

Great River School Board Meeting Minutes – March 17, 2010

One test of the correctness of educational procedure is the happiness of the child.

~ Maria Montessori

Board Members Present: Christina Beck, Andrea Christensen, Kate Diehn, Kira Donnelly, Michael Flood, Mary Gantenbein, Candy Husemoller, Sarah Lawrence-Lupton, Andrea Martin, Neal McMahon, Ben Moudry, Cory Olson, Paulette Zoë **Board Members Absent:** Deborah Schlick **Non-Board Members Present:** Dean Walczak (Finance Manager)

Introduction: GRS student shares a Pi recitation

1. Consent Agenda

- Approval of the February 2010 Minutes
- Renew contract for New Mech (Corvel) for building maintenance
- Switching to Plunkett's pest control
- Approval of Karen Geise; Isis

Motion 1003171

Motion to approve the consent agenda

Offered by Candy Husemoller

Seconded by Andrea Christensen

Motion passed unanimously

2. General Reports

- Director's Report
- Building Committee
 - Report was shared, followed by discussion. Exploratory phase of looking at property options (lease, own, build) is committee's focus.
 - The original timeline for this exploration will continue.
 - Charter school rules for property options will become known in the next few months.
 - This information will be presented to staff and feedback will be gathered on how the current building is meeting the school's needs
 - Care will be taken so that conversations about property options do not continue under false assumptions or before the community is ready to talk about them
- Financial Reports
 - In large part because of the Federal stimulus funds, the budget is doing well compared to where we thought we might be at this time
 - The school has not yet had to access its line of credit
 - Expenditures have been less overall
 - Lease payment structure is being reviewed after moving into the new wing
- Personnel Committee
 - Update was distributed
- Fundraising
 - Overall fundraising is more than anticipated
- Enrollment

- Current enrollment is on target
- There have been no recent withdrawals
- Enrollment goals will be revised as the process continues and families make their decisions about schools

Motion 1003172

Motion to accept the fundraising report
 Offered by Andrea Martin
 Seconded by Mary Gantenbein
 Motion passed unanimously

Old Business

3. Special Education Policy
 - To be determined; needs review
4. Financial Controls – New Procedures
 - Report in response to the audit is in progress
 - Systems are being developed based on the recommendations in the audit
 - The response and report will be presented at the next finance committee meeting

New Business

5. Revised Budget
 - Revised budget is in process and almost complete. It will be presented to the Board after the finance committee's review.
6. Annual Meeting
 - The Board will determine structure the annual meeting, which will likely occur on May 25, 2010 in conjunction with another school event. Ideas presented for annual meeting:
 - End of year student presentations
 - Celebration of the year
 - Looking ahead
 - Reports from Board committees
 - Highlights from levels or departments
 - Invite student participation through their work
 - Nominations for new Board members need to be done by the annual meeting.
 - Michael Flood and Neal McMahon will work on nominating committee guidelines

Motion 1003173

Motion to adjourn at 8:00pm
 Offered by Candy Husemoller
 Seconded by Andrea Martin
 Motion passed unanimously

Minutes respectfully submitted by Paulette Zoë, Secretary