

Minutes

Participants: Budget Committee

Date: December 4, 2012

Time: 7:45 – 8:20 a.m.

Meeting Location: Staff Room

Agenda: Fall Pledge Updates, Budget Update, RTI Coach Update, Next Steps

Members Present: Jason Simon, Melanie Lewis, Julia Charles, Patti Russo, Carmen Marsh Weiss, Shana Mather, Caroline Wong, Karen Mack

Introduction: Welcomed the group and thanked Ms. Russo and Ms. Marsh Weiss for volunteering to be part of the budget committee.

- Fall Pledge Drive
 - Goal: \$ 125,000
 - Current: \$80,000 pledged; half of this amount has been collected
 - Committee asked to get participation by class
 - Spring/Fall Pledge Drive yielded \$340,00-\$350,000 in pledges, with %75 expected to be collected
 - Discussion was raised to have El Cid or another bookkeeping person to send letters to thank families for their pledge and also reminders to send in payments when missed.
- Budget Updates
 - Currently there is about \$250,000 in the bank
 - Review funds that are available- approximately \$270,000
 - Need to keep a certain amount of cash liquid for contingences
 - Reallocation of TA overage due to delay in district processing and the need for FOHWE to cover salaries until processing is completed. The principal explained that many of the delays were due to new people in positions because of the reorganization.
 - Jason gave an overview of the current budget and the committee voted with seven votes to affirm the presented budget of \$525,000. There was one member of the committee who abstained.
- General Discussion Items

- Enrichment and activities must be equitable across the grade levels, committee requested a breakdown of each of the committee's budget. The committee suggested to invite Rachel Q. and Nicole F. to the next budget meeting to explain enrichment and their budgets.
- Question was brought up regarding the equity of technology across grade levels. It was explained to the committee that the Technology team is responsible for the implementation and distribution of equipment.
- Camping trip allocation now that 4th and 5th grade are going on trips. This item was tabled for the next meeting. Discussion item: Do we need to create a field trip fund?
- Ms. Marsh Weiss indicated that she would like every student to receive dance, drama and art. What are the funding priorities for art at the current time?
- RTI Coach Update
 - It was explained that the district does not fund any out of classroom positions such as coaches or Intervention coaches because they are not a register carrying teacher. The intervention coach is considered "out of classroom". The principals inquired at the District Superintendent level if there was anything they could do to place a substitute here while Emily was out on maternity leave. The request was denied.
 - The committee suggested hiring an additional TA beginning in January to cover for Ms. Emily while she on maternity leave. The committee approved the request unanimously.
 - Matthew Page, a former TA is available to return to work in January. He will cover for Ms. Emily's for 8 weeks and then be assigned to work with second and third grade.
 - Cost of his salary will be approximately \$7,000 and will be covered by original funds from the TA donation of \$66,000. Ms. Charles will provide expense sheet to the treasurer that details how much of the TA donation has been encumbered and reconcile with FOWHE budget.

Next Meeting:

January 22,2013