” to help pay for communications. The application process is due March 14<sup>th</sup> (before our next board meeting). The application is for the next fiscal year, but the contracts need to be in place before March 14<sup>th</sup>. GES will need to contract with someone to develop a website. Jeff made a motion to authorize the technology committee to approve a contract with a website developer for no more than \$2300. Amanda seconded ayes all.

## 8.0 Old Business

8.1 Retreat Goals- The board reviewed the goal notes from the annual retreat.

## 9. New Business-

9.1 Director Evaluation- needs to be done in March.

10. Adjournment- Amanda moved to adjourn Alison seconded at 6:00 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.