

SunRidge Educational Foundation
Meeting Minutes for **Monday, 8/31/16**

I. Roll Call

9:00am

Present: Mark, Robert, Nell, Cheryl, Hassanah, Gene

Guests: Dale Thurber, Kalen Wood, Willie Slubik, Autumn Streamfellow, Lisa Eschenberg

II. Approval of minutes from 6/20/16: Cheryl/ Robert 5/0

III. Approval of agenda: Robert /Cheryl 6/0

IV. Correspondence: Dale presented a request for financial assistance to attend certification training for the Spatial Dynamics program in New York. The Board discussed the request in relation to the current training reimbursement policy and will add this item to this meeting's agenda if time permits, or next meeting's agenda if not.

Open Session: Kalen reported on the significant improvement in our middle school state testing scores last spring both in English/Language Arts and Mathematics. SunRidge scores far exceeded state-wide averages and were even above Twin Hills Middle School scores. The lower grades testing results are not yet published since they are paper and pencil tests.

V. Business

1) Follow-up on Action Items

All action items were completed with the exception of

- 1) Robert following through with PayPal; and
- 2) Mark following up with Wells Fargo Bank and credit card charges.

2) Reports

-Hillside Landscaping Project

The project was completed and looks amazing! Kalen reported that the children love it and that yard duty staff are watching carefully to observe any use issues.

Kindergarten Project

Except for some continuing yard additions, the kindergartens were completed by the first day of school, and look beautiful. Not all invoices are in, but there is projected to be funds remaining that can be used to finish the uncompleted yard items

Action: Mark will send the Board the budget report for the project as soon as the numbers are final.

Hallway Bulletin Board Lazuring

The hallway bulletin boards were completed and make a very nice improvement (thank you, Nell!).

3) Fundraising Allocations for 2016-17

Hillside Project: The board will address this after final financial figures from the summer are in.

Cargo Net: Robert showed samples of netting and the board discussed the pros and cons of different types. There was desire to have a durable rope but one that is not toxic in any way. Mark suggested that the design be run by the school's insurance company to be sure we install something that meets

the required standards. Robert will continue to get needed information before the board makes a final decision.

Kindergarten Project: Mark reported that the summer project budget still has funds remaining for the yard completion. No additional funds requested at this time.

Hallways: the painting is completed but Nell suggests that better lighting for the middle school wing still be a priority. She suggested that we explore the possibility of solar lights over the hallway.

Action: *Mark will contact Baron again regarding his thoughts about solar lights in that location, and/or for other ideas.*

Homeschool Program: Callie has requested wood tabletops for the tables she now has. There may still be some funding available of the amount (\$4000) allocated previously for various homeschool program improvements (partitions and fencing). The board needs estimates of cost to determine how much to allocate.

Action: *Kalen will look into how much the tabletops would cost and bring to the next meeting.*

4) Fundraising for 2016-17

Auction: Robert reported on Amanda's work. So far she has generated \$13,700 in donated items, so a good return on our investment, and a great head start on contacts for this year's event. Amanda will complete her allotted hours (40 remaining of the 100 allotted).

Action: *Robert will have an updated contact list available by the next meeting.*

Pledge Program: Kalen announced that two parent meetings have been scheduled that will have multiple grades present for presentations by the various school groups. She asked that the Foundation have one or more members at each meeting. The dates are: Middle school meeting, September 20 at 7:30pm; and grades 3-5 meeting, October 19, 6:00pm. Others still to schedule. Kalen brought up the ideas of having a pledge representative for each class or a couple of pledge reps from the parent body who can talk up the pledge program.

Mark brought up the idea of sending out a monthly reminder to all parents that looks a bit like a bill, as a way of consistently reminding everyone about their monthly pledge.

Action: *Mark will come up with an estimated cost to send out monthly reminders to all parents.*

The "Spotlight on Pledge" needs a new preparer as Carol is no longer doing it.

Action: *Kalen will explore having Makena prepare and email out the "spotlight on pledge."*

5) 2016-17 Budget

Mark provided the proposed budget for 2016-17. The board reviewed and discussed the document.
Moved and Approved: the 2016-17 budget as presented.

Added: the board discussed Dale's request for training funds and agreed that it was important to remain consistent with what is being provided to other teachers for similar requests. Under that policy, he would have \$2200 per year available for the spatial dynamics certification.

Action: *Kalen will meet with Dale and convey that the Board fully supports him attending the program and will provide \$2200 per year towards that program, consistent with the policy of supporting teachers for getting Waldorf certification.*

Lisa Eschenberg brought up the issue of grants, especially for the garden program, as she wants to support the school developing a full garden and lunch program. She was encouraged to take a leadership role in this. Kalen pointed out that the garden program is currently going through a big

transition with the hiring of a new garden teacher, and the move of all gardening to the town campus. A lunch program is something to work toward, but there are a number of foundational steps that need to be in place first.

It was noted that there is over \$4000 still available from the Wells Fargo grant for the baseball field that could be used for putting in a “track” around three sides of the field. This would need to be approved by the district, and an estimated cost is needed. Permaculture Artisans will be asked for a bid.

6) Auction/SEF Office Space on Campus

Kalen said she thought the library space currently that has been used will continue to work for this year, which was agreeable to the auction committee.

7) Website investment

Robert reminded the board of our need to get the website fully functional. We need a new parent who can assist, and we need text completed. Bodhi Nadler was suggested as a possible website developer.

8) SEF Communication

Robert has prepared a letter to the community about the Foundation, which several members have provided feedback/input on. Any additional input should be provided immediately, so that he can have the office send the letter out by email shortly.

9) Set dates meetings

Next meetings were scheduled for:

Friday, September 30

Friday, October 28

Friday, November 18

Meeting Adjourned at 11:20am