

LECS SAC Meeting Minutes
March 2, 2009, 6:00-7:25
School Library

Agenda:

Minutes

Director's report

Committee reports

Old Business

New Business

*LECS BOD Enrollment Lottery (this was done out of the order of the agenda)

School Survey

Mission Statement

Members Present: Sharon Morell, Ronnie DeNoia, Carol Dierksen, John Mays,
DeVonna Craner, Greg Mellowe, Jillian Friedman, and Carrin Hahn

Minutes Recorded By: Carrin Hahn

Sharon Morell called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

The minutes from February were read and approved.

***New Business**

- Sharon said that since Jordan Clark from the Board of Directors was at the meeting, she would conduct the LECS BOD Enrollment Lottery first. Since this situation has never happened before, she explained that there is a by-law that says that only five Board members families are allowed to have children enrolled at the school. There are currently four Board families enrolled, but three more families are interested in the space. Ronnie added some details about how there are four pools of candidates from the lottery: staff, Board members, siblings, and general population.
- Sharon explained that Greg Mellowe would pull the three cards to decide the order of the families to be enrolled (and/or to have first right of refusal). Sharon read the names on the cards: Jordan Clark, Stacey Cole, and Jennifer Davis. Greg pulled Jennifer Davis first, Jordan Clark second, and Stacey Cole third.

LECS Director's Report, reported and written by Ronnie DeNoia

Building: The Board has provided its input for the lease proposal that is to be presented to Downtown Baptist this week. I am encouraged that we are very close to a deal.

High School: Nothing new. I am meeting with Dr. Chandler this week as she wants to review the contract.

Financial: The Foundation currently is funded at \$93,039.04.

Calendar:

March 4	Servicemen Free Dress Day
March 10-12; 16	FCAT again
March 20	Field Day
March 18	Board Meeting
March 27	½ Day the Beginning of Spring Break

Misc. : 6 students will be attending the State-wide Science Fair which unfortunately coincides with the Washington, DC trip. Additionally, we had 7 2nd place finishers, 8 3rd place finishers and 9 Honorable Mention. Our students were also the recipients of many special awards. Our Cystic Fibrosis fundraiser netted \$703.18.

Fund Raising: Silent Auction goes live on 4/3/09 for three weeks. We are already collecting some great items.

- Greg asked about and Ronnie responded that there are no further issues with the Arts Center, the Methodist Church, and the Downtown Baptist Church providing a temporary home for the Methodist Church school.
- Ronnie answered some questions about the high school. Dr. Chandler is the charter school liaison. Ronnie will soon be able to know where the home for the high school is once the contract for the church is completed. Ronnie thinks that she will be discussing the budget, funding, and some demographic issues in the enrollment for the high school.
- Ronnie read a letter from 1 Lt. Andrew Hutchison, who has written back to most of the students who sent holiday greetings to service people. Mrs. Stucker's class is leading a free dress day to raise money for supplies to fill some care boxes for soldiers stationed with 1 Lt Hutchinson.
- Ronnie forgot to mention that March 13 is the Father Daughter Dance.
- DeVonna asked about the results of Mr. Madewell's free dress day for the County Science Fair. Sharon answered that LECS made a \$1,000 donation, although it didn't all come from the free dress day.
- Greg asked if the original timetable for moving is still in place. Ronnie said that the contract here ends on July 19, 2010. She has requested moving into the building in March 2010 so that it wouldn't be too stressful for everyone to move.

Committee Reports

Fundraising Committee, reported by Ronnie DeNoia

- Ronnie said that she had a donor list. She asked people to sign up for 5-10 donors and visit the donors in person to request donations. The donors get free advertising on the online auction's website.
- Items have started coming in. For example, Pete Clark (one of the Board members) brought in two passes for six-month memberships to the YMCA with a book. Carol Dierksen donated an autographed copy of a script and a hat from the TV show, "Til Death".
- Ronnie said she is also looking for donations of services. She is going to ask the school's accountant to do taxes up to x dollar amount.

Curriculum Committee, reported by Greg Mellowe

- Greg said they still have the outstanding issue of the Cluster 2 social studies curriculum. Ronnie said that Katie Joerg is busy reviewing for FCAT, so she will plan to meet with Mrs. Joerg after FCAT tests.
- Greg said he thought he had an issue, but it turns out to be more of a personnel issue and not a SAC issue.

Technology Committee, reported by John Mays

- John had nothing to report.

After School Committee, reported by Carol Dierksen

- Carol said that there might be an addition to the third trimester after school clubs. Claire, who leads KidStage, would be interested in doing KidStage again for K-1 or 2. Ronnie said Carol should send out an interest form once she finds out the minimum number of students, the day, and the time Claire prefers.

Business Partners Committee, reported by DeVonna Craner

- DeVonna had nothing new to report.

Old Business

- There was some discussion about the letters to the legislators. Greg sent an e-mail to SAC member (that will go to parents) with a copy of a letter to e-mail, talking points, addresses and some other information. Jillian wrote a letter and template for the Cluster 3 students, Carrin wrote a letter for 3rd grade and Cluster 2, and Sharon sent Carrin's letter to Cluster 1 teachers to modify as needed.
- Carrin volunteered to collect all letters from the teachers on Friday to give to DeVonna, who is going to provide the stamps. Ronnie said there are envelopes in the office that she will give to the teachers.
- Carrin asked about LECS students and staff going to the Rally in Tallahassee. Ronnie said she would look into buses.

New Business

- Carrin talked about the school survey results. She gave copies of the “kudos” and “things that need improvement” to everyone. That list is below:

Results of School Effectiveness Questionnaire 2008-2009

Kudos (90% or better agree or strongly agree)

- ❖ Free and open communication occurs between parents and faculty
- ❖ Teachers inform students of what is expected of them
- ❖ Students are aware of school purposes and goals
- ❖ Parents are aware of school purpose and goals
- ❖ Students and parents know what the school expects of them
- ❖ The Principal knows enough about the school to provide effective leadership
- ❖ The Principal shows leadership in promoting quality instruction
- ❖ The teachers show leadership in promoting quality instruction
- ❖ The teachers make good instruction the most important school priority
- ❖ The school has a written plan that clearly indicates what the school is trying to achieve
- ❖ Students have enough opportunities to learn with and from each other
- ❖ Teachers are adequately prepared for their teaching fields
- ❖ School staff members set high, but appropriate and achievable goals for the students
- ❖ Students are taught to apply basic skills and problem-solving skills in reading, writing, mathematics, science, and social studies
- ❖ Parents are encouraged to support the instructional activities of the school
- ❖ The school keeps track of each student’s performance
- ❖ Student performance is evaluated in a variety of ways
- ❖ Field trips and other activities are used appropriately to support instruction
- ❖ There are few disruption to instruction in the school
- ❖ Students are informed of how they are expected to behave in school and at school activities
- ❖ Students are taught to act in a safe and responsible manner
- ❖ An atmosphere of respect and trust exists in the school
- ❖ Social and cultural differences are respected in the school
- ❖ Students have a positive attitude toward school
- ❖ Teachers have a positive attitude toward the school
- ❖ Students are recognized for their accomplishments
- ❖ Students feel that the school is a good place to be
- ❖ All students, regardless of social or cultural differences, are expected to work toward high standards
- ❖ Parents and parent groups actively participate in school activities

- ❖ **I utilize the school web site for information**

Areas to be addressed (Less than 80% agree or strongly agree)

- ❖ **Decisions about instruction are made using information from parents and the community**
(77.9)
- ❖ **Parents and school staff members often share information about student's progress and plans** (79.9)
- ❖ **The school building and ground are clean and well maintained** (73.0)
- ❖ **Parents and parent groups have a voice in school policies** (75.3)
- ❖ **The building is adequate for the school's purposes** (46.1)
- ❖ **I am satisfied with the current selection of after school programs** (70.8)
- ❖ **The school's written plan is written with participation from parents** (70.4)
- ❖ **I am comfortable with the level of technology in my child's classroom** (74.1)
- ❖ **The school provides learning activities to help students with special needs or interests** (79.9)
- ❖ **Parents are involved in and support school disciplinary practices** (77.3)
- ❖ **Parents have opportunities to get involved in the development of school budgets** (73.4)

- There were some issues that Ronnie is worried about, such as 79.9% of parents thinking that the staff and parents aren't sharing information about the student's progress. She also thinks the budget question should come off of the survey because there is no money for which the parents can make any suggestions.
- There was some discussion about asking the parents to make a comment if they mark a question as "Disagree" or "Strongly Disagree" so that SAC members would have useful information with which to try to change things.
- Some of the parent comments included praise for the staff and the staff members' genuine concern for the students and their educations; concern over the lack of notice about when a student needs tutoring; concern about the lack of connections new parents and students feel; praise for not teaching to or making a big deal about the FCAT tests; and concern about the students not participating to keep the building clean.
- There is some interest in having the students do some cleaning around the time that they also do Earth Day clean-ups. There was also discussion about finding another parent to act as the new parent liaison. DeVonna recommended that Lori Welch be asked to help train someone in Cluster 1 for doing that job in the future (DeVonna also recommended Ms. Newell, a first grader's mom). Ronnie said that she thinks it is a good idea to get a

liaison position again so that the person can help explain the importance of being involved and in supporting the Foundation. Ronnie said that the group that always participates the least in fundraising events this year is Cluster 1 parents. She gave the example that in donations to the Foundation, the Board has 100%, SAC has 100%, staff has 92%, and parents 80%, with most of the people not supporting the Foundation coming from Cluster 1.

- Ronnie brought up the Mission Statement. She handed out a copy and asked people to look it over, think about it, and make any comments back to Ronnie about changes that should be made. Carol said that LECS should read Lake Eola Charter School. This item will be on next month's agenda as Old Business.
- Sharon asked Jillian about having a spring Book Fair. She said Scholastic wants a commitment, and Mrs. Nater is willing to work on the fair. If Michele Stucker and Jillian can give Mrs. Nater some books for summer reading, she will try to have them at the fair. Jillian said that the requested books part of the fair didn't work very well, but she would like to have the fair to raise money for the school. Jillian is going to talk to Michele, Bob Madewell and Steve Hughes about recommended reading books for the summer so that she can tell Mrs. Nater about them if there is a book fair.
- Sharon asked about the date of the next SAC meeting. She said it falls on the first day back after Spring Break and wanted to know if people wanted to change the date to Tuesday night. Everyone agreed to keep the date as it was.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 6, 2009, in the school library.