

Monona Grove Education Foundation Board Meeting Minutes – August 8, 2023

Present – Beebe, Eddington, Jones, Klinke, McCutchin, Manning, O'Connor, Olson, Parrott, Perkins, Robbins, Salvi, Weinberger

Absent – Bernards, Homburg, Kugle, Runk, Young

Also present: Krishna Elwell, student school board representative

Opening of Meeting: McCutchin called the meeting to order at 4:02.

Approval of July 11, 2023 Minutes – Robbins' motion, seconded by Parrot, to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2023 meeting, was approved unanimously.

Reports & Announcements:

Supt. Dan Olson Report – School leadership teams consisting of 5-8 staff members from each school along with their principals met today and reviewed district goals and plans. These meetings give teachers a voice. Their overarching goal for the next year is creating and sustaining an equitable plan for funding. The group discussed how teachers can become more aware of student needs and the funds available. This intersects well with the work MGEF is doing in the schools. One of his goals is fostering more transparency with teachers about the budget.

New Business:

Possible MGEF involvement with 2023 Homecoming – Olson spoke with MG Principal Mitch McGrath about Homecoming planning at the high school as it relates to students, parents, and others. He doesn't have anything specific to report other than that McGrath is open to having a conversation about MGEF involvement with Homecoming. Robbins explained that she thinks it would increase visibility for MGEF and help establish a connection between MGEF and students and parents prior to graduation. Manning suggested doing something in addition to our typical scholarship distribution at Senior recognition as well, perhaps something like providing students with water bottles. Elwell thinks there is potential for MGEF to expand its role and visibility within the school community. If more people knew about us, we could unleash a lot of possibilities. The board agreed it's important to do what we can to increase visibility. Robbins will explore some possibilities for us regarding Homecoming and report back to the board.

Old Business:

Discussion & Possible Approval of 2023/24 School Year Program Fundraising Goal – Parrot shared possible MGEF Cares logos, a draft sponsorship letter and a draft fundraising letter to the community. The logo incorporates the MGEF apple logo. There are four options, both horizontal and vertical. Several board members like the vertical option in particular. Manning said that we need to be sure to use it with supporting documents as people aren't always sure what MGEF is. The board agreed to keep all four and use them as appropriate.

The board agreed that the revised presentation of giving levels made sense and made several comments/suggestions about the body of the letters. Elwell suggested providing an opportunity for those who benefit from MGEF funding to express their appreciation. Weinberger suggested having the letter professionally printed, folded, etc. Parrot will incorporate suggestions into the final letters. The campaign is slated to kick off in October.

Committee Reports:

Grants & Awards Committee (Beebe) – No report

Pay It Forward Committee (Weinberger) – Nancy Kugle worked with her dentist to secure a donation of a lot of toothbrushes and is looking into other dental supplies for Grab 'n Go.

Communications Committee Report – No report

Fundraising Committee report (Parrot) – No report

Weekend Snack Pack Committee (Eddington) – Eddington reported that she and Klinke are meeting soon to schedule meetings with the schools served by the Weekend Snack Pack program. They're planning for 150 students this year and are waiting to hear about grants they've applied for. N

Scholarship Committee Report (McCutchin) – No report

Investment Committee Report – No report

Future Agenda Items

- Honoring Kathy Thomas

Next Meeting - The next meeting will be virtual on September 12, 2023, at 4pm.

Adjournment – Beebe's motion to adjourn, seconded by Robbins was approved unanimously at 4:55 PM.

Mary O'Connor, Secretary