

Board Meeting notes

21 April 2020

Meeting held via Zoom

In attendance: Ken Hartsaw, Carl Merrell, Belinda Jones, Mike Hess, Ed Thomas Jr, Hugo de Beaubien, D. Blackall (taking notes)

Ed Thomas called the meeting to order.

Last BOD meeting minutes/notes were read by President B. Jones. Hugo moved to accept minutes/notes as read Ed 2nd motion..... Motion passed

Treasure Mike Hess reported Year To Date revenue is up 5.5% after so many expenditures last year, moving expenses. There was a 2% increase in expenses, but these costs were covered by the 5.5% increase in revenue. Schools cash situation has improved over last year. Cash is up 94K over YTD cash last year. School did lose some money on the spring break trip being canceled. School has collected 0 dollars in contributions YTD all money received has been from FTE. FTE up 5% and school has received about 1.4 million dollars in FTE. School was paid for 254 students.

Hartsaw asked when next budget was due. Mike responded by May 2020. Hartsaw agreed to meet with M. Hess to compile next year's budget. Hartsaw asked if the tax return has been completed, Mike replied yes and there were no negative tax matters pending. Hartsaw thanked Mike for his time as did the board and M Hess left the video conference.

New Business...with some mixture of old....

Hartsaw said spring break trip cost us a little, but not a total loss. United gave WAA 2 years to use airline tickets, so they will not go to waste. Board agreed the correct decision was made NOT to travel to NYC during this COVID-19 outbreak. Hartsaw and Merrell both said no Prom and no Grad Bash will save the school some money, and the loss of spring break should have no lasting effect.

Because of distance learning the school had to purchase more computers to issue to the students to complete the remaining of this school year.

Mr. Hartsaw introduced C. Merrell, COO, to give an update on distance learning and the schools progress to meet the distance learning mandates put out by the State/County.

Mr. Merrell said that WAA is working hard to provide a quality education to our students during this distance learning portion of this school year. He expounded on the adjustments the teachers and staff has made. Rising to the occasion preparing handouts and gathering computers to sign out in just a matter of days. He complimented his teaching staff on the work they have done moving from classroom to virtual studies. Moving their classroom studies to Google Classroom, Zoom, Whats App and still using Edgenuity. This has not been seamless, but the staff has worked very hard to make the end of the year successful. Some of the challenges are students without WiFi, students who have not come to pick up computers, or checking in on a regular basis. Attendance is a problem nationwide and we are not excluded from the issue. On a bright note, some students who rarely came to class are now working in the virtual classrooms. Mr. Merrell noted that he has knowledge of one (1) computer being lost/totaled in an assault. He is working with the family for reimbursement and to get another computer to the

student. The Business Department knows there are a majority of our students out of work. They were either furloughed or laid off due to COVID-19. Business Department is reaching out to students to see who is still working, or when they are planning to return to work. Business Department is working to make sure time-sheets are still being turned in.

In closing CM expressed the staff has done an excellent job moving to distance learning and believes this year will be a success.

There has been no decision made about graduation. CM expressed a desire to have a ceremony even if were during the summer or fall. OCPS has given no direction to date on graduation ceremonies. OCPS has not informed schools when the last day of school will be.

KH/CM both agreed this is going to be a good year for graduation, hoping many will take advantage of the testing requirement change and finish strong. "Get them across the line is a beautiful plan."

B. Jones informed the Board that OCPS changed the office days of operations are now Monday, Wednesday and Friday. But assured the Board the teachers and staff are working from home no less than the OCPS required 0900-1400 5 days a week.

Hartsaw and Merrell expressed concern in next years' recruitment. COVID-19 makes it hard to get the information and to meet. It may be a "real challenge" to meet our first count numbers.

Next meeting tentatively set for June 2020. Board Member Elizabeth Hughes will be called by Hartsaw to inform her of today's meeting and the information discussed.

Ed dismissed the meeting.