

Fox River Academy Governance Board Minutes



Monday September 11, 2023 4-6 pm

Note: the first hour will be our annual board retreat; from 5-6 we will hold on typical board meeting

Retreat Agenda:

Agenda Item	Action to Be Taken, By Whom	Time
Welcome	Introductions	4:00pm
How Things Are Going	<p>Discussion;</p> <p>-Changes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● added a new first and second grade classroom because of the referendum <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ K - 18 ○ ½ - 18 and 19 ○ ¾ - 26 <p>-Numbers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 129 students at Fox River this year <p>-Financials (district and 501c3)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 20 k in our district account ● We'd like to save some of that money to purchase chromebooks for next year <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ This is the last year for 1-1 K-8 ○ We aren't sure what the district plan is yet for chromebooks. ○ Our plan is 1-2 for 1/2 grade ● 501c3 - \$6600 total 	4:05-4:20
Goal Setting	<p>Discussion;</p> <p>-Review goals from last year (CSIP Data)</p> <p>-How did we do?</p> <p>Goals for the Year</p> <p>-academic</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Reading: 77% of the school made their growth goal ● Math: 73% of the school made their growth goal <p>K-8 is using a new math program this year.</p> <p>-attendance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increase the attendance rate of students by 3% ● K-4 - 95% average ● 5-8 - 89% average <p>-sense of belonging</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Increase the number of students who scored favorably in the sense of belonging by 3%. ● 67% - 70% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ We had 69% 	4:20-4:40

	<p>2023-2024 Goals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 70% meeting growth goal <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ K-8 is adopting a new math program ○ K-2 is piloting a new writing curriculum ○ K-2 is continuing with UFLI ● We'd like to continue an attendance goal, but we have to be realistic that with our school size being small, it is hard to keep it. ● 95% goal ● Sense of belonging: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Staff: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Houses and making our connections ■ Awarding the students that we see doing positive things ○ Ideas: camp fox, ice cream party, school dance, hot cocoa bar, sledding, tapping trees, letters to future students, knowledgeathon 	
Committees	<p>Discussion; Roles</p> <p>Committees for 23/24 Members & Committee Leads Recruitment/Retention Communication 501c3/Fundraising Guardians Others?</p> <p>How can the Board/Committees help support school goals fundraising goals</p> <p>Moved to formal board meeting.</p>	4:40-5:00
	Transition into formal board meeting	5:00

In attendance: Sara Leintz, Melissa Chrisman, Laura Huckins, Tony and Jasmine Simental, Amanda Voss, Meghan McCallum, Holly Kronberg, Erin Christopherson, Moira Carlson, Deanna Widman, Amber Baumgartner, Grainne Kelly Beckett, Mary Beth Fosbinder, Beth Wich, James Birch, Meghan Gremban, Katie Stanley, Joann Kasper, Kate Huber, Maggie Alfrey, Brianna Stapel, Katie Kilsdonk, Meghan Gerarden,

Meeting Agenda:

Agenda Item	Action to Be Taken, By Whom	Time
Welcome	Action; Grainne B Meeting called to order at 5:01pm	5:00pm
Approval of May Minutes	Action; Amanda V Jim proposed a motion to approve the minutes. Amanda	5:00-5:05 pm

	seconded. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carried.	
Principal Update/Lead Teacher	<p>Discussion; Melissa C/Sara L</p> <p>Melissa - great start to the school year.</p> <p>Sara - Fundraising account is at \$1400 going into this new school year.</p> <p>How do we feel the new website is going?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We saved over \$260 by switching. ● good feedback overall <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ no problems/concerns ○ spiffy ○ great <p>November - in person meeting (virtual option) May - in person meeting (virtual option)</p> <p>All other meetings will be virtual.</p>	5:05-5:15
Funding	<p>Discussion; Sara L</p> <p>-Flex Farm Grow Machine?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Is this something we are interested in funding for the school to have? ● We had one in the past but it fell apart. ● Cost: \$2,995 ● What could we grow in the machine? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Lettuce ○ Herbs ○ Could we sell them? Plant sale? ● What are the benefits for kids? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ What learning outcomes would come? ○ There is a curriculum that comes with it. ● How long will it last? <p>Kate Huber will contact Apple Creek YMCA to get some more information on how theirs works.</p> <p>We could partner with Fox Valley Tech to see if they can collaborate with us and help us out.</p> <p>-AEF Account</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We have an account sitting at \$10,000 ● It isn't making money or losing money. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Do we pull the money out? ○ Do we put it into an account to make us money? ● Set up in 2007 as a temporary spend down fund to spend to and add to as needed. ● It makes more sense to put it into an account to make money. <p>-Requests Holly:</p>	5:15-5:30

	<p>\$400 for conference meals for teachers this year \$300 for Sunshine \$400 for Envirothon</p> <p>Holly made a motion to approve funds for conference meals, sunshine, and envirothon. seconded. Jim seconded. All in favor. None opposed. Motion carries.</p> <p>Possible: Sunshine: for Ski Club</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We could give a google form to families to determine which students are showing interest and financially can't. • We could then put money towards this depending on how much children are available. 	
Retreat Recap	<p>The discussion below will be tabled until the October meeting.</p> <p>Discussion; Continue discussion around goals:</p> <p>(Moved from retreat) Discussion; -Roles</p> <p>Committees for 23/24 Members & Committee Leads -Renruitment/Retention -Communication -501c3/Fundraising -Guardians -Others?</p> <p>How can the Board/Committees help support school goals -fundraising goals</p>	5:30-5:55
Community Input	<p>Discussion; Anything for the good of the group</p>	5:55
Adjourn	<p>Action;</p> <p>Grainne called the meeting to close at 5:57 pm.</p>	6:00 pm
Next Meeting	<p>October 2, 2023 at 5pm (virtual)</p>	

Mission: The Fox River Academy will foster in its students the passion and curiosity necessary for lifelong learning, and will, through an integrated, multi-age curriculum, increase students' proficiencies in the use of strategic learning processes and higher order thinking skills needed to be stewards of the environment and community.

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