

ICP Board Meeting—April 11, 2013

In attendance: Kim, Josh, Melissa Champney, Jenny Swanson, Felicity, Melissa Harris, Betsy Dasenko, Tom Day, Erik, Dan Hays, Lise Hull, Leonne Bannister, Elisa Fairbanks

Public Comment: Felicity's idea for a way that next year's 5th graders can raise money for the graduation trip; maybe concession stand that can develop into their class business. She would volunteer each week to teach students about business concepts (business plan, understanding cost, profit/loss, etc). The board would not need to be involved unless there is a request for funding, other than being made aware of what is happening so that there would some oversight. This could be a class project to work out with Tom. Miss Jenny could be involved to talk about what has been done previously with the plant sale.

Minutes: Erik moves to approve 3/14 minutes; Betsy seconds; vote—all 5s

PTO: Talked about Felicity's idea about 5th grade business and many parents liked the idea.

Volunteers are still working on the rummage sale on Tuesdays and Thursdays to organize—funds will be used to buy playground equipment.

Lunch program—Christina is still working on getting the kitchen inspection completed; will need to sign a contract w/Benton Co.; Christina is trying to organize volunteers from OSU/LBCC to staff the kitchen; John Ame suggest creating a kitchen protocol to follow any time the kitchen is used. Staff is concerned about younger children of parent volunteers due to liability/dangers. Volunteers from other places might help alleviate concerns.

Christina's info: kitchen inspection—all paperwork is done; a contract between school and county is the last step before inspection; setting up internship between LBCC/OSU/Benton Co. Health; partnership w/OSU foundation and dietetics club; would want 3 days per week for next year; divergent ideas within kitchen committee about having kids work in the kitchen. The program has been run by only volunteers, many of whom bring their own kids. One incident with a child getting finger caught in mousetrap; might want staffing to help watch kids during kitchen lunch prep; permission slip for having kids helping in the kitchen. Additional idea to have 5th grade business make food items to sell for fundraising. Leah wondered about help teaching kids about healthy/safe cooking; Kim said to check with OSU extension.

509J Report: No one attended the district meeting. Our student cap increase has been approved for next year.

ICP Treasurer: Elisa said that there is one note to change on the budget suggested by the district; she thinks that it has to do with putting in the general fund into the overall operating budget.

PERS will increase by \$20K for next year; state is looking at making some changes but they are unclear at this point.

Next year's budget draft—decreased ADM \$60 less; PERS waiting period for some staff this year. Reimbursed 70% of cost for busses, with we did not expect to get this year.

ADM for next year is \$6641 as per state; Dan and Elisa rounded down to \$6300, which was ok with district

Some changes in FTE due to staffing changes; added 0.25 for head teacher; ED up to 0.75

Projected starting balance for next year \$104K;

ED Report:

Increase in cap approved.

Dan advocates increasing kinder to 16 to help maintain numbers in the future. No change in enrollment for this year; waiting list for every grade for next year.

Teacher/Staff concerns: The staff is concerned about push for head teacher position; feel it is an intrusion and a violation of RACI. Dan feels that it is the teachers' role to create curriculum and instruction, and only for the board to approve/disapprove. Teachers have the data to make the decisions in a more informed way; math is of the most concern. Board should ask for teachers to give a report and question scores.

Dan feels that head teacher would take away part of his job, and that it violates RACI to have a head teacher to take his duties. We need to be clearer about who handles instruction.

Board needs to approve funding for new Grade 1 / 2 teacher; funding for music teacher and program; increase funding for teachers and staff is a priority.

Lots of end year preparation for Wildlife Stewardship; art projects by Chris Neely;

509J Report: Dan thanked Kevin Bogatin and Erin Prince for their quick approval of cap increase; feels it is a good indication of how charter renewal process will go smoothly.

Phys Plant: Roof needs to be replaced and looking at proposals for how to go about replacing in stages.

The model the school started with was to have a head teacher who handled duties separately from the ED—there is has been no official change in the job descriptions. Leah asked if there is a model that has a separate head teacher who is not in the classroom. We are modeled after Kings Valley, whose head teacher is a classroom teacher. Will it work better to have a model that has separate positions?

Staff is concerned with who fills a HT position, especially if they come in not knowing the community and wanting to make changes that go against our vision/mission. Melissa feels like Dan does so many

things well already and that other beneficial things that the teachers come to as a team; doesn't feel that hiring an HT would accomplish any more than what is already being done.

Betsy emphasized that the discussion that the position was meant only to make Dan's job easier, rather than make him feel as though his role would be changed. Dan feels that he has done the same thing by bringing in coaches who are experts in teacher certain pieces of curriculum by having so much teaching experience. Strength in having someone who is here consistently and can work alongside Dan in transition model; problem is in keeping part-time staff long term. That is why Dan brought in Elise Bradley for that very reason. Not allocating extra money for HT position could leave funding for other things, such as compensating ED for more time spent, adding music teacher and other needs.

Instead of a head teacher, discussion about having a 0.25 teacher for math group instruction and intervention; a licensed teacher would already have necessary training, class mgmt. and background check.

Leah suggested having separate discussions about budget priorities and curriculum priorities. Writing workshop by Oregon Reading Association offered this summer.

Creeks and Kids through WOU w/grad credit options. There is money in the budget to pay for opportunities for training.

Staff Budget Priorities

Most important: Smart board, instructional materials, music, increase salaries; Elisa suggests other ways to improve benefits to teachers that doesn't increase tax liabilities/PERS.

Leah suggests asking Chris Neely for ideas about how to approach the music program to improve consistency and free up teachers' time for prep; increase budget available for groups that we already work with for times when we have a specific project that doesn't fit into their current grants.

Hiring Process for New Teacher will happen soon so that position is filled before the end of the school year.

We need to initiate an ED/Board Review process. Dan suggests a combination of staff, parent and board feedback for the ED review; for the parent piece, ask a group of parents who are a little more involved in the school so that they can better answer. Betsy and Elisa will do the internal audit.

Garden club has used up funds from PTO; garden still needs the irrigation piece put in and needs funding, which should be a little under \$1000. Rain water collection barrels would be a great goal for the future but not feasible. We can use donation money for the time being. Dan also got a bid for a sound system improvement for \$1600.

Melissa moves to approve the gym sound system and irrigation system; Erik 2nds; all 5s

Adjourned @ 9:12 PM