



Endeavor Board Meeting Minutes: April 11, 2016

Call to Order:

Kevin Myers called to order a meeting of the ECS Board of Directors at 7:02 p.m. in the ECS Multi-Purpose Room.

Present: Bill Borter, Peter Henderson, Kristi McClure Kevin Myers, Lisa Springle, Clint White

Absent: Charlie Kennedy

Minutes

Peter Henderson moved to approve the minutes from the Board meeting on March 14th as distributed prior to the meeting. The motion was seconded by Kevin Myers and unanimously approved.

Endeavor Foundation Update

David Clodgo reported that the Endeavor Foundation met with a contractor for playground, and has obtained an updated estimate. Kevin Myers opined that the drainage system needs to be addressed first, and that this phase will cost \$5-10K. The school can subsequently consider options such as extending concrete, thick mulches, artificial turf, etc.

David noted the soil run-off from the ECS hillside signage. Kevin suggested to replace the hillside grass with vegetation.

Christi Whiteside asked for Foundation help to replace the temporary school signage.

Joe Montgomery and Kevin have begun talking about the reserves needed for the Foundation

Director's Update

Christi Whiteside reported the following developments in her Director's Update:

- The first Endeavor Emporium was Saturday. It was well-attended with 15 booths and a food truck. The school does not have the total financial return yet. Per Board discussion, ECS may consider standards for products/services that reflect well on ECS at future Emporiums;

- Leah Boas (8th Grade Math) and Josh Burt (Athletic Director) will be out for maternity and paternity leave soon;
- PAWS will be hosting an additional cultural event this year;
- Graduation will be a Richmond Creek this year, which will provide more capacity;
- ECS will put out a request for EOG proctors soon;
- ECS switched over insurance to Whitehurst Strategic Partners who found some cost savings of approximately \$1500 with improved coverage;
- A Field Day will be added to the Fun Run this year;
- As part of her Mid-Year Update, Christi stated that the staff has been very busy, open, and focused on student academic growth.

Audit Update

Tina Bauldree said the administration has been calling around for competitive audit quotes. Acadia has provided a list of 10 auditors they work with, and Tina will call the local companies. Current auditor (Thomas Judy and Tucker) has only offered a \$500 discount. Bill Borter will attempt to talk to TJT about getting their price down in line with the competitive quotes.

Playground Remediation

Already addressed in the Foundation Report.

Enrichment Program

Christi Whiteside reported on the school's interest in transitioning to the YMCA for after-school care and ending the enrichment program. Christi noted that the YMCA has their own insurance and trains counselors on CPR. YMCA also offers homework and STEM activities, in addition to play. Per Lauren Manfreda's parent survey, 44% are in favor of 3, 5-day, and early release care options, 56% were not interested.

Kevin Myers encouraged the school to consider some club options (even if paid) to offset activities we would otherwise lose for students. Christi provided the YMCA Lease Agreement for the Board's review. Christi will execute the final contract.

Director of Development Update

Lauren Manfreda spent the day at a grant-writing seminar, and left very convinced that grants we pursue should align with the school's strategic goals. Most are structured as reimbursement for expenses are incurred.

ECS Family Survey Results – There were 173 responses covering the following topics: Favorite Aspects of ECS - creative teachers and small classes were named most frequently. The least favorite aspects were the location, recreation and playground, lack of a gym, and carpool;

Volunteer Frequency – Half volunteer monthly, 10% haven't volunteered, the rest volunteer quarterly. Most are willing to volunteer for lunch, field trips were second.

Social Media – Facebook was the preferred social media channel, followed by Instagram and Twitter;

School Wide Events of Interest – Fall Festival was far and away the leader, and the school play was second;
Annual Fund Willingness to Give – Technology and school playground scored highest. Write-ins said they would contribute to gym or high school;
How Do You Describe ECS to Others – lots of love for the school came across.

Lauren will address the survey responses relating to support for the next phase for the school at the Wednesday Parent Information Meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Following the meeting, Bill Borter provided the BB&T Operating Account balance, which as of 3/31/16 was \$1,576,406.38. Bill is looking into an analytical package to store and more easily access our financial data, as well as improve forecasting and trend analysis, preferably starting with an introductory trial.

Clint has talked to First Tennessee about investment strategies, and has also reached out to BBVA. Clint says ECS will need a policy to clearly state who holds the money before they can invest the funds.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Closed Session

Kevin Myers moved that the Board go into closed session in accordance with North Carolina statute 143.318.11 (a) (6). Clint White seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved and the Board moved into closed session at 8:43 p.m.

Adjournment

After returning to public session at 9:55 p.m., Kevin Myers moved to adjourn the meeting. Peter Henderson seconded the motion, which was approved unanimously at 9:55 p.m.