

Board minutes from meeting of May 8, 2018

Attendance: Chris Carle, Alicia Chalmers, TJ Chitekwe, Bill Johnston, Steve Lobel, Christine Schlesinger and Roberto Villanueva.

From Staff: Neil Phillips, Shannon Rohrer-Phillips, Cindy Day, Louis Parker and Mary Luisa Berges.

Meeting commenced at 3pm and called to order by chair.

Minutes of March 13, 2018 were approved unanimously with motion made by Christine and seconded by Alicia.

Neil mentioned that it was teacher appreciation week and thanked Chris Carle for providing breakfast for our teachers this very morning. Neil discussed both signage for the campus and a significant improvement to the website which would allow for a "plug-in" that would allow for translation ability to convert to Spanish. Both items need more exploration and the costs need to be negotiated.

Neil turned to Mary Luisa for an update on the school house. Mary Luisa said that May 9th was the last day of FSA testing. There was concern with the 3rd grade reading scores with a possibility of as many as 12 of the 28 boys in that class with retention issues. The 4th and fifth grades were on target and should help the overall score. Third grade results will be known before Memorial Day and the other two classes likely in mid-June.

Student enrollment for next year currently stands at 93 enrollees versus 67 at this time last year. Neil's best estimate of projected enrollment distribution of 126 students is as follows:

K	18
1 st	23
2 nd	23
3 rd	18
4 th	22
5 th	22

Given this distribution, there would be 2 classes for each of 1st and 2nd grade, with all other grades having 1 class. With that in mind, the budget will contemplate 8 full-time teachers. Hiring of the 8th teacher will be deferred until actual enrollment is better defined. Direction would be to consider if an additional classroom assistant could be utilized to avoid the need for one of the additional class.

Mary Luisa discussed the summer literacy program. Currently, 45 boys have signed up for the summer session which runs from July 2nd to August 2nd, for 4 days a week (Monday through Thursday) and excludes July 4th. The cost is \$50 per child and she hopes to grow the participation to 60 students.

Neil also reported that the district had added 15 minutes to the working day and discussed the consequences and concerns that he had in the fairness of our pay to the existing staff. A compensation recommendation was provided for consideration in the approval of the final budget.

Shannon gave us her report with the year to date total of just over \$1 million dollars raised and with hopes that we would meet the \$1.3 million dollar goal by June 30th. SHINE ON looks to have brought in just over \$250K and the co-chairs were applauded for this most enjoyable event. Over 300 people attended on a lovely evening and the boys were lauded for their efforts at the dinner. The giving challenge was

perhaps not quite as successful with emphasis being put on getting attendees to the event and raised \$21,400 dollars from 154 donors.

Shannon brought us up to date on the Carter feasibility study and the final report will be given on June 12th. 20 interviews of top donors have been concluded. There was discussion of the need for a capital campaign committee and our roles in the campaign. Whether additional board meetings should be held was placed aside until we know whether we go ahead with a campaign. Shannon discussed other fundraising efforts and some pending grant requests as well as the outreach to the community. Upcoming events were also mentioned.

Louis Parker talked about teacher pay and how it impacts our budget for 2018-19. Concern over the pay differential between Sarasota and Manatee counties was mentioned and the loss of teachers is of paramount concern. Many teachers from the district have moved to Sarasota schools and many are retiring. Approval of the budget was postponed so that a committee of Louis, Roberto, Steve and TJ could meet after the end of the regular meeting. We will poll the board for final budget approval.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50pm and the aforementioned committee met thereafter.

Next meeting is on June 12th at 3pm at the WG Mills Building. The schedule for the new year was sent out by the chair.