

Bdote Learning Center
3216 E. 29th St. Minneapolis, MN 55406
July 27, 2020
4:30-6:00PM

Due to the COVID19 pandemic, the July 2020 Board meeting is being held via Zoom meeting. All votes are taken by individual roll-call.

1. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

Board members present: Autumn Dillie, Kat Anthony-Wigle, Graham Hartley, Jen Hall, Louis Matson, Michele Fluhr Fraser

Board members absent: Joe Rice, Mary Hermes, Pam Gokie

Guests: Cindy Ward-Thompson, Director of Administration; Nichole Schmidt, CLA Accountant; Barry Hand, Dakota Teacher; Laurie Harper Director of Education at Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe; Benesekwe Monica Briggs, Ojibwe teacher; Arthur Lockwood, Community; Corey Western Boy, Parent; Sisoka Duta, Community; Kashina Danielson, staff; Christian Hand, Community; Ken Danielson, Community.

B. Call the Meeting to Order

Autumn Dille, Chair

AD: The meeting is called to order at 4:33 pm

C. Approve Agenda

AD: Please review the July meeting agenda.

GH said the closed session must be at 5:15 but may occur in a different sequence than identified in the agenda.

AD: With that scheduling modification noted, is there a motion to approve the agenda?

GH, Motion; LM, second.

AD: roll call vote to LM, yea; MFF, yea; GH, yea; KAW, yea; JH, yea.

AD: the July agenda is approved.

D. Approve minutes from June board meeting

Autumn Dille

AD: Please review the June meeting minutes.

AD: Is there a motion to Approve the June Minutes?

LM, Motion; JH, second.

AD: roll call vote to GH, yea; JH, yea; LM, yea; KAW, yea; MFF, yea.

AD: Motion to approve June Meeting minutes is approved.

2. Finance

A. June Financials

Nichole Schmidt

High level dig to start; we are prepping for annual audit; we are only looking to approve these numbers as Preliminary right now; They will be approved as final June numbers in the end of year audit; Profit at 200, 829; Ending fund balance at 140,797.

Marss total enrollment says 107.05-this reflects another school trying to hold onto a student after they enroll with us; ADM needs to be corrected; CARES money received is not reflected in the revenue ; high point- food service should never show a profit, but we did have a very slight profit because we've been buying/packing/delivering ourselves, so we paid some salary percentages and then only showed a small 600+ number; this is acceptable; CC payments are paid as line items now; July will be the leanest IDEAS payments of the year with not all the entitlements being loaded yet and the MDE goes off of prior year amounts. They will do retro payments as the MDE updates all entitlements. First holdback payment will be on 8/31.

Checks questions – Who is Focally? Our student cell phone management system 'Yonder'; Are we all caught up on rent? We paid June, but not July yet.

Any more??

B. Review and approve checks

Graham Hartley

GH: I move to approve the preliminary June financials and checks; JH, second;

AD roll call vote: GH, yea; JH yea; MFF, yea; KAW, yea; LM yea.

AD: Motion passes.

GH clarifies that although the closed sessions is scheduled in this spot of the agenda, we will move through the next item until 5:15 when the attorney joins the meeting.

2. Closed Session (5:15 PM)

3. Organizational Information

A. Director's Report

Cindy Ward-Thompson

a. We are required to move back to regular school year food service- summer is done.

We can no longer send additional meals for siblings, only enrolled students; unclear how to manage all the rules on a distance delivery system; trying to partner with dream of wild health, have lots of rules to follow, info from state food people just came out , very little time to get ready for August 3.

b. DL start up for at least first quarter. Gov directive will be announced on Thur 7/30 and we needed to make a decision on how we would start with enough time to notify parents and get print /digital info out.

c. School starts 7/29 with family orientations going all day 29, 30, and 31- how it will work and how the building is getting ready; we're thinking of how to have small social distance meetups at a park or library. Trying to be creative and stay connected to kids.

d. Because we are in the DL platform, we can have a few more students in each class so we are over enrolling some classrooms.

Leadership Report Continued-

- e. NACC partnership to try and offer Therapy in house in future
 - f. mental health concerns for students and staff
 - g. ANA grant has been submitted.
 - h. 10+ grants reports are due in the next few days
- LM adds that regarding food service, DIW is hiring a Food Security person and maybe there can be come partnering with Sioux Chef for our families.

B. Strategic Planning Discussion-

Barry Hand

Barry offers thanks and support for the Exec Director and Board, and endorses the Bdote mission and we want to offer some solutions for the challenges we are facing. Reads from a book from Piegen Institute - "Encouragement, insights, guidance and lessons learned for people starting their own language ..." :

"Keep in mind that the language is the key. Nothing else ... Never ask permission, Never beg to save the language, never. Never debate the issues, never. Be very action oriented, just act; show, don't tell. Use your language as your curriculum. Botany, etc, ..."

Barry reads a statement of proposal from the group that wrote it for the purpose of producing language speakers; turns over to Bidaasigekwe to review the restructuring proposal- she shares slides and docs with the ideas and proposals. Summary of restructuring proposal: We need to split the languages into two separate schools and be in two separate spaces.

Lots of discussion- lots of comments from community members; comments from parents; comments of support for teachers, staff, board, etc; lots of support for two separate buildings to really make immersion work. Some talk about how critical parent buy in is and will be.

LM- we need to get our facilities committee going- there are no buildings in MPLS avlb. Barry – needs to be built from the ground up with architecture and design according to cultural principles. We need the Board to support this.

JH- let's sit down and try to enact the changes before the big new building stuff –

AD- next steps? Committee meeting re this; facilities committee; etc- we will form a restructuring work group and meet regularly to plan.

Thanks thanks thanks for your vision and we need to move on to other agenda items.

4. Committee Reports

A. Governance Committee

GH : We met and discussed the agenda for today; and I think we need a strategic planning listening session/meeting as we look ahead to the next phase of Bdote.

B. Others Committee Reports/Updates

None

5. New Business

A. Approval of Distance Learning to start 2020-21

JH motion to approve; GH second;

Discussion- CWT- current state guidance says we cannot start in person; we are not ready to do a hybrid; so we really can only do full DL at least for Q1.

AD roll call vote: lm, yea; jh, yea; gh, yea; kaw, yea, mff yea.

Motion is approved-

B. Empowering the COVID Response team with the authority to determine school delivery amendment in accordance with State guidance: CWT is requesting the board turn over the authority to the "Covid Response Team" and that to have the Board be making that decision may take too much time and don't necessarily understand the day to day concerns of our students and staff. GH said maybe it should come to the Board for ratification; COVID team will give monthly updates.

Motion to approve; roll call vote Kaw, yea JH yea, mff yea, LM yea, GH yea.

6. Public Comment

A. Social Media Policy Discussion-

CWT can we table this? It's a governance thing anyway we can add to next month's agenda.

7. Adjourn meeting

AD meeting adjourned at 7:18? all in favor- yea yea yea