December Board Meeting Minutes for Thursday December 17th 2015

Meeting in progress as of 4:35pm

Attended Members: Becky Juntunen, Norman Lynskey, Patrick Dreher, Scott Kringle, Sheila Casey, Andrea Miller, Martin Lukaszewski and Dekha Osman

Other’s in attendance: Patty Brostrom, Cindy Lavorato

• Approval of October 2015 Minutes
  ▪ Martin Lukaszewski motions to approve the September 2015 board minutes. Patrick Dreher seconds motion. Motion carried as all members approved.

• Consent of Agenda
  ▪ Becky Juntunen motions to approve the agenda. Scott Kringle seconds motion. Motion carried as all members approve.

• Rental Contract for MTS Entities
  ✓ A current renter that utilizes the space at the High School and District Office has requested rental information on Banaadir Academy. There have been concerns with the existing renter; therefore discussions are in place with obtaining a signed rental contract and facility use policy. The notice of the contract will be effective in February 2016.
  ✓ It was determined that the rental policy be implemented directly for the District Office, for a period of 6 months, and then to be reconsidered by the board after that period.
  ▪ Becky Juntunen motions to approve the rental contract and facility use policy formation, specifically for the District Office for a 6 month term. Patrick Dreher seconds motion. Dekha Osman abstains motion. Motion carried as majority of board approved.

• Legal Update (Public)
  ✓ MDE audit update
    ▪ There is no date as of yet.
    ▪ Procedural glitch as there may be new evidence.
    ▪ Recommended that the Board of Directors should be present at the appeal.
  ✓ JB case with the Supreme Court was dismissed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Due to lack of importance. Otherwise known as DIG. The fix will have to be a legislative fix as our district is considered a nonprofit employer, but our employees are public.
• Strategic Planning
  ✓ Monthly PLC Meeting
    o A-G strategies have been transferred through the Trello system.
    o Day one of the strategic planning was December 9th, 2015.
    o Sheila Casey and Becky Juntunen will provide reporting’s, concerns and answer questions at all monthly meetings.

• World’s Best Work Force
  ✓ Submission date 12/1/15.
    ▪ Norman Lynskey motions to approve the World’s Best Work Force 2015-2016. Patrick Dreher seconds motion. Motion approved carried as all members approve.

• Superintendent’s Report
  ✓ Robotics Update
    o Grant received for entry fee for the Duluth Competition.
    o The MTS Robotics Team is looking at ways to raise money. A partnership has formed with the Eagan Robotics Team, who is one of the largest in the state of MN. They have offered to meet with the MTS students and assist in fundraising.
  ✓ Pease Academy and Virtual High School, Pilot Program
    o Michael Durchslaq is marketing around and outside the metro to start pilot.
  ✓ MN High School League
    o Waiting for a response regarding the grant.
  ✓ Patty Brostrom had a meeting with the Middle School building owners regarding updates to the building. It was agreed that they owners will make some updates; such as new lighting to the gym and security cameras for the school.
  ✓ Patty Brostrom informed the board that our authorizer Pillsbury is requiring MTS to have an Academic committee. The Committee will consist of the following:
    o Tami Schultz – Curriculum Director
    o Martin Lukaszewski – Board
    o Becky Juntunen - Board
    o Andrea Miller – Board
  ✓ The MTS Executive Committee met in regards to pay performance and Q comp payouts. The Executive Committee presented to remaining board members.
    ▪ Patrick Dreher motions to approve the pay performance and Q comp payouts, as presented by the Executive Committee. Norman Lynskey seconds motion. Motion carried as all members approved.
Annual Meeting
- Annual Meeting is on Thursday February 25th, 2016 at 5pm.
- There are two teacher positions up for nomination. This is Martin Lukaszewski and Sheila Casey’s positions. There is also one parent/community position up for nomination.
- A notice for nomination by Sheila Casey will be sent to all MTS staff, and families of students.
- Further discussion with Directors will be required in obtaining more parent involvement at the annual meeting which will be presented at each MTS site, if applicable.
- There will be a pre-taped message from Superintendent addressing the state of the school. This will be presented at each MTS site.

JROTC Program Elective
- Patty Brostrom has been presented a concept for a redesign of the JROTC program. This was presented by Colonel Neil Hetherington. Colonel found a model of a JROTC program based out of Chicago IL, and suggested a site visit to see if the model would work to attract more students to the program. The visit would be scheduled for mid-January.

Patrick Dreher motions to approve visit to Chicago IL. Norman Lynskey seconds motion. Motion carried as all members approved.

Patty Brostrom informed the Board of Directors that the Wellington Group approached her in regards to available space across the street, where Rainbow was once housed. The Wellington Group informed her that they are considering placing a Charter School in that partial space.

Exploratory Committee
- Patty Brostrom suggested putting together a committee to discuss, facilities, long term staffing and operation. Looking to have this together in January 2016.

Norman Lynskey motions to approve set up of committee. Patrick Dreher seconds motion. Motion carried as all members approve.

Evaluation Process
- To be approved by Board of Directors and Superintendent Patty Brostrom.
• Finance Summary – October and November 2015-2016
  ✓ October Financials
    o Fieldwork for the school's FY2015 audit was completed on Thursday, October 15th. The preliminary audited Fund balance at the close of the last fiscal year is projected at $1,278,314 (3.5% of expenditures).
    o The Working Budget projects a deficit of $700,747 (due to a reduction of 140 students enrolled [165.6 pupil units for funding]) and an ending fund balance of $577,567 for this year (1.7% of expenditures) based on the preliminary ending fund balance for last year.
  ✓ November Financials
    o The preliminary audited Fund balance at the close of the last fiscal year is projected at $774,166 (2.1% of expenditures). This includes a final payment to Advanced Academic Inc. of $504,148 for the 2013-2014 school year.
    o The Working Budget projects a deficit of $556,481 and an ending fund balance of $217,685 for this year (0.6% of expenditures) based on the preliminary ending fund balance for last year.

  ▪ Becky Juntunen motions to approve October and November financials. Andrea Miller seconds motion. Motion carried as all members approve.

  ✓ Financial Expenditures
    o Largest expenditure currently is MTS staff.
    o Patty Brostrom suggests a staff hiring freeze, until otherwise noted by herself and Human Resource Director, Mary Becker.

  ▪ Scott Kringle motions to approve current hiring freeze. Becky Juntunen seconds motion. Motion carried as all members approved.

  ✓ Funds Balance Discussion
    o Board of Directors and Superintendent Patty Brostrom were in discussion on ways to stabilize the fund balance. A few of the ideas discussed were:
      ➢ Eliminating subs
      ➢ Hire a permanent sub for any MTS entity
      ➢ Allocation of staff

  ▪ Scott Kringle motion to adjourn meeting at 7:15pm. Patrick Dreher seconds motion. Motion carried as all members approved.