

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

**Regular School Board Meeting at Great Expectations School**  
**Tuesday, May 19, 2015, 4:00 p.m.**

Call to Order: Sara Hingos called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m.

1.1 Attendance

Board Members present: Sue Butter, Sara Hingos, Jeff Kern, Mike Carlson, Kathryn Nelson-Pedersen at 4:55

Also present: Amy Henrikson, Clara Weitz, Peter James

1.2 Check-In & Two Minute Story

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.

Approval of Agenda

**Motion** by Sue, seconded by Mike, to approve the agenda.

Add under new business:

10.2 Statement of Assurances (Lease Aid Certification Form)

Add action items under Director's Report:

7.1 Approve Lynx teacher assignment for 2015-16

7.2 Permission to hire paraprofessional staff

7.3 Permission to pursue training of another GES school bus driver

All in favor.

Consent Agenda

4.1 Approve Minutes from April 21, 2015 Meeting

4.2 Approve Expenditures, Deposits and Fund Transfers

**Motion** by Mike, seconded by Sue, to approve the consent agenda. All in favor.

Facility Plan Update – postponed

Treasurer's Report

6.1 Approve Revisions Financial Policies & Procedures 3<sup>rd</sup> Reading

**Motion** by Sue, seconded by Jeff, to approve the final draft of the Financial Policies and Procedures. All in favor.

6.2 Budget FY 2016

Sara reported that some revisions were made due to two prospective students no longer enrolling. The committee added a new income line called Technology

Donations and Grants. Five Monday professional development days were added for paras. GES is contracting with CW Technology for technology support at \$6,500 per year, instead of hiring an individual. Funds were added to budget for additional classroom equipment and lockers. Business Manager position was cut from 32 to 30 hours per week. The FY16 budget will be approved in June and will include 1% expected increase in state funding.

#### Director's Report

- Pete is going to the MACS Directors meeting in Duluth 5/20.
- MCA and MAP testing is completed; Pete showed preliminary score reports. MCAs: Increase over last year from 68 to 73.5 in reading, from 44 to 65 in math, and science scores also went up. A comparison of same students showed improvement from 2014 to 2015. MAPs: the longer a student is here, the more likely they move to the top quintile and continue to achieve and grow. Thank you to Amy for coordinating the testing. Students seemed to try hard and do their best.

Kathryn Nelson-Pedersen arrived at 4:55.

- Most of last year's staff is returning. One more paraprofessional will be needed for an individual student. Pete recommends we have a second GES staff member licensed to drive a school bus. ISD66 will provide training, provided that the person will be a substitute driver for them as needed. There is some expense to obtain a license, and bi-annual medical exams are needed. **Motion** by Jeff, seconded by Sue, to approve the Lynx teacher assignment, grant permission to hire a paraprofessional, and grant permission to pursue the training and hiring of a staff bus driver. All in favor.

#### Committee Report

##### 8.1 Personnel- Director Evaluation/Business Manager Position

The Board held a closed session to discuss the Director's job evaluation.

**Motion** by Kathryn, seconded by Sue, to invite Peter James to return as Director next fall. All in favor. The Business Manager position was not discussed due to time constraints.

##### 8.2 June Committee Meeting (Policy/Personnel) moved to Wed. June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4-6 p.m.

The focus will be personnel, and the discipline and crisis management policies.

##### Old Business

##### 9.1 Retreat Task List

##### New Business

10.1 Graduation: On May 29<sup>th</sup> there will be a celebration at 11:00 a.m. with the entire school, and at 6 p.m. for families and friends. GEF will fund the expenses for both daytime and evening events.

10.2 Lease Aid Certification forms were signed by board members who were present.

##### Upcoming Actions

- 11.1 Approve Budget
- 11.2 Review Insurance

Check-out

- 12.1 Meeting Survey

Adjournment: **Motion** by Kathryn, seconded by Sue, to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 p.m. 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.