



**EQUITY ALLIANCE MN
BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 16, 2016
WHITE BEAR LAKE DISTRICT OFFICES
5:30 P.M.**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Kitty Gogins, Board Chair, at 5:31 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

ATTENDANCE:

SSD 006: South St. Paul
ISD 16: Spring Lake Park
ISD 197: West St. Paul
ISD 199: Inver Grove Heights
ISD 623: Roseville
ISD 624: White Bear Lake

ISD 831: Forest Lake
ISD 834: Stillwater
Perpich Center for Arts Education –
Crosswinds

BOARD REPRESENTATIVE

Amy Williams
Marilynn Forsberg - Vice Chair
Byron Schwab
Cindy Nordstrom
Kitty Gogins – Chair
Ellen Fahey (absent) - Marge Newmaster
sub
Karen Morehead (absent)
George Hoepfner – Clerk
Linda Henning

STAFF:

Dr. Jean Lubke, Executive Director; Janine Stammeler, Office Manager

GUESTS:

Dr. Michael Lovett, White Bear Lake Area Schools Superintendent
James Barnett, White Bear Lake Area Schools Achievement & Integration Coordinator

III. APPROVAL OF THE ORDER OF THE AGENDA

Dr. Lubke requested an amendment to the order of the agenda, with the addition of Resolution/Action Item B. Approval of Revised FY17 Budget, and C. Acceptance of South St. Paul Schools' Extension Letter. Byron Schwab (ISD 197) moved to approve the order of the agenda as amended. George Hoepfner (ISD 834) seconded the motion. All members present voted in the affirmative.

IV. OPEN FORUM

There was no one signed up to speak.

V. DISCUSSION, REPORTS, AND OTHER NON-ACTION ITEMS

A. White Bear Lake Equity Presentation

Dr. Michael Lovett welcomed the Equity Alliance MN Board to White Bear Lake and gave a brief overview of the Equal Opportunity Schools (EOS) work that is happening in their district. He then introduced James Barnett, Achievement and Integration Coordinator, to speak more to the support aspect of the EOS project. James discussed the summer boot camp that White Bear Lake High School held for students enrolled in AP courses. This camp helped to identify skills needed to succeed in AP courses and build on those skills, provided students an opportunity to meet their peers and teachers, and learn about the resources available to help succeed in the more rigorous courses. Over 100 students registered for the camp and nearly 100 attended. James stated that they are working hard to create a culture of achievement for their students, with a system of support that extends to the district level. James reported that they have over 120 newly-enrolled AP students this school year, and the success of these students is great so far.

B. Equity Alliance MN Strategic Framework

Dr. Lubke shared the updated Strategic Framework draft with the Board for further discussion before approval later in the meeting. This is Phase 1 of Equity Alliance MN's work with consultants Rita Garcia and Ron Ibarra. She stated that several stakeholders (superintendents, integration leaders) have reviewed and provided feedback on the prior draft. The Board offered a couple of clarifications to the focus areas.

C. Executive Director's FY17 Goals

Dr. Lubke reported that at the November 14th Executive Advisory Committee meeting there was a discussion on how to structure the Executive Director's FY17 goals around the new strategic framework. The Board agreed that the three focus areas of the strategic framework seem to be correct and seem to be the right areas to create goals specific to the Executive Director's work in each area. The Board stated that as we move forward with the strategic framework, we will need to develop metrics that can measure the progress of the Executive Director's work.

D. Revised FY17 Budget

Dr. Lubke presented a revised FY17 budget to the Board and explained the edits made to the previously adopted budget. She stated that we have increased revenue by nearly \$50,000 from what was presented in August, partly due to member additions of programs and services, and partly due to an increase in professional development offerings. She stated that expenditures have also increased to reflect the costs associated with the additional programs, services, and professional development offerings. Dr. Lubke stated that the amount of money being taken from the fund balance to supplement expenditures is decreasing. She also shared the preliminary FY16 audit results that would have \$150K less withdrawn from the fund balance than expected.

E. EL Administrator's Summit - January 17, 2017

Dr. Lubke shared that the EL Administrator's Summit scheduled for January 17, 2017 is going to be postponed until later in the spring. She stated that we will be looking for schools within districts that have had particular success in EL or building or district leaders that have been a champion for EL programming to host the summit. She stated that we will be looking statewide for these individuals/schools/districts.

F. Board Training Registration

Dr. Lubke reported that the Board training discussed at the October Board meeting will be held on January 30, 2017 from 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. She stated that we are ready for people to register, and she and Mary Bussman are working on the format and content of the training. Dr. Lubke asked that the Board forward the information to their home district Board members. It was suggested that we extend an invitation to Superintendents and Integration Leaders. It was also suggested that we raise the registration fee for non-members to reflect the true cost of developing and putting on the training.

VI. CONSENT AGENDA

Amy Williams (SSD 006) moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Marilyn Forsberg (ISD 16) seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

VII. RESOLUTION/ACTION ITEMS

A. Approval of Strategic Framework

Byron Schwab (ISD 197) moved to approve the Strategic Framework draft as modified in Discussion Item B. Linda Henning (Perpich/Crosswinds) seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

B. Approval of Revised FY17 Budget

Amy Williams (SSD 006) moved to approve the revised FY17 budget presented in Discussion Item D. Byron Schwab (ISD 197) seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

C. Acceptance of South St. Paul Schools Extension Letter

Linda Henning (Perpich/Crosswinds) moved to accept the letter of extension of Equity Alliance MN membership for South St. Paul Schools. Byron Schwab (ISD 197) seconded the motion. Motion carried with all members present voting in the affirmative.

VIII. BOARD FORUM

Amy Williams (SSD 006) – Amy reported that with the election results, South St. Paul schools faced issues with some students feeling marginalized. Some students discussed staging a walk-out to express their feelings around the issues at hand. Amy stated that the Superintendent and principal of South St. Paul High School became very involved. They used the talking points sent to the districts by Equity Alliance MN to have thoughtful and meaningful discussions with teachers, students, and families. Many issues were resolved and everyone worked together to address the issues at hand. Amy stated that she was very proud of the how the situation was handled by all the parties involved. Amy also reported that there was a total Board turnover in the recent elections. The Board welcomed their new members at a recent Saturday budget work session. Amy also announced that she would not be serving

as the EMID Board rep from South St. Paul in 2017. Chair Gogins thanked Amy for her years of service.

Cindy Nordstrom (ISD 199) – Cindy reported that Inver Grove Heights School Board had a busy night at their recent work session. They have been going through a one-year process in coming up with an equity plan, and they believe they have developed a great plan. They split into three different groups and developed three different areas in the plan along with beliefs in each area. They are pleased with the work they have done together to create this plan. Cindy also noted that while the district was exploring changes in start and end times, they are putting this on hold to do more research.

Marge Newmaster (ISD 624) – Marge reported that she felt James Barnett did a great job detailing what White Bear Lake has been working on. She also stated that the relationship piece is the most important aspect to student success, and the district will continue to work on this piece.

Byron Schwab (ISD 197) - Byron reported that Superintendent Nancy Allen-Mastro is retiring on June 30, 2017. He also reported that a current ISD 197 Board member was elected to the State Senate, so has resigned from his seat on the ISD 197 Board. They have received 23 applications to fill his spot. Byron also noted that the levy passed by 64%. He also reported that 90 students from ISD 197 were recognized as AP Scholars, 11 students were recognized by the National Merit Scholarship program, and two students are National Merit Scholarship recipients.

Marilynn Forsberg (ISD 16) – Marilynn reported that Spring Lake Park has four National Merit Semi-finalists. She also reported that their district will be having a half-day professional development on learning styles and accommodations throughout the district based on information gathered in this session. Marilynn also reported that they are still working hard on the 12 by 12 program; the district is getting closer to selecting a site for their new school.

George Hoepfner (ISD 834) – George reported that the Board elections came out well. Two new members are not in favor of closing the schools and one new member supports the plan. He also noted that at the recent AMSD conference, Mounds View Schools presented their Equity Promise. He suggested that all the districts take a look at the work they did.

Linda Henning (Perpich/Crosswinds) – Linda reported that Crosswinds is working really hard with teachers, students, and parents to build the community. She proudly noted that the current parent-teacher conferences had 70% attendance.

Kitty Gogins (ISD 624) – Kitty reported that the kick-off ceremony for the Partners for the Future program, held on November 15th, had over 100 attendees. She also noted that the district has re-done their strategic plan, utilizing the milestones identified in World's Best Workforce. They will have five focus areas: improve learning for students of color, American Indian Students, English learners, students receiving special education services, and pre-kindergarten learners; improve communication and genuine engagement with families and

communities, especially with our underrepresented communities; strengthen support for the social and emotional development of students; expand support for college and career readiness; and secure and manage resources to provide a quality education and improve facilities.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Kitty Gogins adjourned the meeting at 7:27 p.m.

EMID Board Clerk

Date