

EMS Board Meeting

June 26, 2014

(Revised per Board Discussion September 16, 2014)

- This is Susan's and Liz's last meeting
- Khristi: time to talk about adult theme fundraiser?

→ Meeting called to order at 4:35pm

→ Agenda approved (none opposed)

Public Comments: None

From the Classroom

- Summer: 8th grade passage portfolios; some kinks to work out there; hope is to get 100% participation next year
- Sean: value in having them take a deeper dive into their learning and presentation
- Summer: Loves the process; the kids reflected positively on 6th grade accomplishments and showed how they grew without diminishing where they were

Consent Agenda

→ May Financials approved (none opposed)

New Business

- **FY15 budget approved (none opposed).** With the addition of the elementary school, the budget has increased from \$1.5M to \$3.5M. The budget includes using \$225K of the reserves and a \$275K loan from Self Help Credit to pay for the expansion.
- Summer: With our values, strong desire to pay the most competitive wages for everyone, from teachers to custodian. Last year we were slightly higher than Wake County salaries for teachers.
- Teachers and Summer feel strongly about Common Core; will continue with CC regardless of what State of NC chooses to do; teaching deeper and to a higher standard makes for a better service to the students

Hiring/Summer

- We have hired all but 2 of elementary teachers; have replaced 7th grade teacher (moving to elementary); one of the teachers will be relocating to Maine; still need an EC teacher at elementary level as well
- hired an office/data manager and will start on July 7th
- hired a school custodian
- in final interviews for director of operations; several excellent candidates

- in charge of HR; facilities; IT/data management (correspondence with Dept of Education, financial planning); this will allow Summer to dedicate more time to focus on the curriculum

Review of Minutes from May 20

→ **Minutes approved with changes as follows (none opposed):**

“Elementary space/Summer: We have a lease for 600 New Bern Ave. Mod space lease is coming together. Site prep costs are not finalized but within budget. Loan application is proceeding well. We will finance a portion of the site prep costs with reserves and bank loan. Aug 18 start will be tight, but appears achievable. Ads are out for teachers; some positions are filled already.”

Status of new Board Member Recruiting

→ **Two candidates Board approved for Sean to extend offers to**

Board Retreat

- off-site at A.J. Fletcher Foundation
- send Sean a note if any ideas on what we want to accomplish; revisit the Strategic Plan and see where we are against plan.

Fundraising Coordination

- Khristi: Coordinating fundraising efforts between PTO and capital campaign
- Summer: the psychology of donating; some fatigue
- we need some strategic direction; particularly if we take an approach to pursue pledges
- need to have a retreat to come up with a philanthropy plan;
- adult social in October; wanted to coordinate with fundraising, if not, we'll just have an event

Facilities/Site Plan

- Summer: permitting in process; have put out bid packages for general contractors, due June 30; might need to have emergency meeting to approve contract early/mid next week; Summer has authority to select as long as within budget
- Bill Pivers (sp?) has been having conversations with Duke; will have energy on property by end of July

Permanent Location

- no word from City on RFP; may wait for City to rezone the property before issuing RFP
- we have 3 yrs maximum to get the site, environmental cleanup (it was a bus station), etc.

Educational Excellence

- Summer: talked about having an EE Committee; want to put it back on the Board to assess whether our global language program is doing what it's supposed to do (it was meant to save money, not happening); arts program; etc. – need to look at student outcomes

→ **motion to adjourn (none opposed)**