

Monona Grove Education Foundation Board Meeting Minutes – July 11, 2023

Present – Beebe, Bernards, Homburg, Kugle, McCutchin, O'Connor, Olson, Parrott, Perkins, Robbins, Runk, Salvi, Weinberger

Absent – Eddington, Jones, Klinke, Manning, Young

Opening of Meeting: McCutchin called the meeting to order at 4:04 pm.

Approval of April 11, 2023 Minutes – Beebe's motion, seconded by Parrott, to approve the minutes of the April 11, 2023 meeting, was approved unanimously.

Reports & Announcements:

Supt. Dan Olson Report – The outcome of the state budget is the biggest news. The district made a lot of assumptions about it when they planned for the operating referendum last spring. Rather than an increase of \$200 per student, MGSD will get \$325. That means an additional \$700,000. Because of the support they received for the district with the referendum, they're in a lot better shape than other districts. Starting teachers are at \$49,000, most experienced are at \$85,000. Additional money will be used for compensation and staffing. State aid will help fill the deficits from the last two years. Overall, the tax impact will be less than they thought it would be with the referendum.

Other Announcements – McCutchin has shared thank you notes from both scholarship winners as well as grant awardees. We've also received a thank you video from Ida. Runk shared that Senior Center concerts start in Winnequah Park on July 18.

New Business:

Discussion & Possible Approval of 2023/24 School Year Program Fundraising Goal

Parrott reported that the fundraising committee is moving forward with a tiered approach. The first phase is an annual giving campaign called MGEF Cares. There will be a variety of giving levels. The committee is working with a consultant on a logo and envision a yard sign for supporters as well as a brochure. They are narrowing the target list for the fundraising letter. They have not completely given up the idea of an event. The struggle with an event is that MGEF doesn't have a high level of brand equity in the community, hence, it's difficult to drive people to come to an event. It might make sense to hold something in conjunction with another event, for example the homecoming parade. ,

Parrott presented the giving categories the committee is considering. O'Connor asked how those would fit with the donor categories currently used, for example those listed in the spring issue of the newsletter. O'Connor suggested blending the two categories in some way. Kugle likes including information about what donations would be used for and wondered how we will track the various benefits. The committee envisions names being listed in Traditions once each year as they are now. Robbins questioned if we should be specific about what amounts are being donated for. Do we want to allow for more flexibility? There was further discussion about how best to generate a good mailing list. The committee will share final drafts in coming weeks.

Committee Reports:

Grants & Awards Committee (Beebe) – Beebe has been working with Winnequah to set up a Grab & Go with personal items similar to that at the High School. MGHS has sent her a list of what supplies they need to be refilled. She'd like to spend \$213.16 to start the Winnequah Program with a wall organizer that will be placed in Student Services. She'd also like permission

to purchase supplies for both. McCutchin asked if we plan to expand the program to other schools or wait for them to contact us. Homburg and Beebe have talked to all the schools about the program and told them to reach out if they're interested. So far, they've heard from MGHS, MG21 and Winnequah.

Weinberger made a motion seconded by Homburg, to approve spending \$213.16 for purchase of a wall unit for Winnequah. Bernards moved to amend the motion to approve \$400 for the wall unit and supplies, seconded by Robbins. All approved the amended motion and then all approved Weinberger's original motion as amended.

Pay It Forward Committee (Weinberger) – no report

Communications Committee Report – no preport

Weekend Snack Pack Committee (Eddington) – They are sponsoring a tent at Market Place Days with an activity for kids. McCutchin will be there to promote and talk about MGEF.

Scholarship Committee Report (McCutchin) – no report

Future Agenda Items

- Honoring Kathy Thomas
- Revisit Robbins' idea to have a presence at the MG Homecoming Parade. She and McCutchin will follow up with the district about the possibilities.
- How to routinely promote MGEF accomplishments to parents in every newsletter.
- How to make sure that staff receive the grant information.
- A board get-together in the future.

Next Meeting - The next meeting will be virtual on August 8, 2023, at 4pm.

Adjournment – Parrott's motion to adjourn, seconded by Kugle was approved unanimously at 5:19 PM.

Mary O'Connor, Secretary