

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

Agenda:

Minutes
Director's report
Committee reports
Old Business
New Business

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

Members Absent: Ronnie DeNoia

Minutes Recorded By: Carrin Hahn

Sharon Morell called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

The minutes from March were read and approved with one typographical correction.

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

Building: At the last Board meeting (3/25/09) the Board put the final touches on the formal lease proposal for Downtown Baptist. The agreement seems close to conclusion as is possible. The Board also directed me to send a letter to Mr. Blocker stating our interest in the Kaley and Hillcrest properties (which I have). CC'd on the letter were Mayors Crotty and Dyer and representative Councilpersons and Board members. We are also following up with two potential funders.

(Sharon added that OCPS has told the City that they will shutter those buildings, and the City is very interested in doing something with them instead, so the LECS request will fit in perfectly.)

Finances:

Foundation went a bit over the \$93,220.96.

Curriculum:

The second round of retention conferences is almost concluded. The curriculum committee may need to revisit the policy for clarity purposes.

(Sharon added that there might be a problem with the wording on the retention letter, as it seems that the letter confuses some parents. Jillian is going to talk to Ronnie and find out what the potential problems are.)

Mrs. Joerg met with me about the proposed changes in the social studies benchmarks for 4/5 grade. They are well thought out and will cover the necessary material/time frame required.

Earth Day activities are scheduled for the 22nd and 23rd.

Mad Cow Theater will be conducting Improvisation workshops for our middle schoolers next week and poetry workshops for our 4/5 graders in May.

Human Sexuality classes being conducted by local pediatrician Dr. David Carr.

Middle schoolers will attend performance of Much Ado About Nothing on Friday.

Kiwanis Track for 4/5 grade this month at Boone.

Home Depot trip for 1st grade this week.

Speech Contest this week.

Miscellaneous

The problems with PM pick up are still being addressed. Hopefully, parents have sent emails to the City concerning the bus pick up in the front of the school.

Fund Raising

May 30, 6-9, Finnhenry's on Orange for LECS basket Silent Auction. Items for on-line auction coming in every day!

(Carol asked if, in addition to the class baskets, the teachers are going to offer things to do or places to go. Sharon said that the possibility is on the table. Sharon also said that any unsold items from the online auction would be available that night too. An LECS family owns the restaurant, and they are offering (for \$10/person or \$15 per couple), hors d'oeuvres and two drink tickets for any kind of drink for the evening. Sharon clarified that the Silent Auction has been pushed back to start on May 3. Carol and DeVonna encouraged Sharon to send out information about the class baskets before she leaves for Washington because it takes a while to get the items in; they also recommended getting one parent in each class to be in charge of the item collection.)

- There were a few other questions about the Director's Report. Jillian asked if the social studies issue is resolved. Sharon said she thinks it is. She and Ronnie started to talk about it, but they didn't finish, so if it turns out to be a major change to the curriculum, then it will come back to SAC for a vote. Jillian will check with Ronnie on the status.
- Carrin asked about what is happening now that the United Methodist Church land has indeed been sold for the Performing Arts Center. She wanted to know if the childcare center will move to the Baptist Church as was once going to happen. Sharon said she doesn't think it's an issue anymore since the date for the completion of the new Performing Arts Center has been pushed back to 2012.

Committee Reports

Technology Committee, reported by John Mays

- John wondered if the clean up happened. Sharon said it did, and she was there to let in 6 of the 8 parents who volunteered. She said that the parents had a long list of things to do and did a good job on getting almost all of the things done.

Curriculum Committee, reported by Greg Mellowe

- Greg spoke about wanting to have some guidelines for considering items to be addressed by the Curriculum Committee. There was a good bit of discussion about how to handle something that might or might not be appropriate to bring to SAC. DeVonna suggested that Greg listen to the parent and then tell him or her that he will find out what he needs to do with the information (bring it to SAC or refer it to the Director or refer it to the Board). Greg said he doesn't want to bring the issues to SAC if they don't need to be addressed by the group. He thinks there should be a policy (on the website maybe) about the responsibility/function of the Curriculum Committee so that parents would know if their issue falls into SAC's governance. Carrin suggested having a list of questions to ask the parent about the issue, and depending on the answers, Greg will take the issues to SAC or direct the person to the appropriate person to solve the concern. Sharon asked if Greg would be interested in having a series in the newsletter about the Committees and their functions. Greg said that would be good, but he would like to have something on the website too. Sharon agreed that putting Committee descriptions on the website would be doable. Greg is going to talk to Jillian and get back to SAC about this with more ideas or information at the next meeting.

After School Committee, reported by Carol Dierksen

- Carol had nothing to report.

Business Partners Committee, reported by DeVonna Craner

- DeVonna brought information about a potential Business Partner. She met with Heather Weidenenbruch, who is the marketing manager for Oerther Foods (which

operates the McDonald's in Central Florida). DeVonna said that Heather told her about all of the opportunities for the school to earn money if the school partners with it's "home" McDonald's store on Michigan and Orange. The store will host evenings for teachers and parents to work behind the counter and keep a percentage of the proceeds collected; they can provide drinks, ice, and cotton candy for Field Day; they can host field trips; they can offer food (with some proceeds for the school) for Lunch Bunch as part of Food for Funds (since it is a Bistro McDonald's, they would have paninis, wraps, and salads). They can also provide food for the Book Fair and sponsor car washes. DeVonna said Heather is also interested in providing items for the Silent Auction, and she had coupons for value meals and fliers for the new McCafe to pass out to parents. Heather will need any requests on letterhead, and the letters can be faxed. Sharon said that DeVonna should sign them up as a business partner and that she will contact Heather later this week about Silent Auction items.

Old Business

- Greg asked if the students have gotten any responses from the legislators. Jillian and Carrin answered that some of the students have received answers. There was some discussion about what the letter said and how it appears that the legislators are responding the students' requests not to cut education spending.
- Greg asked if anyone had heard any feedback from the packets the parents received, and Sharon, DeVonna, and John said they used information from them or had heard from parents who had.
- Sharon said she didn't hear how many teachers attended the Rally in Tally. Greg said the numbers were in the low thousands.

New Business

- DeVonna asked about the yearbook. She said she told Ronnie she would help, but she hasn't seen the packet of stuff come home. She doesn't want to miss a deadline or disappoint Ronnie by not having things in on time. Sharon said she thinks Ronnie has been working on the yearbook, but DeVonna will check with Ronnie to be sure. There was some discussion about ads from 8th grade parents.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, May 11, 2009, in the school library.