

Minutes of The Greenspire School
Board of Education - Regular Meeting
December 19th, 2016

I. Call to Order & Roll Call: President Sanford called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. The meeting was held in the Math Commons area. Present: Matthew Missias, Tara Ward, Dodd Russell (late arrival), Meagan Batdorff, Raymond Minervini and Kurt Sanford.

II. Changes or Additions to Agenda: None

III. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: Motion by Ward to approve the regular meeting minutes dated October 17, 2016, seconded by Minervini, voice vote; 5 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried.

IV. Public Comment: None

V. Recognitions: None

VI. Board Correspondence: None

VII. Presentations: The FY2015-16 audited financial statement was reviewed via conference call by Maner Costerisan's Kyle Denny. The audit was deemed to be "clean" with a variance of less than \$300 from amended fiscal year budget.

VIII. Reports:

a. Superintendent's Report: Kelly asked board members to complete their conflict of interest statements which will be filed with Traverse City Area Public Schools. He also thanked President Sanford for sponsoring the annual staff/board holiday party.

b. President's Report: Sanford shared a story of encountering the Greenspire cross country team over the fall and the gratitude they expressed to him and the board for creating Greenspire. Sanford later shared that he will be meeting with Paul Soma, TCAPS superintendent, later in the week.

c. Treasurer's Report: Batdorff reviewed monthly financials including the cash flow, fund balance, federal and local revenues, and fundraising revenues.

d. Committee Reports

i. Finance/Facilities: Sanford shared that he will be meeting with Paul Soma, TCAPS superintendent, later in the week along with a meeting with Mike Hill of TBA ISD to discuss traffic flow issues.

ii. Grants/Advancement: Kelly reviewed fundraising from individuals and grants including the 2% grant from the Grand Traverse Band; a discussion ensued about the lack of grant writing success thus far in the school year; Ward questioned why we've been unsuccessful in this area and encouraged more grant writing; creating a grant-writing position was also discussed along with the difficult grant climate that exists in our community today.

iii. Personnel: No report.

iv. Curriculum: Ward reported positively on advisories, the alumni outcome survey, changes to report cards and progress reports along with weekly academic synopses being provided to parents via the weekly email.

v. Board Member Recruitment: No report.

IX. Discussion Items:

- a. Budget Amendment: Kelly reviewed the proposed mid-year budget amendment noting action is anticipated in January; the amendment is relatively neutral with just a \$1,800 reduction in the bottom line savings for the year leaving the school with a 11.3% fund balance. Discussion returned to fundraising and grants with Sanford noting the possibility of a deficit in the grant revenue column.
- b. Maple Hall Partition & Expansion: Sanford discussed the need to postpone the partition of Maple until the summer due to cost and the need to put it out for bid. The partition will be combined with the renovation project previously approved by the board. Architectural designs and potential costs will be formulated in the weeks ahead and reported back to the board prior to the expenditure of funds. Questions were raised and answered pertaining to the impact on fund balance, recruitment and enrollment and seeking bids.
- c. Conflict of Interest Policy Review & Disclosure: Kelly requested that each board member complete the conflict of interest disclosure form. Sanford disclosed his land contract with the school as an example of a necessary disclosure. Kelly encouraged members to disclose even in the presence of a perceived conflict when no conflict exists. Ward pointed out that Sanford's loans to the school have been reviewed by three attorneys and determined not to be a conflict.
- d. Safe Spaces Resolution: Missias described his proposed Safe Spaces Resolution in light of the current social and political climate. He authored his proposal based on numerous other sources and advocated it based on Greenspire's commitment to a safe and welcoming environment. Greenspire would be unique in the region for adopting such a resolution should the board do so. Sanford directed Kelly to submit the language to the Charter School Institute for legal review.
- e. Future Compensation Goals: Kelly reviewed the board's priority to increase teacher salaries and hourly staff rates of pay and the implications of these raises on the budget. A discussion ensued during which each board member expressed continued support for raising salaries and wages if/when doing so if fiscally prudent. Missias cautioned the board against pursuing merit pay as no research supports its effectiveness.
- f. Designation of Anti-Harassment Officers: Kelly reviewed the Charter School Institute's recommendation for designating Anti-Harassment Officers, one of each gender.

X. Action Items:

- a. Hourly Employee Compensation Recommendations: Ward motion for approval, seconded by Missias; motion passed 6-0
- b. Fall 2013 Updates: Missias motion for approval, Russell second; motion passed 6-0.
- c. Spring 2016 Updates: Batdorff motion to table, Missias second; motion passed 6-0.
- d. Renewal of Board Terms:
 - 1. Motion to approve candidacy of Meagan Batdorff by Minervini, second by Ward; motion passed 5-0, Batdorff abstaining.
 - 2. Motion to approve candidacy of Matt Missias by Ward, second by Russell; motion passed 5-0, Missias abstaining.

XI. Public Comment: None

- XII. Adjournment: Motion by Ward to adjourn meeting, second by Minervini, voice vote; 6 ayes, 0 nays, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 6:54 p.m.**

Kevin Kelly
Superintendent