

Syringa Mountain School

Board Meeting Minutes – 1/10/2018

Nigel Whittington
Tenaya Kolar
Randy Flood
Kaz Thea*
Rachael Arndt
Christi Thompson
Amy Jonas*
Angi Hunter
Julie Evans
Sandi Viau
Shannon Connauton
Kristin Funk
Sandy Kelly - left at 543pm
*not here

- I. 510pm - RF opening focus on relationship building with community.
- II. Adds:
 - 1) Enrollment item h)
- III. No public comment
- IV.
 - a. Approval of 12/6/17 minutes - **motion made by TK and SV 2nd - no discussion, none opposed AIF**
 - b. Finance committee meeting highlights: finding S Kelly replacement. L Burns said she'd help with basic accounting but not whole position; job summary will go into paper; RF - recommends that replacement is board hire, not teacher (college of teacher COT) hire. NW - finance committee should present recommendations to board. NW - how to approach to shortage issue and how to discuss with teachers. Is there an option for a line of credit? BOD should address with bank.
 - c. Testing information from the state - NW - there is learning going on in the school. This test is just measuring a baseline to compare against schools. We have to post on website and state site for public viewing. TK - question is: what does it look like for the COT and their review process? BOD must ensure student progress. We could post our school performance and/or Waldorf evaluations on our own website to contrast. KF - we are taking steps toward addressing both in staff meetings via COT model.
- V. Old Business
 - a. Financial update/finance committee - see above; **TK - motion to authorize Sandi Viau to explore line of credit options with various banks; RA - 2nd; no discussion, none opposed AIF.** NW received \$48k offer for the Syringa yellow school bus. The school doesn't own the paperwork; spoke with finance dept where bus was purchased from but no other option to take bus back; first payment due March.

- b. Parent council update - TK - annual fund brought in \$43k (includes the match); starting to plan the Hoe Down -- goal of \$80k for this fundraiser; tentatively scheduled for 4/28 - but trying to move it forward a bit. Also working on enrollment with Christi.
- c. Teacher update - SC - discussed deferring payment; people will contact S Kelly; concerns for teachers came up; discussed options for moving forward; and if we don't defer, then what is the outcome. JE - going forward we may want to select another communication channel to deliver sensitive material. KF - COT model responsibility transference - scheduling has shifted and communications - calendar, website, class newsletters; personnel and staffing hiring committee continues with a new group in May; professional development days - teachers are heading up and co-leading/organizing; teachers are writing grants; student life piece - almost impossible to not go without having a person who is available to assist - there isn't enough time overlap or free space to have teachers cover as initially recommended. NW - made it through first round of WRWF grant process. Discussed best way to keep teachers and PC connected.
- d. Development committee - TK - board retreat Monday 1/15/18 5-8pm. Musical showcase coming up and this would be good time to invite people to witness. NW - won't just be musical; will highlight other waldorf talents. TK - is there a time? 6:30pm SC
- e. Construction update - RF - still w/h \$22k because of electrical issues; TK - is there a timeline for the heating issue resolution? talking to the contractor who put the system in. system is losing pressure and valves are inoperable. currently managing around but working on resolution. Have American Heating document the break in the system most likely due to the construction of the elevator - RF.
- f. Legislative committee update - TK - no updates from the committee. Will try to set meeting for this first quarter.
- g. Board recruitment - RF - met with longer term prospect in financial world; sharing and connecting.
- h. Enrollment - NW - website is open. CT - created online form. 42 entries enrolled for next year. Not just returning families. Trying to do it at half the cost - quarter page 2x. Reaching out to churches, reaching out to families new this year and why they came. Concerns: shortage of funds...if it gets out to the community it will impact enrollees. NW - huge kudos to CT and AF on the website success and framework. NW - we are offering two kindergartens AM/PM. If we have small classes above Kinder - could we combine classes? Current year could we combine 6/7th. NW - do we have BOD permission to offer combined 6/7 for next year? and what is our max cut off number. Enrollment closes Feb. Motion to offer a combined 6/7 enrollment option for the 2018-2019 school year - **TK made the motion; RA second; no discussion, AIF, none opposed.**

VI. New Business

- a. none

730pm Executive Session IN -- TK RF SV RA AH

805 pm Executive Session OUT - TK RF SV RA AH