

Board of Directors Meeting
March 9, 2009
Minutes

Board Members Present

Dave Cozad, President
Mike Zeller, Vice President
Herb Hardwick
Kirk Farmer
Pam Gard
Melissa Thomas
Jane Alley

Board Members Absent

Brian Hendrickson
Harriet Charno

Meeting opened by Mike Zeller, Vice President, in the absence of Dave Cozad, President. He asked guests in attendance for any comments/questions. The following comments and suggestions were made:

- Mr. Wheeler suggested that there should be more thought given to the expansion project.

Parent Association Report – Annie Moren

- Annie Moren mentioned that there is a plan being put together by the PA to assist with recruiting host families for next year which will be presented at the next PA meeting. Eric Roskam will be present to discuss the intern program and the importance of this program in our school. He will also explain the responsibilities of the host family to the intern who stays with them.

She also mentioned that some of the Parent Association members would like to be present at the kindergarten open house at the new facility to introduce the host family concept to the new kindergarten families. Annie suggested that everyone participating should explain all aspects of hosting interns to potential host families with regards to culture differences and other issues, good and bad that will help to make the host/intern program enjoyable.

- Evening in Paris will be held on May 2, 2009.
- \$1,340.22 profit was made from Book Fair and the PA decided some of the funds from this would be used to purchase a screen for the auditorium.

Principals Report – Eric Nelis

- Eric Nelis mentioned that we would be asking for volunteer help from new kindergarten parents in preparing the new location for the new school year.
- Working on recruiting teachers (6 open teaching positions).
- Eric Roskam mentioned that the process for obtaining interns has started. Mike Zeller mentioned that our recruits are interns that are not hired by Normandy School in Minnesota, which is a school which Amity recruits interns for. The question of whether or not we would like to recruit our own interns through Amity was discussed.

The group was informed that some of our current interns want to return next year either as an intern or teacher. Discussion followed.

The board asked Eric Roskam to bring to the next meeting his plans for increasing diversity among the interns the school is recruiting. He was also asked to look into options for possibly getting “first cut” at the interns and reporting back to the board.

Eric Nelis, at that point, offered to bring the student recruitment plan for next year to the board for review.

- Patrick Sprehe stated that teachers are asking if they will be offered a new contract for the next school year. Discussion followed and the date for contracts to be given to teachers will be determined.
- Gold Star School – Eric discussed the Gold Star Program award given to the school. Kirk Farmer then asked if this award could be incorporated into our letterhead and other school advertisement pieces.
- Patrick Sprehe then informed the group that not only are we in the top ten of Missouri schools, but also our 8th grade class is the #1 class in the State of Missouri on Map tests. A discussion followed regarding how the media could be used to get the news out regarding AL receiving the Gold Star Program Award. It was suggested that Linda Wagar with one of the local TV stations be contacted and, also students could write letters to the editor of the newspaper, etc. Lengthy discussion continued.

Finance – Jane Alley

- Jane Alley mentioned that a meeting to discuss the expansion loan was held.

Kirk Farmer then informed the group that a meeting with Broadway United Methodist Church along with Randy Dewar (UCM/DESE) was held to get their opinion on obvious additions necessary in order to utilize the building. He mentioned that Brian Hendrickson is working with the Fire Marshall to get approval from the KCMO Fire Dept. for us to use the Broadway Church for kindergarten. Kirk mentioned that negotiations are underway regarding the lease agreement and asked Dave or Herb if one of them would review the agreement from a legal standpoint. Lease agreement is from July 1 – June 30. Mike Zeller asked how many teachers would be in the new location and Eric Nelis stated that there would be 7 teachers and 7

interns with 2 administrative staff (doubling as nurse), a P.E. teacher, music teacher, and phonological awareness teacher.

Kirk then continued with discussion regarding the renovation completed during the summer to convert the cafeteria into classrooms. He mentioned that the plan was to pay for the work out of our long-term financing which did not occur. He commented that the Finance Committee met to discuss working with IFF (out of Chicago) who has a small loan program that could make us a small loan to pay off these expenses. He distributed a timeline budget for 2008-2009 referencing the \$250,000 loan. Herb Hardwick asked what our cash flow would have been this year if we had not hired J.E.Dunn to complete the construction this summer and the response was that approx. \$510,000 was spent on the renovation and design project. Kirk also mentioned that the design work could still be utilized in the future. Jane Alley also informed the group that during the summer months, the line of credit is used and the summer school payment comes in September.

Kirk Farmer then asked for a motion to go to IFF to borrow \$250,000 to offset operation expenses.

Motion

Mike Zeller moved that Kirk Farmer be allowed to make an application to IFF to borrow \$250,000 to be used to offset the operational expenses to be paid back at a 5.875% rate over 15 years.

Discussion

Pam Gard seconded and the vote was unanimously carried.

Development Committee – Dave Cozad

Dave Cozad asked Eric Nelis if the current design project is still a consideration or if we need to revisit it. E. Nelis questioned whether or not we should move forward with the proposed plans or review the possibility of scaling down the original plan. Herb Hardwick

commented that the addition/expansion should meet the future needs of the school and not focus so much on cost cutting as opposed to what the needs of the school are and will be. A lengthy discussion followed regarding the costs, funding and the amount of space needed. Mr. Wheeler (parent) gave suggestions from an engineering/architectural perspective regarding the expansion project. Lengthy discussion continued.

The discussion continued with the question being raised as to whether or not we should continue with the consultant currently contracted to assist with the fund development campaign. And, whether or not the plan developed by the contractor should be executed. It was also mentioned that possible investors would look more favourably on loaning or investing money into the school's expansion project when they see the AL school community raising funds toward the proposed project.

It was suggested that a board member meet with the fund development consultant to review the contract and evaluate her accomplishments. Mike Zeller agreed to meet with her and also discuss dissolving the contract with the opportunity to revisit it in the future.

Herb Hardwick then asked the board what their commitment is to the capital campaign. And, Kirk Farmer was asked if he would continue to pursue other lending options and he responded, yes if the Board approves.

At this point Julie Halsey (former board meeting) was welcomed to the meeting.

Stimulus Update

Mike Zeller mentioned that a notice from the Missouri Charter School Association was sent to Charter School's that are LEA's requesting that the paperwork be completed and returned requesting stimulus funds being given to schools.

Board Retreat

A strategic planning retreat will be planned for May (date to be determined). Mike, Jane and Eric will work on the planning.

Patrick Sprehe brought up the recruitment process with regard to minority student recruitment. Discussion followed.

Technology committee

Eric Roskam mentioned that the new technology plan has been written and will be presented at the next board meeting for approval.

Mike Zeller then asked for a motion to go into closed session.

Motion

Kirk Farmer moved to go into closed session. Melissa Thomas seconded.

Roll Call Vote taken:

Dave Cozad	Yes
Mike Zeller	Yes
Herb Hardwick	Yes
Kirk Farmer	Yes
Pam Gard	Yes
Melissa Thomas	Yes
Jane Alley	Yes

Open meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by