



Board Meeting Minutes August 18th, 2020 Meeting

Members present: Keith, Kevin, James, Shirley, Courtney, Ann, Laura, Dawins (via Zoom)

Meeting called to order by Keith at 6:45 pm.

Prayer for the school and meeting.

Meeting Minutes approved.

Finance Report: As presented. The Board discussed the upcoming Finance Committee Meeting. Courtney shared that it is important to try and get salaries closer to other local teachers to continue to attract and retain great teachers. With recent minimum wage increases the hourly staff increases have been going up faster than full time. One outcome of the Strategic Planning work was the desire to further discuss benefits – medical and retirement. The Board discussed the desire to look at the timing of issuing the teacher covenants so that they do not start the school year without one. The Board requests that the Finance Committee set wages for teachers before the August meeting. **Keith made a motion to move the time covenants are issued to before the start of the school year. 2nd by Kevin. So moved.** The Board discussed a bonus vs. a salary increase for this next year as one option. Laura will email the Board the outcomes and suggestions that come out of the Finance Committee meeting so action can be taken on salaries and covenants issued as soon as possible.

In follow up from the Finance Committee, on August 28th Laura emailed the Board with the following motion: ***I move that the Board accept the recommendation of the Finance Committee for an eight percent (8%) salary increase for 2020-21 for all non-minimum wage employees. 2nd by Dawins; so moved.***

Principal's Report: Presented by Ann

- School Board training is scheduled for September 26th
- Enrollment at 199.
- Staff updates: Mrs. Davis has moved into Preschool 3 day; Amy Johnson will teach HS science and health; Peter Fulton and Darwin Kaehey will teach HS math; Anna Kast is a new recess and classroom aide; Ciara Phipps is the new preschool/recess aide. Staff orientation is scheduled for August 19-21.
- Ann will be full time this year. Plans on retiring June 2021.
- Reopening update – Hats ordered – transparencies will be added; classes will be grouped in cohorts; parents to do screening before school; sanitizing schedule in place. Liability waivers were discussed. An example waiver was shared. Kevin will draft something that is a bit simpler for families to sign.

- Marketing – Story on KELA, article in the Chronicle; TVW interview to be aired September 2nd
- Facilities: Parking lot permit application submitted to the city. (Note: Follow up – permit was approved; bids on the work to be secured); K entry being updated; air filters throughout the school have been replaced; bottle fillers are on order.

Old Business:

- Fall Re-Opening – The Board had a lengthy discussion on social distancing, class sizes, ensuring we are following all recommendations made by the state and county and the importance of compliance and safety. After review of physical spaces and conversation regarding best practices it was decided to limit class size for the 2020-21 school year. **Keith motioned that we cap class sizes at 17 for the 2020-21 academic year. Classes that are currently enrolled with more than 17 will not be re-filled if there are any drops. 2nd by Kevin; so moved.** The Board supports offering instructional support for those with classes larger than 17 students (1st, 2nd, 6th and 8th). The Board also supports the hiring of part time help to provide cleaning help.

Committee Reports:

- IT Committee - James reported that we have 76 Chromebooks; 21 are on order. With the increased enrollment there is need for additional. **Keith motioned to spend up to \$3,000 for additional Chromebooks; 2nd by Laura; so moved.**

New Business:

- Cara did some research and found that we can greatly reduce our insurance on the buses since they are currently not being used. The Board approves this action.
- \$5 digital thermometers are being made available through Centralia Pharmacy for families. Thank you!

Action Steps:

Meeting adjourned at 9:15. Closed in prayer.

Next Meeting: September 26th when we are gathered for training unless needed sooner.