

2020 10 20 Tuesday - final reviewed minutes

HLA board meeting – by Zoom.

Present: Bernd Liesenfeld, Sharon Sperling, Jacqueline Swank, Bettianne Ford, Sheila Crapo, Non-BOD present Principal Borganelli, Amber Matts, Rebecca Carr, B Karcinski, Amber Matts, Katje Janisch, Brandon Cotter, Karen David.

Started / Ended: 4:07pm called to order. Adjourned 5:31 pm.

Old Business and continuing

- Reviewed September 2020 meeting minutes.
 - Sharon **moved to accept Minutes**, Bettianne seconded. All approved.
- School improvements already done
 - New French drain system with sump pump on north side installed. Paid – on budget at \$2,200.

Budget and planning items

- HB641: district has received HLA plan and recommended that the base salary be at \$44,150 – HLA is compliant with that directive at this time. Note that this means all new hires will have to be engaged at that level as a minimum. For comparison, ACSB base is \$38,416.
- Very important items:
 - When is FL is doing the FEP counts? There is no October count, and there will be a February count. There is not clarity about which numbers will be used for future funding. Of more concern, it's not clear how the counts may be used to adjust funding allocations retroactively, which could have very negative impacts
 - Discussion about HB641 funds. HLA is currently receiving its allocation. ACSB advised schools to hold back on sending out funds pending more certainty about the program funding continuing. HLA appears to be in the minority by actually receiving the funds – most likely because HLA turned in the above paperwork detailing how HB641 was satisfied.
 - Digital academy is approved for first semester only so far. That plan is together with ACSB. At the end of 1st semester parents will have to decide if parents wish to send kids back to brick and mortar or ??????
 - Currently there are about 70 brick and mortar students and 36 Digital.
 - The funding for digital academy may be lower if it is continued. A number of \$2,800 was cited (compared to approx. \$7,000 for B&M).
 - **Motion:** to approve the additional [HB641] pay for the teachers to will continue as long as the state is funding them. Motion by Sharon. Seconded by Sheila. All approve.
- Audit is completed. There was an immaterial finding that the new loan document failed to include a specific indemnification required by FL law. This is being corrected, and will only apply for next year because the closing took place after the period being audited so HLA expects to be compliant for next audit.
- On review of actual vs. budget. Planning further review to maintain budget control. Currently the afterschool program stands out as having had lower attendance than projected last year (which is entirely reasonable). Principal Borganelli reports that aftercare is starting to have closer to expected amount of students again.
- **ESSER and CARES** funds were cut significantly – mainly because the population HLA is serving will not require it. This does not create an issue with HLA budget because those specific funds were never planned into the budget, so no administrative changes are called for. To recap – those funds were for supplies to support pandemic needs.

- **PECO:** unclarity was expressed about PECO funding due to CAP (our Corrective Action Plan) during the last meeting. Resolved successfully, on the basis that there never was a financial emergency, and that CAP was accepted and HLA is currently in good standing.
- Current state of instruction:
 - Coach Brandon Cotter. New PE teacher introduction.
 - HLA currently has 106 students. Expecting to be up to 107/108 in next weeks because there is a wait list for all grades.

Other items:

- Threat assessment plan: reviewed and completed – submitted Oct 1. Slight adjustments requested by ASO / Fire Rescue are addition of improved lighting, particularly in back of school, and better locks for gates.
- Board Liaison: nothing to report.
 - Board meetings planning. For the foreseeable future all meetings will be conducted remotely by Zoom or alternate platform.
 - Next board meeting planned for **November 17th, 4pm. And also December 15th 4pm.**