Approved on 5/22/25

Fiddlehead Board minutes Apr 17, 2025

1. Call to order and quorum.
   1. Bill Doughty called the meeting to order at 6:05 with 4 members present: Susan and Bill in person and Roger and Becky via Zoom. Marie joined the meeting in person later.
2. Public Comment: There was no public comment.
3. Approval of minutes from Mar 20, 2025.
   1. Susan moved and Becky seconded to approve the minutes from Mar 20, 2025. Motion carried 4 to 0.
4. Financial items
   1. Proposal to contract with Flaherty Financial Services to provide accounting services to Fiddlehead School.
      * 1. Jacinda explained the proposal and its rationale
        2. Considering their assistance with payroll also.
        3. Roger points out that the hourly rates are reasonable
        4. Roger moved and Susan seconded approval of the proposed contract with Flaherty Financial Services. Motion carried 4 to 0.
   2. Proposal to move funds from the Special Education Reserve account
      1. Proposal to transfer $9,775.16 for out of district placement invoice from Special Education Reserve Funds.
      2. Susan moved and Roger seconded to move the funds as suggested. Motion carried 4 to 0.
5. Consider the proposed FY26 budget
   1. Bill and Jacinda explained the budget and its development.
   2. State funding increase to $2.5M due to pre-K expansion (44 total students)
   3. $100K projected from enrichment programs
   4. $114K in grants, reduced by $18K due to loss of Small Rural Schools Act funding
   5. Maintained 3% salary increases and all current teaching/TA positions
   6. Pre-K expansion adds 1 full-time teacher and 1 full-time TA
   7. Motion to increase pre-K class size from 20 to 22 by Becky, seconded by Roger.
      1. Motion carried (4-1 vote)
   8. Susan moved and Marie seconded approval of the FY26 budget as presented. Motion carried 5 to 0.
6. Executive Director’s Report: Highlights included:
   1. HIRING:
      1. Posted the VACANT Special Education Teacher position now for the FY26 year.
      2. POSTED the Teacher Assistant positions that open for next year.
      3. Posting position for bus driver – we have a solid lead.
      4. There are no known teaching vacancies for next year at this time
      5. PROGRAMMING:
         1. Session #5 begins the first week of May and registration for next year’s enrichment program for Afterschool and private Music will begin in May as well.
         2. Lottery was held mid March – we are 95% filled for next year. 210 out of 214 students anticipated.
         3. Summer camps were launched on February 1st – with an early bird discount. This revenue is used as actuals in our FY26 budget.
            1. Staffing for summer looks strong.
            2. Enrollment is at 60 %
            3. The marketing plan for the summer program looks strong and continues.
7. **Wellness Committee Report**

* Positive feedback on recent staff wellness retreat
* New walking group being organized for staff
* Mentoring program established and going well
* Library of wellness resources being developed

1. Diversity Initiatives
   1. Updated diversity/embracement statement approved for website/handbook
   2. Ongoing work on land acknowledgement initiative
   3. Planning to review bullying prevention and non-discrimination policies
   4. Student feedback indicates diversity efforts are valued
   5. Becky presented the Diversity statement proposed for the school and Website. After discussion, Susan moved and Roger seconded to approve the statement as edited. Motion carried 5 to 0.
2. Executive Session: Marie moved and Beth seconded entering executive session. Motion carried 5-0.
3. The Board came out of executive session at 7:49.
4. Adjournment: Susan moved and Becky seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 5 to 0.