

The Exploration Academy

Site Council Meeting

APRIL 27, 2015

MINUTES

- CALL TO ORDER

- The meeting was called to order at 6:10 PM
- Attending were;
 - Chad Welty
 - Sheila Stenseth
 - Pheng Lee
 - Paul Driftmier
 - Andrea Vogel
 - Cathy Driftmier
 - Dawn van Hook
 - Steve Heuer
- Absent;
 - Alexa Butzbaugh
- Guests
 - Jason Olson, VASD HR Director

- ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BRIEF AGENDA ITEMS

- The Minutes of the February, 2015 Meeting were unanimously approved.
- The next meeting of the Site Council was scheduled for Monday, May 18.

- THE EXPLORATION ACADEMY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

- Enrollment Update
 - Pheng Lee reports that EA has 81 students presently enrolled, fifteen candidates on the waiting list and two applicants showing interest.
 - There are ten students expected to graduate out of EA.
 - Chad W. is actively reaching out to next year's students.
 - PL updated the Council regarding the A+ Period

- PL has met once with Theresa Voss regarding scheduling during A+ and will be meeting her again the day after this meeting.
 - Are we "All-in" or can EA participate in A+ as we see fit
 - PL will update the Council further regarding A+ during the June meeting.
- ADDITIONAL REPORTS
 - CURRICULUM / INSTRUCTION
 - No discussion
 - FUNDRAISING AND GRANT WRITING (Paul Reporting)
 - Members of the committee
 - Andrea Vogel
 - Mona Cassis
 - Amy Almond
 - Laurie Everitt
 - Tom Eudaly
 - Lori Demeuse
 - Lynn Fahey
 - BRATFEST FUNDRAISER
 - There was no discussion but this should be an item for the next Site Council meeting.
 - CULVER'S FUNDRAISER
 - The Culver's fundraiser was very successful but no one has followed up with Culver's to see how much we had raised or where the check is.
 - Paul will follow up with Culver's to sort this out.
 - FARMERS' MARKET FUNDRAISER
 - No discussion, since this endeavor is not part of Fundraising anymore. This should be its own committee.

- EPIC DAY OF GAMING FUNDRAISER
 - Scheduled for May 16th.
 - Student team will work together on a related EA Project with Sheila and Chad to drive this forward both technologically and promotion-wise.
 - Student team is:
 - Jack Butler (VAHS)
 - Andrew Vogel (EA)
 - Paul Driftmier, Jr. (EA)
 - Promotion is behind schedule.
 - Paul, Sr. Will announce at the Project Showcase.
 - Paul Driftmier, Jr. is working on a flyer but it's not done yet.
 - The VAHS I.T. team, the student team members, and Paul Driftmier met to work out location and infrastructure, licensing, server-issues, etc.
 - Pheng Lee and Sheila will coordinate the school facilities' availability and be sure supervision is scheduled. Paul, Laurie Everitt and Andrea Vogel will be present throughout the event as well.
- ORANGE LEAF FUNDRAISER
 - Two possible dates available from OL
 - Monday, June 8th
 - Tuesday, June 9th
 - Andy Vogel will reach out to OL to see if we can get a better date in terms of athletic events, etc.
- OTHER FUNDRAISER IDEAS
 - No discussion
- MARKETING
 - Steve Heuer has a draft of a Letter-to-the-Editor of the Verona Press and will submit it once he gets it down the <400 words.

- The purpose of Steve's letter is to dispel some persistent myths about EA that are percolating in the community.
- BUDGET DISCUSSION
 - PL presented an in-depth review of the budget to date and projected
 - \$119,000 in budget
 - \$15K for Science Center
 - \$1K for Social Studies Center
 - \$5K for Literacy Consultant
 - \$6K for Summer Curriculum
 - \$TBD for technology
 - \$TBD for Advisory Time Curricula
 - \$TBD for equipment and supplies
 - PL states that some teachers have not yet earmarked enough for future needs.
 - The need for a Math Consultant is under consideration.
 - The licenses requiring renewal:
 - ALEKS Math
 - Project Foundry
 - Achieve3000
 - These licenses may be bundled and alternative product might be considered, such as Epiphany.
 - In summary,
 - The grant was \$175,000
 - Spent so far is \$46.7K
 - Spending for March and April is TBD
 - Remainder is approximately \$89K

- We hope for some quid-pro-quo with Pam regarding the required licenses wherein we might help her with things she needs and she helps us with things we cannot use granted funds for, like Achieve3000 licenses.
- A motion to approve the budget as presented was made and unanimously approved.
- OTHER TOPICS BRIEFLY DISCUSSED
 - Restorative Justice
 - Dialectical Behavioral Therapy
 - Creating Community in EA and outside of it.
 - Field Trips
 - Service Projects
 - The Wall Project
 - The School Board is discussing this and will reach a decision soon.
 - FTEs
 - PL asked for 0.2% increase in FTE but was denied (as expected) by the Board.
 - Our guest, HR Director Jason Olson, offered some perspective on the FTE decision making process.
 - CLOSING REMARKS
 - There were no closing remarks other than a sincere Than You to our guest and Site Council members
 - We're looking forward to a great EDOG fundraiser in less than a month and a great Project Showcase on May 7th.
 - THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:30