

October 21, 2015

PEF Minutes

Location: CUSD #8 Conference Room

**Called to Order: 7:03 a.m.**

**Present:**

Becky Carter-Beeson, Tom Morrell, Dennis Ishmael, Jay Dunseth Anne Dorn, School Board Member and Dr. Lett, Superintendent

**Absent:** Al Stupek

**Visitors:** Jessie Miller

**Approval of September Minutes**

Board unanimously voted to approve the September Minutes on motion made by Tom Morrell and seconded by Jay Dunseth.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Total Checking Account Balance: \$ 83,684.41. Unassigned Accounts Totaled: \$134,365.72. Total Balance: \$218,050.13.

Tom Morrell will take over managing the checking account beginning November, 2015.

An audit from First National Bank of Pana was received, stating the PEF books matched First National Bank's books.

The Donor Board wings have been hung and are updated. They were not the requested/ordered size, upon arrival. Jennifer Holthaus contacted MD Design informing them of the mistake. The original fee \$4,517.61 (for the Donor Board wings) will have a credit applied of \$240.00 (for the mistake). To date, no bill has been received from MD Design.

Six plaques were purchased for the Wall of Fame ceremony allowing each recipient to have one. A bill was received from A & M Products of \$431.50.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the Treasurer's report as presented and for payment of \$431.50 to be made to A & M Products and for the revised amount to be paid to MD Design upon receipt of their bill for the Donor Board wings on motion made by Dennis Ishmael and seconded by Tom Morrell.

## **Committee Reports:**

Scholarship Committee: Nothing to report on Scholarships

Courtyard Committee: Tabled

Mini-Grant Committee:

### **A. Review/Approval of Application Requests**

Jessie Miller presented the 2015-2016 school year applicants to the Board. There were 11 total Mini-Grant proposals.

- Celebrating Successes of M2G (Motivate to Graduate)
  - 6-12 yr. mentoring with two celebrations within the year. Last year they went
  - bowling and had a dinner. It was reported by Dr. Lett that this program does
  - make a difference. Reports show that over 90% of the students do graduate.
- Kindles in the English Classroom PHS
- English Classroom Projector – Technology Integration PHS
  - (note - there are 4 requests on the list for this same program-PHS)
- NASA Human Exploration Rover Challenge (Moonbuggy) PHS
- Motivating Struggling Readers Lincoln
- Respectful, Safe, Ready to Learn Lincoln (continued program)
- Chrome book Classroom Lincoln
  - Jessie was able to find 5 used chrome books to distribute (no cost)
- SMART Buddy Team Trip Washington
  - K-5 kids
  - A trip to see the Symphony Orchestra at U of I in Springfield
  - Federal funded Rural Poverty Grant, non-competitive

The total amount originally requested for the applicants was \$16,876.84. Due to Jessie Miller's due diligence, she was able to reduce the total to \$7,929.12. The Board voted unanimously to approve all 11 mini-grant applications at the \$7,929.12 figure on motion made by Dennis Ishmael and seconded by Jay Dunseth.

Jessie Miller continued with her presentation regarding the 1-to-1 program. Overall, the program has been a success. The program has been extended to the 6, 7 and 8<sup>th</sup> grades. A usage agreement has been implemented; whereas, a student and parent must sign. A technology license needs to be earned by the 8<sup>th</sup> grade level.

Jessie reported the only issues they have had is with charging of the Chrome books and a few broken screens. The students forget to charge their device; however, they will usually bring it to her to charge and it takes approximately 45 minutes to charge. Broken screens cost \$45.00 to replace. One other issue has been a few broken parts; however, these have been repaired in house.

Jessie also has had to block some websites from some devices; due, to students visiting sites at home not intended for school research and work.

Teachers are happy with the program. Prior to the program, they had to reserve carts and devices for 3-4 days per week ahead of time.

During the summer and over Christmas break, the devices will all be stored on the school premises.

Vandalia and Taylorville schools have toured our set-up for the 1-to-1 program and discussed the details in regards to implementation and overall response. Vandalia will be implementing the program beginning with their freshman and sophomore classes. Taylorville will be returning for an additional walk thru and discussion.

Donor Board Status: Discussed previously with payment approval.

Fall Fundraiser: To date \$325.00 has been brought in from ticket sales. The winner will be drawn at the Friday, October 23, Hillsboro vs Pana game. The cost of the chrome book is \$250.00. We discussed with Jessie another option for next year. Ideas such as the "Apple Watch" and "Fit Bit". Additional discussion to place at a future date.

### **New Business:**

American Education Week is November 16-20<sup>th</sup>. Cookies have been ordered from Kirk Woods.

End of the Year Solicitation Letter is due at the end of November. Becky will begin working on an updated letter.

Time to begin working on the Newsletter.

Next Meeting is November 18, 2015 @ 7:00 a.m.

The Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting on motion made by Jay Dunseth and seconded by Tom Morrell.