



January 2024 Minutes

January 17th 2024 School Board Meeting

Meeting began at 6:05 pm

Deb Weller, Greg Guernsey, Kelly Hunt VanderVliet, Lisa Gonzalez, Jessica Lynch, Ryan Schoffelmere, Miranda Wilkening reported present.

SOTM November

1st Grade Max Miulli

6th Grade Tatum Samuels

December

5th Matt Robertson

7th Emma Weldy

8th Kai Kniola

President's Report

99% budgeted enrollment 547 students budget was 550

Financial Report

November highlights-cash wise went down, basic grant adj went down normally like this, all siphends hit retention and club hits in nov. net is lower than budgeted due to larger expenses in november that are drawn out over 12 months in the overall budget

Kiki needs to meet with Greg to tie out new grants in Jan during Feb meeting will update December financials with all those grants.

December Highlights-text book reimbursement \$86,000 this worked out to be about 160 per student which is lower than what we had prior not allowed to add activity fee for the textbook reimbursement so when we did away with the book rental fee we also did away with the activity fee which use to cover LE's and bus costs. Will have a discussion to set up activity fee for 24-25 school year. Kiki and Deb to get back to board with how much we paid out with bus costs and what was paid out for LE's and recovered by charging families activity fees so we know how much to charge going forward for next year.

Lisa motioned to approve nov and dec consent agendas and financial report for Nov, Ryan seconded

No Public Comment

Items for Discussion

-Strategic Plan, Finance-Kiki to shop around for rates before Centier CD with 500k rolls over in the next month or two also look into bond maturity dates to prepare for that repayment

-School calendar: two options, one with start date of 8/14 second with start date of 8/20 both with 4 e-learning days and zero early release days going forward with a change in the school day hours. Would be moving learning day from may 6th to april 18th. Will vote on schedule next meeting.

-School day, dismissal hours: proposal to change K-5 to 8-2:30 and leave 6-8 as is. We would house 90ish k-5 siblings in their classroom until 3:00 until MS gets out. Will ease dismissal traffic. In an effort to keep MS parents from coming too early and interfering with elementary

pick-up we would provide different color car line signs for elem/MS. Reason for this is to give teacher's more time for planning during their scheduled working hours. Currently they are with students from 7:45 to 3:30 and only have 15 minutes after the students are picked up to do anything. Admin must have more face time with staff to address areas of improvement and change specifically with curriculum and overall training to get everyone on the same page. As the school day is now, there is not time for this unless they try to cram it in an e-learning or early release day. Consistently having 45 minutes every day with staff would help morale and training opportunities.

School lunch is proposed to shrink by an additional 10 minutes across all grades. This would make all grades have 40 minutes for lunch with 20 mins outside and 20 mins to eat. It was brought up by Miranda and Lisa that 20 minutes is NOT enough for K-2 to eat. Admin will look into extending those grades to 30 minutes and report back before we vote next meeting. Logistics need to be worked out to make sure we can expedite lunch lines for hot lunch kids and help to get them eating and done within the timeframe. Possible solution for lunch time for k-2 have them all eat lunch together at the same time for 30 minutes and 20 minutes outside.

-Social media policy for staff- board to review prior to next meeting and vote on at next meeting.

-Matters for approval-board/exec personal assistant: Lisa believes we need someone who can keep the board in line legally with new laws for school boards. Presently, Charter schools are not allowed to participate in a network for public and private school boards where they are given updates on changes in laws both at a local and federal level. This creates challenges that are hard for the board to face as volunteers because we don't have the knowledge we need to keep in compliance. Greg can also benefit from someone to aid in small day to day things to help alleviate his current workload so he can continue to be out in the school and working on the big things we hired him for (curriculum, grants, etc). This secretary would aid the school board and be under Greg, they would assist in posting agendas and minutes and make sure the board is in compliance. Check up on the DOE website to pay attention to new laws and updates for board laws. Lisa motioned to approve hiring a secretary for the aforementioned reasons and Jessica seconded.

-School Report: LE's kindy coffee creek, 1st Indiana Dunes nature center, 2nd gabis, 3rd museum of science and industry in NOV, Dec, kindy brookfield zoo, 2nd theater at the center munster, 5th challenger center Purdue

Social/Emotional Update-M. Medley and Mrs. Fox, Social Worker

K-4-November

Successful Coat Drive-November 3rd

Leftover donations to The Caring Place in Valpo

Angel Tree families have signed up-Deadline is Nov. 10 (so far, we have 11 families signed up)

A social work student completed volunteer hours from UIPUI-former Discovery student Addison Leady

Regulation is the competency for November SEL lessons in classrooms

K-3 Groups-still ongoing

Impulse Control-K/1

Emotion Regulation-K/1

Friendship Group-2/3 girls

Lunch Group 2nd graders

Lunch Group 3rd graders
Lunch Group 4th graders
Started SEL committee to review SEL curriculum and programs schoolwide
Presentation Nov. 8-TOMO
Presentation Dec. 6-Caring School Community
Presentation TBD-Fastbridge
K-4-December
15 Families signed up for the Angel Tree (34 kids)
Received a \$1000 donation from Modern Woodmen who purchased Angel Tree items from Amazon List that was created from slots
18 families assisted with Food from food drive
2/3 girls group ended with pizza celebration
Collaboration is the competency for December SEL lessons in classroom
SEL committee agreed on universal screener for Discovery through Renaissance- using the SAEBRS screener. Will be reaching out on cost.
SEL committee is looking into creating curriculum to address points on the SAEBRS screener that focuses on Social Behavior, Academic Behavior, and Emotional Behavior.

5-8-November
Successful Coat Drive-November 3rd
Leftover donations to The Caring Place in Valpo
A social work student completed volunteer hours from UIPUI-former Discovery student Addison Leady
Regulation is the competency for November SEL lessons in classrooms
Lalumiere presented
National Kindness day
Introduction of Frank/guidelines to follow when interacting with Frank in several classrooms
5-8 Groups-still ongoing
Coping skills Group
Kindness club
Lunch Group 5nd graders
Lunch Group 6rd graders
Lunch Group 7th graders
Lunch Group 8th graders
Started SEL committee to review SEL curriculum and programs schoolwide
Presentation Nov. 8-TOMO
Presentation Dec. 6-Caring School Community
Presentation TBD-Fastbridge
5-8-December
15 Families signed up for the Angel Tree (34 kids)
Received a \$1000 donation from Modern Woodmen who purchased Angel Tree items from Amazon List that was created from slots
18 families assisted with Food from food drive
Collaboration is the competency for December SEL lessons in classroom
SEL committee agreed on universal screener for Discovery through Renaissance- using the SAEBRS screener. Will be reaching out on cost.
SEL committee is looking into creating curriculum to address points on the SAEBRS screener that focuses on Social Behavior, Academic Behavior, and Emotional Behavior.
Kindness Club presented locker decorating contest

5-8 Groups-still ongoing
Coping skills Group
Kindness club
Lunch Group 5nd graders
Lunch Group 6rd graders
Lunch Group 7th graders
Lunch Group 8th graders

Working Group Updates:

Development-uniforms being taken over from PAC in August, purpose for this is keeping up to date with branding and having a staff member oversee it for more consistency. Lots of tours lately that have been well attended. Billboards being ran, one of 49 looks great.
Finance-has not met, will start doing monthly finance meetings knowing that bonds are coming due.
Policy-has not met.
Diversity & Equity-has not met
DOW-3/1 Disco theme "DISCOOver our World" at Journeyman in Valpo-presale tickets \$50 through 2/4

PAC Update:

Ended December with
36,394.80 -main acct
4574.72 - scrip acct, higher than normal to account for teacher gift cards
PAC gifted \$50 to FT staff and \$25 to PT staff
Pizza Fundraiser
Ice Skating 2/4 6-10 DJ Lee will be there
McCallisters Give Back Day in Valpo 1/24 all day

Recognition:

Staci Fox, Diane Medley, and Frank for doing such a great job with our students
Mrs. Bowman and Mr. Floyd for assisting 8th grade fundraising efforts for DC

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm