

Bdote Learning Center Board of Directors Meeting 2/28/2022

Attendees: Karen Terhar, Angela Two Stars, Erin Griffin, Tedi Grey Owl, Mat Pendleton, Arthur Lockwood

Guests: Karen Terhar, Michael Dudero, Beth Brown, Korissa Howes,

Meeting called to order: 4:42 p.m

Opening Items:

Approval of the January 2022 minutes: *Motion to approve the Jan 2022 minutes*, made by Angela T, 2nd by Erin G. Board members in favor: all, opposed: none. **Motion carries.**

Conflict of Interest: None stated.

Public Comment: Korissa H. acknowledged the request for a comment. Korissa, EMI grant manager. Few issues related to the EMI grant that she would like help in. Started a partnership with Hamline University. Charts, books, vowel chart with images (for example), stickers to send home. Language camp: need help for planning and other ideas.

Arthur: formally welcoming Mat Pendleton to his 1st board meeting. Lower Sioux Recreation Director.

Finance:

Summary of Jan. 2022 financial statements. General question regarding finances: Run by grants and requirements to report on the grants. Constantly in financial chaos. Is there any way to improve financial stability? Bdote is grant heavy due to great needs of support as a language immersion school. Bdote has more needs than a traditional charter school. Those needs add additional costs. Interns come into other charter schools from other countries and work as volunteer experience and fundraising is done to support the cost of those interns. Bdote has a similar system through the ANA grant. Sped paras in every classroom and high transportation costs contribute to the financial issues.

Erin: posed questions that are unique costs to BLC. Response: Transportation costs are higher than most. Staffing and additional support specific to language and culture.

Motion to approve January 2022 financials: Motion made by Tedi Gray Owl, 2nd by Angela T. Board members in favor: All, opposed: none. **Motion carries.**

Director's Report:

- Wellness clinic held on Feb. 18th. Event went very well. Vaccination rates amongst students and staff leads to the question of removing the mask mandate.
- IQS feedback offered from January BOD meeting.
- State of the school & needs to move forward:

- Long hours, hard work and just maintaining. Director is skilled in curriculum development & instruction but is not able to meet those targets due to the need to maintain the grant reporting which is time consuming.
- Fewer staff than last year. Due to right sizing staff vs. budget. Couldn't afford all the positions, but the 3+ people's work has spread to the administrators and impacts what can get done. Areas where school is not in compliance. Concerns Karen.
- Charter schools are a lot of work. Typical charter schools don't have the bandwidth for a HR dept., grounds, finance, etc. Some of that work can be contracted
- Committees need to be active. Tonight, we will be assigning board members to committees. Most desired committee to activate: **Strategic planning.**
- Finances: Karen more concerned than Mick. Basic needs need to be met, phone, internet, these impact the school climate. Facilities needs. Impacts families as well when they try to contact the school.
- Transportation costs. If that is what the school wants to do, fine, but the school needs to understand that is where the money is going and what it is taking away from. i.e, curriculum.
- Different dynamics in relation to school climate. Constant issues that happen because of the small, facilities needs, that impact the school climate.

Board comments on Director's report

Committee Reports:

None

New Business:

Approval of New Hire: Daryn McKay, paraprofessional 6-8th grade Dakota. Motion made by Erin G., 2nd by Tedi Grey Owl. Board members in favor: All, Opposed: None. **Motion carries.**

Board Election - seating 2 Directors: Korissa Howes offered to fill the vacate teacher position. Motion to approve Korissa H to serve on the Bdote Board of Directors made by Tedi Grey Owl, 2nd by Erin Griffin. Board members in favor: All, Opposed: None. **Motion carries.**

Board officers and committee assignments: List sent out to Board

Officer Positions current standing:

President: Arthur Lockwood

Vice-Chair: Robert Pilot

Treasurer: Vacant

Secretary: Vacant

Motion to seat Angela Two Stars as Secretary: Motion made by Tedi Grey Owl, 2nd by Mat Pendleton. **Motion carries.**

Tedi Grey Owl self-nominated for Treasurer: Motion made by Erin G to seat Tedi Grey Owl as Treasurer. 2nd by Angela T., Board members in favor: All, opposed: none. **Motion carries.**

Committees: (Karen, these were discussed but not finalized. I left them here to initiate the finalization for next month's meeting)

- Strategic planning Committee:
 - Erin Griffin (Chair)
 - Arthur Lockwood

- District Advisory Committee/Curriculum Committee:
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- Governance Committee:
 - Arthur Lockwood (Chair)
 - Robert Pilot
 - Tedi Grey Owl
 - Angela Two Stars

- Finance Committee: Treasurer
 - Tedi Grey Owl (Chair)

- Parent Committee: Staff member liaison already serving

- Personnel Committee: Staff comprised with board

- Re-licensure Committee:
 - Korissa Howes

- Elder Council Committee: (Paused)

- Facilities committee: (Paused)

WBWF Report: Mandatory report for schools & districts. Report has been filed with MDE, completed and submitted in December. Goals stated in report. Need to report working towards these goals. State has allowed the schools to not report due to Covid. Submitted that the school was unable to report due to Covid impacts.

Covid Days: Federal dollars expired in Dec. 2020 which allowed 10 days PTO to staff that were out sick with Covid. Other schools have 0-10 days set aside for employee response to Covid. 10 days, recommended by Arthur, to provide staff that have to quarantine/get sick with Covid. Retroactive for the past school for staff that have had to take time off.

Motion to provide up to 10 Covid relief days retroactive, July 1, 2021 -June 30th, 2022, made by Tedi G, 2nd by Angela T.: Board members in favor: All, opposed: none. **Motion carries.**

School Calendar for 2022-2023. Low attendance in August when close to 50% of students do not attend in August. Poll families for preferences. To add to March 2022 agenda.

Old Business:

Board Training: Needs to be started within the first 6 months.

Additional Public Comment shared.

Motion to adjourn meeting made by Angela T, 2nd by Erin G.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:50 p.m