MINUTES OF A REGLUAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

PROJECT IMPACT STEM ACADEMY

360 W MAIN STREET, KUNA, ID 83634

SEPTEMBER 5, 2017

BOARD OF TRUSTEES: Teresa Fleming, Chairwoman – Present

 Suzanne Ronge, Vice-Chairwoman – Present

Dan Neddo, Director - Present

Trina Neddo, Treasurer – Present

Ben Peterson, Communications Director – Not Present

 Jamie Jensen, Founding Board – Present

Becky Woolley, Clerk of the Board – Present

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Chairwoman Fleming called the meeting to order at 6:39 pm.

II. REGULAR SESSION

 A. CHARTER PROCESS

 1. Charter status - Chairwoman Fleming

Chairwoman Fleming noted that there has been no news or e-mails about the status of our pending petition. She did note that she was informed that we would get feedback within 30 days of our turning the petition in, which was done on August 29, 2017

 2. PCSC interview

Interviews will be held with with PCSC officers, not commissioners

1. Facility options updates – Director T.Neddo

We are in contact with Troy Behunin of Kuna Planning and Zoning regarding possible locations for the school. Currently, there are 3 prospects, one being on Swan Falls. There is concern with that location and it’s effects on traffic. The ideal location is a 6 acre parcel in the Patagonia subdivision, however the seller requires $50,000 up front, funds we don’t currently have. There is also a location behind Ridleys that we would have to lease for 10 years, currently with no option to buy. This area could save us some money, as it would include all the city hook ups.

1. Funding Connections – Chairwoman Fleming

Chairwoman Fleming recently participated in a webinar put on by New School Venture for schools opening 2019. She noted that we may be able to apply for their funding program because we are adding grades in 2019. She also checked on the requirements from Bluum and found out that they don’t get involved until our petition is approved. Building Hope has been contacted and we now have a contact with the United States Department of Education.

 5. Title I info – Vice-Chairwoman Ronge

Information was found on the Idaho Department of Education website containing all the forms to apply for Title One. There is a concern that there will be a lot of paperwork involved in receiving Title One funds and Chairwoman Fleming motioned that we do our research and decide on the pros and cons of accepting Title One funds. T. Neddo seconded the motion.

 6. Lunch Information

Director T. Neddo mentioned that she is in contact with the caterer for Bishop Kelly School to get input on how lunches can be provided to our students. It was asked if the free/reduced lunch program was funded by Title One. Director Woolley said that she was certain it was funded by the United States Department of Agriculture to which Vice-Chairwoman Ronge fact-checked as being accurate.

 7. Tech input

Chairwoman Fleming motioned for the tech input to be tabled until the next meeting. Director Woolley seconded the motion.

 B. BOARD DEVELOPMENT

 1. Parliamentary Procedure – Director D. Neddo

Director D. Neddo informed the committee that the chairman is the moderator of meetings. He noted that whatever platform we decide on, we will train with so as to have effective meetings.

 2. Training Update – Chairwoman Fleming

Chairwoman Fleming introduced a program called Board On Track for board training. The cost would be $1299.50 for the year, which is reimbursable from the money the state would provide for board training. It was also said that payments would be accepted. Chairwoman Fleming suggested that we ask for a demo of the program before deciding. This suggestion was seconded by Director T. Neddo. It was also suggested that we wait to purchase the program until our petition is approved. Director T.Neddo mentioned that she had contacted Cindy Hoovel, the former Principle of Da Vinci Charter School. She motioned that we have Cindy come and address the board so that we might glean knowledge from her as to why Da Vinci failed to thrive. The motion was seconded by Chairwoman Fleming.

 3. Financials - Director T. Neddo

We had $250 added to $100 something to make a $300 something balance. Chairwoman Fleming asked that future financial notes have a breakdown of account balances, all income and expenses reported.

 4. Report on financials – Director T. Neddo

Director T. Neddo has contacted Idaho Independent Bank and Hopkins to learn about the requirements to secure loans. She mentioned that grants will eventually serve as a percentage down on a loan. Our current start-up costs are approximately 1.2 million, the hope being that 20-30% of that will come from grants.

 5. Community Connections – Director Woolley

Director Woolley informed the committee that she, Vice-Chairwoman Ronge, and Director T.Neddo will attend a meeting on Monday, September 9, 2017 for the newly formed Rotary Club in Kuna. She inquired of the committee as to whether we want to ask them to help support us financially or to simply introduce our school and it’s mission. It was agreed upon to introduce ourselves and PiSA and either invite them to come to one of our meetings or ask to have us attend one of theirs to present them with more information.

Director Woolley also mentioned that the Kuna Lions Club has regular meetings to which Chairwoman Fleming mentioned that she was already in contact with Chuck from the Lions Club. He told her that they will provide all the hearing and vision tests for students in 2nd and 5th grade and will also provide glasses to children in need. His contact information was given to Director Woolley to set up an appointment to talk with the club about PiSA.
Chairwoman Fleming also mentioned that she will be meeting a representative from Future Public School, an Idaho charter school who was just approved. She asked for suggestion of questions to ask them, to which it was responded to ask them about their thoughts on Board on Track, who they felt their best connections were, and big surprises they had in their process, how are they funded, thoughts on Title One, and how they plan on offering lunch to their students.

 C. OTHER

 1. STEM Klub – Director T.Neddo

Director T. Neddo said that she had booked the Kuna Library for STEM Klub. We also have use of the Kuna Community Center on Tuesdays. Chairwoman Fleming asked when we should have it. Eventually, Director T.Neddo motioned that we have a free demo of the program at the library on Thursday, September 14th and 28th. Beginning on October 3rd, it will be $35 and every other Tuesday from 3:30-5:30 at the Kuna Community Center.
 2. Community discussion
A community member, Melissa asked “How does the curriculum is modified to work in elementary setting?” Director T. Neddo replied that the Summit Learning curriculum that we are using will be for grades 3-12. She mentioned that grades K-2 will look similar to regular public school, as the children need to learn the basic fundamentals of reading, writing, math, etc. Melissa voiced her concern about teacher to student ratio and how all of that works in an open concept floor plan. Vice-Chairwoman Ronge stated that several of her children went to an open-concept school in California and that initially she wondered how her children would learn. She said it just works. The children learn and they excel. Melissa also asked what the range grade levels we would have spending time with each other in the same space. Chairwoman Fleming mentioned that we are anticipating 3 grade levels or so occupying the same area. Melissa also asked if we were hoping to build once approved. Director T.Neddo replied that we are working Portable builders to have 60x60 portable units that we will connect to create the space we are wanting.

Chairwoman Fleming moved to have the meeting adjourned 7:45. J.Jensen seconded the motion.