

Honey Creek Community School

Minutes of March 27, 2013 Board of Trustees Meeting

Call to Order: 5:32 by Board President Brian Hockley

Recording Secretary: Karen Giltrow

Board Members Present: Pat Conlin, Brian Hockley, Linda Knox, Kelly Krawcke, John Lonsway, Nina Nabors, Lisa Wozniak (arrived at 5:43p.m.).

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

Board Spotlight: MEAP update presented by Al Waters. MEAP performance table included in board packet.

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

Public Participation: None.

Finance Committee Report: John Lonsway reported the committee did not meet in February or March.

Fund Development Report: Brian Hockley noted the meeting focused on the IRS and fundraising. Al Waters, Shellee Almquist and Nellie Tsai met with COTS staff in Detroit and came back with some fundraising ideas. Cedric Richner of Richner and Richner, donated his time to meet with Al Waters and Nellie Tsai. Al Waters and Nellie Tsai will develop a fundraising plan and bring it to the board meeting in April.

Governance Committee Report: Pat Conlin reported the committee met earlier today and plans to have a Director Evaluation in place that truly reflects the director's diverse job description to be shared with the board in the fall of 2013. The committee will meet next week to create a document.

Outreach Committee Report: Nina Nabors informed the board the committee continues work on the Honey Creek story for the brochure and presentation, along with a separate historical document of the board, teachers and staff. The goal is to complete this work by May. The committee is requesting compensation for Bill Van Loo to update the website over the summer and will meet with Al Waters to discuss ideas on how to address diversity in enrollment through recruiting.

Strategy Committee Report: Al Waters reported the faculty has been:

- aligning math and language arts curriculum across grade levels.
- creating school level exit expectations for the end of 1st, 3rd, 5th and 8th grades
- working on pulling all data together in one place so all teachers can view (currently Terra Nova and MEAP data are in separate silos).
- Al Waters will identify what we need in professional development next year and possibly collaborate with other schools or ISDs. Power School is too expensive approximate cost of \$50,000.

- Al Waters and Linda Knox will meet to discuss the 4th goal and lay out the next steps before the next board meeting.

Faculty Liaison: No report.

Director's Report: Written report in board packet. Al Waters summarized the report that included:

- Michigan Legislature passed a bill requiring schools to begin paying 21% of retiree wages into MIPSERS for retired teachers this year. This increases our employment cost by approximately \$16, 000.
- Honey Creek's enrollment waiting list is currently at 230.
- Re-Chartering will begin in the Spring and will cost \$2,000.
- Focus School Report Update: one state system shows our reports are past due and another system shows them as accepted. Our Focus School consultant and the ISD are aware of the situation. The Focus School consultant has advised us to leave things as they are until the Michigan Department of Education corrects the issues.
- The Detroit Free Press is writing an article on Honey Creek for their feature on Charter Schools. Al Waters, Shellee Almquist, staff and students have been interviewed. The Detroit Free Press will be returning to shoot more video.

New Business: A Special Board Meeting was called and will be held on April 9, 2013 at 5:00p.m. in the High Point Reception room. This will be a working meeting for the board. A discussion on meeting agenda items followed. Al Waters suggested the following items for the agenda:

- Community Connection
 - Building connections with the Ann Arbor community including targeted board member recruitment.
- Fundraising
 - Role of board as ambassadors in academy fund development.
- Building Inclusion
 - Further development of the 4th goal.
 - Outlining a plan to fully integrate all internal stakeholders in our mission.

Karen Giltrow will notify the community of the Special Board Meeting via email and post signs in the school.

Board Kudos:

- To the students, staff, and parents who participated in conferences.
- To all the families that contributed to the delicious staff potlucks during conferences.
- To all the families who helped donate Lost & Found items before Winter Break.
- To Catie Wells for raising \$313 for our school by organizing the California Pizza Kitchen fundraiser and to all the families and staff who participated.

- To Erica Scheller, a postdoctoral research fellow from the University of Michigan for being our guest speaker on “Using Science to Study Cells” at Lunch with an Expert on March 22nd.

Preparation for Board Communications: Kelly Krawcke will provide a summary of the board meeting for the Honey Creek Newsletter.

Public Participation: None.

Adjourn: Pat Conlin moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:05p.m.