

Great Expectations School

Growing Hearts and Minds, One Child at a Time

Regular School Board Meeting at Great Expectations School

Tuesday, September 18th, 2012, 4:00 p.m.

Approved Minutes

1. Call to Order/Welcome & Introductions- the meeting was called to order at 4:10 pm

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

Also present: Peter James, Amy Henrikson

2. Reading of the Mission: Amanda 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, Jeff seconded- with the addition of allowing Hartley Acero to speak about the Active Living Summit and the addition of Finance committee report. Ayes all.

4.0 Active Living Steering Committee- Hartley passed out a flier for Nov 14th – Active Living Summit. The purpose of the Summit is to start a conversation with political leaders addressing how Grand Marais can become an active living community.

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

5.1 Approval of minutes from Aug 21st 2012- ayes all

5.2 Revue of Expenditures

6.0 Treasurer's Report

6.1 Finance Committee Report- Amy advised the board that that it is difficult to track charges on the GES credit card, with all the teachers using one credit card especially when shipments come in separate mailings. To help solve the problem, GES has set up an account at Amazon so that teachers can use the GES account rather than their own. Also, Amy reported that she has looked

at a Capital One card that would get us 1% back, with no annual fee, and an unlimited number of cards so that each educator could have their own.

Jeff made a motion to allow Amy to apply for a new GES credit card. Allison seconded. Aye-Sara, aye-Amanda, aye-Mary, aye-Jeff, aye-Allison, aye-Susan.

In March we will be \$200 thousand dollars once again in the red while we wait for the State hold back to be paid. We are paying approx. 7% interest currently with our loans at local banks and the credit union. Amy asked if we should look into micro-loans- Pete suggest she speak to Chuck Speiker, MACs, and David Greenberg at the Audubon Center to see if this is an option or if other charter school are doing this too

7. Director's Report – Pete explained the Multiple Measurement Ratings that ranked GES at 98.58% and discussed the Annual Report that is due Oct 1st. Pete reminded us that as school board members we cannot endorse political candidates or parties.

7.1 Propane Proposal Update – Pete reported that after doing a little more research he has learned that it isn't a big savings to switch from our current company to a new propane provider.

8. Committee Reports -

8.1 Board Development – Pete created a worksheet for board development. We need to begin looking at finding some new members. The board generated some possible names for filling some board vacancies.

8.2 Facilities- Pete discussed some of the final finishing on the mobile unit and the grounds

8.3 Personnel- Amy brought up that Pete never got a memo of understanding from the board...each year in the spring Pete needs to generate goals and a professional development plan right after being evaluated each year. Then the memo of understanding should be signed before our July 1 financial year.

8.4 Jeff brought up that the Communications committee is interested in having the teachers count contact with parents and people outside the school to monitor how much communication is happening.

9. Old Business- Harvest dinner 10/4/12 changed 10/12/12 (Friday) at 5:30. Open House 10/10/12 5pm-7pm ...Susan will ask the Foundation money for treats and design invitations to be done by 10/1/12 and handed out to community members.

10. New Business-

10.1 Annual Meeting-move regular board meeting to 11/13 --annual meeting 11/15 at 6pm

10.2 Winter grounds maintenance – last year ISD 166 plowed our lot –Pete will talk with them again and include the new lot. Because we have the new lot we have to shovel a path from

the new lot to the school – Pete cannot use his plow in that area any more. We will need to buy a snow blower.

11. Adjournment- Jeff moved to adjourn Amanda seconded 6:25 pm

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.