

CLC Board Meeting 5/17/06
Call to Order 6:37 PM

Present: Heidi Fletcher, Leslie Aderhold, Tonya Daher, Lori McTavish , Melanie Loring,
Mark Toci (for Linda Bergeman), and Brian Rowan (for Morgan Ilgen)

Absent: Darlene Fink, Andrea Ryan, Linda Bergeman, and Morgan Ilgen

Attendees: Kosta Dussias, Pat Hunt,

The April, 2006 minutes were presented for review. Leslie Aderhold moved to accept the minutes with minor amendments and Lori McTavish seconded the motion. The minutes were accepted unanimously.

Business Manager Report

Kosta passed out an updated budget for review. A surplus is still projected. He informed the Board that he had looked into the cost of tile for renovating the bathrooms, but had not yet received a quote for the labor. He also distributed a brochure on possible lighting for replacing some of the outdated lighting in the big room. The lights would be brighter and more energy efficient and would be installed in the area behind the art area and up to the stage area. The cost of the lighting would be approximately \$3550 with a total cost of approximately \$5,000 installed.

Kosta requested approval for the replacement lighting in the big room. Melanie Loring made a motion to approve an amount not to exceed \$5,000 for the project. Leslie Aderhold seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Kosta requested that the Board approve the contract for audit with the firm of Parente Randolph at a cost of \$5,200. Melanie Loring made a motion to approve the expenditure and Brian Rowan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

ECO Report

Pat informed the Board that there are 100 applications for enrollment for next year. It appears there are more students in the 7th grade level than what we probably can accommodate at this time. The lottery for admissions will be done on June 5. We currently have some remaining openings in the 5th grade level.

The Terra Nova testing is completed with results projected to be received before the end of the summer.

The Student Handbook has been reviewed and a new version will most likely be distributed at the next Board meeting for review. We would like this process completed earlier this year to avoid the rush to finish any modifications at the last minute.

Pat stated that the staff peer reviews were completed and went great. The peer reviews done at CLC allow a sharing of ideas, a new appreciation for what each of the staff is doing in their jobs, and was very innovative and kid-centered.

“Friends of CLC” Update

No report submitted.

Old Business

Heidi noted that the election ballots for the vacant Board positions would be delivered to the school to be sent to parents in the Friday folders next week. She expressed disappointment that only one new nomination was received for a parent representative. She was investigating interest from other parents at CLC.

New Business

Heidi announced to the Board that Darlene Fink had tendered her resignation. She noted that the resignation was submitted due to other outside commitments that prevented Darlene from being able to fulfill her role on the Board. The Board accepted the resignation unanimously, but with deep regret, and expressed its thanks for her hard work and commitment over the past few years.

The Board discussed the 2006-2007 school calendar. The first day of classes will be on September 5, 2006. Three fourths of the school districts we serve had the same starting date. The rest of the calendar generally follows the State College Area School District (SCASD) High School Calendar. This is done primarily as much of the transportation is provided by State College School District and we do not want to cause them additional expense.

Pat noted that a special dispensation for PSSA testing will be needed for the spring testing as the spring break is the same as the one for SCASD; who will also need the same dispensation.

Tonya Daher and Lori McTavish motioned for the calendar to be approved as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

A discussion took place regarding the scheduled beginning and ending dates for the teachers with respect to the school calendar. Tonya Daher motioned for the teacher contracts to be amended to show the required teacher starting date to be noted as two weeks prior to the first day of classes and the ending date be noted to end one week after the last day of classes with a notation that if there are extenuating circumstances/work necessary to be completed prior to the summer break, that the teachers would stay on long enough to complete the requirements. Lori McTavish seconded the motion. The Board passed the motion unanimously.

The Board discussed the current projected surplus for this school year. A discussion was held regarding payment of a bonus to staff. Pat noted that the staff had discussed possible scenarios for payment of bonuses that they would agree with: 1) bonus tied to the peer review, or 2) a flat amount for the teachers and an amount for the administrative staff. The Board discussed the two options. Lori McTavish made a motion to approve a performance bonus of up to \$14,000 to be divided among the staff evenly with a portion to be paid pro-rata to additional staff as agreed upon by a consensus of the staff. This bonus would be in addition to the contract salaries and not an increase in the salary itself.

Tonya Daher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Board expressed it's thanks to the staff for their hard work and dedication.

Kosta presented a preliminary budget to the Board for the 2006-2007 school year. He noted that the SRSA grant dollars were not included in the budget and would be fully spent for replacement, enhancement, and purchase of technology for the school as this is a technology related grant. The preliminary budget is based on a projected enrollment of 99 students. The flat fee for ESP enrollment and the special class fees would continue in the next school year, subject to affordability issues.

Kosta noted that there was a line item for Educational Services. This line item is budgeted for services provided by Dan Duffy. He is attempting to contract Dan Duffy for a fixed amount to be paid for a fixed number of hours as we are currently billed by the hour. Lori McTavish motioned that Kosta be given approval by the Board to negotiate a contract with Dan Duffy for an amount not to exceed that noted on the preliminary budget. Tonya Daher seconded the motion. The Board passed the motion unanimously.

The line items on the budget were reviewed. A notation was made that the allotment for individual classrooms had been increased. The amount in the general supply category was decreased slightly as the classroom allotment would cover some of the previous items expensed from this category. Heidi noted that there was a decrease in the amount for the all-school field trip. She expressed her opinion that the amount budgeted was not sufficient for an all-school trip and with the increased cost of transportation should at least remain the same. Tonya Daher made a motion to increase this line item to \$5,000 rather than the \$3,000 as indicated in the submitted budget. She noted that this was based on the preliminary discussion regarding school field trips from the last Board meeting and that the final budget may have adjustments in the line items allocated for classroom expenditure and the all-school trip. An additional line item may be added for general school field trips. Brian Rowan seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The Board asked the staff to re-visit the 8th grade auction/field trip/all-school field trip process. They requested that the discussion involve having the trips be tailored primarily to a learning/educational perspective; however, the Board is open to any recommendation made by a consensus of the staff. This issue will be discussed more fully prior to approval of a more final budget.

There was no further business to be presented. Melanie Loring made a motion to adjourn the meeting, and Linda Bergeman seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM