



Endeavor Board Meeting Minutes: March 9, 2015

Call to Order:

Kevin Myers called to order a meeting of the ECS Board of Directors at 7:05 pm in ECS Room 408.

Present:

Kevin Myers, Bill Borter, Andy Kristianson, Lisa Springle, Margaret Holder, Peter Henderson, Charlie Kennedy, and Clint White.

Director's Update

Teacher Departure. Sixth-grade math teacher Anthony Moreno has accepted a job at East Wake High School, effective in two weeks. The school is currently looking for a permanent hire, but will identify a long-term substitute if no appropriate candidates are timely identified.

Make-up Days. The multiple snow days in February require that the school identify a way to make up 65 hours or six days of instructional time. Options considered by the school included (1) extending the school hours, (2) converting certain early release days to full days, (3) counting structured recess time as instructional time (which has been checked and cleared with our DPI representatives), or (4) adding dates to the calendar. The school is required to balance the simple addition of hours with the need to add meaningful instruction time for students, which means a combination of these options must be applied.

The Board discussed the available options. Based on the administration's recommendations and the information provided by our DPI representative about counting structured recess as instructional time, Kevin Myers moved to meet the hour requirement for the 2014-2015 school year by counting structured recess as instructional time. Clint White seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously.

In addition to counting structured recess, the Board concurred with the administration's recommendation that April 17 and June 5 be converted from half-days to full days. June 11 is now a full day, and June 12 is a half day with early release. Graduation will be held on the evening of June 12. Spring break and Memorial Day weekend will remain unaffected. As these dates are already all listed on the approved school calendar, no additional board vote is necessary.

Music Contest. Approximately 60 ECS 2nd - 5th graders, under the direction of Christine Tompkins, filmed and submitted a video to the Music In Our School Month contest hosted by the National Association for Music Education. The video was selected as one of 20 finalists and is posted on their website for viewing. The video with the most page views wins resources for their music program.

Media Appearance. Leeann Bove was featured on WNCN news on Go Red Day as a heart attack survivor and women's health advocate. ECS was filmed and shown in the newscast.

Conference Presenter. Sarah McConnell has been asked to present the research she completed through her position in the Governor's teacher Network at the Triad Teacher Researcher Conference on April 29.

Playground Proposal. Foot traffic at the playground entrance has kept grass from growing, which has led to a significant amount of mud being brought into the school. The Foundation has agreed to hire a contractor to pour concrete in this area, which should help keep both the school and our students cleaner.

Wake County Teacher Raise. Wake County has not updated its online pay scales to easily decipher how the county raise is being applied. We continue to gather information.

Traffic Concerns. Afternoon carpool has a period of approximately 15 minutes when 15-30 cars are in line on One World Way. In order to reduce this queue, the school will try double-stacking the cars on a portion of our driveway, but this is unlikely to allow us to add 15-18 cars on the site. In addition, it is possible that the parents who have organized the existing bus service to the school will look to add a second bus to the service, which would reduce the number of children carpooling by as many as 30-50 kids.

Fundraising

Tina Bauldree gave an update on the Push the Envelope Campaign, which has collected \$10,687 to date from approximately 80 families and runs through March 13. Matching funds will be available for some of these donations, though the funds may not be available immediately. This campaign will be repeated in the fall as an annual fundraiser during the curriculum nights when there is foot traffic within the school.

Andy Kristianson gave an update on the Lion's Walk Brick Campaign. Twenty total bricks were sold to date, for a total profit of \$2,975.

Brief Items

Andy Kristianson moved to approve the meeting minutes as distributed for the February 9, 2015 Board of Directors Meeting. Kevin Myers seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Andy Kristianson discussed the classroom and field licensing agreements that have been drafted. The existing lease from the Foundation to the School does allow the school to license the facilities for limited purposes (6.1 and 12.2). Our bond does not allow us to license the property to for profit entities beyond a certain threshold.

David Clodgo asked on behalf of the Foundation for a form that could be filled out for any license opportunity that presents itself to facilitate a quick approval of the sublicense by the Foundation. Andy Kristianson agreed to draft a form for this purpose.

Margaret Holder updated the Board on the previously-circulated Request for Proposal for accounting services. Based on the other issues facing the Board at this time (particularly the director search), she recommended shelving these efforts at this time. The Board discussed the recommendation. The Board decided to meet with our current accounting company to discuss our current services prior to proceeding.

Brandon Wallace discussed the acceptable usage and personal device usage policies that had been discussed at the February meeting. Andy Kristianson agreed to revise the draft to better reflect the specific situation within our school.

Brandon Wallace also discussed a potential new program that tracks transactions titled "Orgs Online." Program would allow us to consolidate different payments to the school, including Café Days, field trips, sports fees, etc. While transaction fees through the program are similar, the program would reduce costs significantly. The Board encouraged him to continue investigating the program.

Foundation Report

David Clodgo updated the Board on the status of the Foundation. It continues to search for a replacement for John Collar as Foundation Treasurer. One idea is to identify a yearly goal to help make the Foundation more exciting for potential new members.

Given the currently low interest rate being paid on the tax free bond, the differential between what the school is paying in monthly rent and what the Foundation needs to meet its obligations to BB&T, the Foundation is currently building a surplus that is being set aside for future interest rate increases or a future improvement project.

We are still waiting on an update from the Town of Wake Forest on whether One World Way will be designated as a school zone.

Treasurer's Report

The BB&T Operating account balance is \$1,564,570.37, and the BB&T Collateral account is \$236,000, for a total balance of \$1,800,570.37. The year-to-date surplus is \$574,084.73, but given when expenses are expected to come in, we expect that at year end this will be closer to \$200,000. We currently have 14.31% of our revenue remaining to be received, and 27.65% of our expenses remaining to be paid.

BB&T has reported that the credit line associated with the collateral account has been closed, and therefore we should be able to close the collateral account soon. We have also spoken with them about potential interest-bearing accounts.

BB&T was consulted regarding a refinance of the current loan with a longer loan term (up to ten years). More information is being gathered, but this is potentially available with Swap rates as well.

Other financial institutions, including PNC and an investment bank called Zigler have been and will be consulted, both for potential loans as well as interest-bearing accounts.

Director Search

Kevin Myers updated the Board on the efforts of the Director Search Committee. The job posting has been live for almost a month, and we have had 30 applicants. Only about 10 applicants have submitted all of their information. The current plan is to bring in 4-5 candidates for interviews, scheduling those to occur immediately after track-out. The final candidates will be selected from these interviews, and will be brought back for interviews with the entire board of directors, a staff meeting, and likely individual presentations.

School Report Card

Christi Whiteside gave the Board a more thorough review of the recent School Report Card that was issued to all public schools, comparing our achievement to the end-of-year goals created at the start of this school year. The board discussed these achievements, as well as the plan for the coming school year.

Public Comments

None.

Closed Personnel Sessions

Kevin Myers moved that the Board go into closed session to discuss a personnel issue, in accordance with statute 143.318.11 (a) (6). Charlie Kennedy seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved and the board moved into closed session at 9:26 p.m.

Kevin Myers moved that the Board move to open session. Andy Kristianson seconded. The motion was unanimously approved. The board reconvened in public session at 9:54 p.m.

Adjournment:

Andy Kristianson moved to adjourn. Kevin Myers seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.