

Honey Creek Community School
Minutes of December 14, 2011 Board of Trustees Meeting
Call to Order: 5:36p.m. by Board President Scott Mahler
Recording Secretary: Karen Giltrow

Board Members Present: Pat Conlin (arrived at 5:36p.m.), Will Hathaway, Brian Hockley, Linda Knox, Kelly Krawcke (arrived at 5:38p.m.), Scott Mahler, Lisa Wozniak (arrived at 5:42p.m.).

Staff and Community Members Present: Al Waters, Shellee Almquist, Tammy Hall, Karen Giltrow, Sue Hofbauer, and Catie Wells.

Board Spotlight: Scott Mahler presented an overview of the new Honey Creek website. The new site will have a brand new look, and will focus on content and navigation for external audiences (educators, prospective students, donors).

Consent Agenda: Pat Conlin moved, supported by Lisa Wozniak to approve the consent agenda. **Motion was approved by all board members present.**

Public Participation: None.

Finance Committee Report: Written report in board packet. The need to review and possibly revise the Master Teacher section of the Compensation Plan was brought to the attention of the board by Brian Hockley, due to the upcoming eligibility of a teacher reaching Master Teacher status in September 2012. The Master Teacher section of the policy currently states:

Master Teacher

The board of Directors shall review the budget annually and evaluate the ability to fund a Master Teacher position which teachers would be eligible to attain after ten years. It is recommended that this position would be supported by a salary increase of \$5,000. Specific criteria for eligibility responsibilities have yet to be determined.

A discussion followed. Al Waters requested the Finance Committee draft a proposal and bring it to the January 25, 2012 board meeting.

The administration has asked the board to approve moving some Honey Creek Community School accounts from Chase Bank over to Bank of Ann Arbor. Reasons for the change include lower bank fees, local business, and ability to scan deposits. Linda Knox moved, supported by Pat Conlin to approve moving some Honey Creek Chase bank accounts over to Bank of Ann Arbor. **Motion was approved by all board members present.**

The K-1 teachers received a Phoenix Rising mini-grant to attend a seminar on “Powerful Early Intervention Strategies to Help Young Children with Developmental Problems and Challenging Behaviors”. Honey Creek 4/5 teacher Johnny Thompson also received a Phoenix Rising mini-grant to attend the National Service-Learning Leadership Conference that will take place in April 2012.

Fund Development Committee Report: Agenda item under New Business.

Governance Committee Report: No report.

Outreach Committee Report: Written report in board packet. The website subcommittee continues to work on the final stages for the new website and will be seeking input on the updates from the community.

Strategy Committee Report: Al Waters reported the Tactical Committee continues to make progress on the rubric for the strategic goals on curriculum, instruction and reporting. The committee's next meeting is December 20, 2011.

Faculty Liaison Report: Tammy Hall reported some teachers are very disappointed about not receiving raises this year even with the state budget cuts to the schools. The possible PTO funding \$5,000 for a stage, has brought up the question on how are the teachers included in PTO funding decisions. Lisa Wozniak wants to ensure all spending decisions be considered through the lens of the strategic plan. Faculty Liaison Tammy Hall has begun communication with the PTO President on how to make sure teacher views are fairly represented.

Director's Report: Written report in board packet. Al Waters reported the Quality Assurance Review Team elected to meet again to review their findings from the October 19, 2011 visit and lowered the school's rating from "operational" to "emerging" on Standards 4, "Documenting and Using Results" and Standard 7, "Commitment to Continuous Improvement." This resulted in the team revising their accreditation recommendation from "Fully Accredited" to Accredited with Advisement." The feedback from Advanc-Ed will be targeted at guiding us toward full accreditation.

Pat Conlin moved, supported by Linda Knox to authorize the Executive Director to recruit and convene a Sexual Education Advisory Board to review/revise the Human Sexuality Curriculum. **Motion was approved by all board members present.** The advisory board will recommend the final curriculum to the Board of Directors upon completion.

Dr. Kristin Holmstrom from the University of Michigan Department of Education has expressed interest in placing a Graduate student at Honey Creek to serve her internship in Educational Leadership. The internship requires one hundred hours of service, and will include shadowing the Director and undertaking a major school improvement process.

The anti bullying legislation signed into law by the Governor will require Honey Creek to revise policy to meet the new requirements.

Parent of a Honey Creek family wants to donate \$2,500-\$5,000 from a foundation to Honey Creek in memory of his father. They are also considering a larger gift of \$15,000 for technology.

Honey Creek will need to update policy on Federal Educational Rights and Privacy Act due to the recent modification addressing how schools disseminate directory information under the Freedom of Information Act.

Julie Durham MAPSA Grant Coordinator visited Honey Creek regarding a possible Dissemination Grant of \$300,000 to share information, website, curriculum, staff development, school improvement etc., with other schools in the area. Al Waters noted this is a great opportunity for Honey Creek, and another way to get our story out. The board supports Director Waters continuing to pursue the dissemination grant.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Board Recruitment

Brian Hockley led a discussion on strategies for recruiting board members and noted there will be two board spots opening up. It was noted that Board Recruitment falls under the responsibility of the Governance Committee.

New Fundraising

Written report in board packet. A lengthy discussion on membership organization verses directorship organization took place. Linda Knox recommends we go with a membership organization and take back to committee member Steve Rich to look at and advise.

Other Items of Business: None.

Board Kudos To:

- Lara Thomas, Simone Jenkins and Kristee Hartman for a terrific inaugural season of Girls on the Run.
- Bill VanLoo, Jon Baek, Cheryl Quinn, Tammy Hall, Nadine Wang, Fifi Moghtassed, Frank DeSanto, Jody Klein, Terrie DeBonis, and Paully VanDeCar for another amazing season with the Honey Creek LEGO teams!
- “Lunch with an Expert” participants Marco and Serena Capodivacca for presenting on rocks, minerals and fossils, and Sherri and Rob Borer for their presentation on chiropractors at “Lunch with an Expert”.

Preparation for Board Communications: Kelly Krawcke will prepare a summary of the board meeting for the Honey Bunches of Notes Newsletter.

Public Participation: None.

Adjournment: Pat Conlin moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:34p.m.

Board Attendance:

Name	Present	Absent
P. Conlin	4	2 (August, September)
W. Hathaway	2	0
B. Hockley	6	0
L. Knox	5	1 (November)
K. Krawcke	6	0
S. Mahler	5	1 (July)
L. Wozniak	5	1 (November)