

## **Monona Grove Education Foundation Board Meeting Minutes – November 14, 2023**

**Present** – Beebe, Bernards, Eddington, Homburg, Klinke, Manning, McCutchin, O'Connor, Perkins, Robbins, Salvi, Weinberger

**Absent** – Jones, Kugle, Olson, Parrott, Runk

**Opening of Meeting** - McCutchin called the meeting to order at 4:03 pm

**Approval of October 10, 2023 Minutes** – Beebe's motion, seconded by Homburg, to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2023 meeting, was approved unanimously.

### **Reports & Announcements:**

**Supt. Dan Olson Report** – Supt Olson was unable to attend

**Other Announcements** – McCutchin had two announcements:

- MESBA is holding their annual Holiday Gala on Sunday Dec. 10 at the Goodman Center/Brass Works Building from 5-7. All members are welcome at no charge. RSVP's are due December 1.
- McCutchin and Klinke are attending the Widen Family Foundation open house on Dec. 7 to express appreciation for their recent contribution to the Snack Pack Committee.

### **New Business:**

**Discussion & Possible Approval of Funding Request for Winter Gear:** McCutchin has confirmed requests for funding for winter gear from the following schools - Taylor Prairie, Cottage Grove School, Granite Ridge & MG21 - \$250 each; Winnequah - \$300; Glacial Drumlin and MGHS - \$500. Salvi's motion to approve the expenditure, seconded by Bernards, was approved unanimously.

**Discussion of Capital Campaign & Mark & Laurie Rundle Donation:** McCutchin reported that we are continuing to promote the MGEF Cares fundraising campaign in a variety of ways. So far, we have received about \$15,000 (not including Rundle matching funds) including a contribution from the Cottage Grove Food Pantry which will fund participation for an additional 14 students in the Snack Pack program. We received \$3,000 from Lake Ridge Bank and good response from some other businesses. McCutchin encouraged the board to continue reaching out to friends and others to contribute and be sure to mention the matching donation. Mark & Laurie Rundle have volunteered to match any contributions up to the first \$25,000 raised.

McCutchin has stressed the importance of MGSD staff taking advantage of the funds available to Supt Olson. The board discussed streamlining the grant request process by going to one form rather than a separate form for each grant. All of the forms are on the website. At times there is uncertainty about which grant to apply for. If we moved to using a single form, then the grants committee could decide which grant program is appropriate for funding. Administrative review by the district would still be required. McCutchin will explore putting the request form(s) on the district or school websites.

**Discussion of 2024 Committee Assignments:** McCutchin shared a current list of committee assignments. They will be discussed at a future meeting. He's contacted the three board members whose appointments are coming up for renewal at the end of the year to see if they'd like to continue serving on the board.

**Old Business:**

**Discussion of Fall Traditions Timing and Needs** – O'Connor will contact McCutchin if she needs additional copy once she receives the initial proof from the graphic designer.

**Committee Reports:**

**Grant & Awards Committee Report (Beebe)** – No report

**Pay it Forward Committee (Weinberger)** – No report

**Communications Committee Report** – No report

**Fundraising Committee report (Parrot)** – No report

**Weekend Snack Pack Committee (Klinke & Eddington)** – Eddington reported that we have received two grants for the 24-25 school year so far. One is from the Widen Family Foundation that will support 50 students next year. Another was received from Delta Dental. So far \$11,000 has been raised for 24-25 with another \$5K committed by MGEF. They are planning for 175 students.

Homburg asked how we can continue to supply snacks for the schools to make available during the school day. They're receiving more and more requests through PIF. Klinke explained that the extra Snack Pack snacks the schools received were intended for emergency weekend snack Pack situations not for daily student snack needs. Snack Pack has no additional funds for in-school snacks. McCutchin thinks each building should be asking for additional money through PIF for in-school snacks. Beebe wondered if parents might be willing to donate snacks for students similar to how they used to donate money to pay for milk for students who couldn't afford it. McCutchin will check into the possibility of asking for donations.

Eddington & Klinke have found a way so that volunteers will be able to put together snack packs later in the day. They are now supporting 164 students each week. They are working with school staff to deliver snack packs to the other schools during the week freeing up more time for volunteers to pack them. The next Snack Pack meeting will be at the Muskie Lounge at 6 on the 27<sup>th</sup>. She encourages board members to attend and meet the rest of the committee.

**Scholarship Committee Report** – No report

**Investment Committee Report** – No report

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

**Adjournment** –Beebe's motion to adjourn, seconded by Robbins was approved unanimously at 4:48 PM.

Mary O'Connor, Secretary