

*"Rekindling our hope, exploring our world, seeking our path, while building our community"*

## **Board Meeting – Northwest Passage High School #4049 May 18th, 2021**

Board members in attendance: Andrea Raad, Jason Olson, Jeff Schommer, Megan Fredrickson, Vashti Pearson

Others in attendance: Dona Fehr, Peter Wieczorek, Kelly

Absent: Brandi Saba, Steven Rippe, Val Miller

Call to order: 5:35pm

**Mission Statement:** Megan spoke on the "seeking our path" component of our mission statement and shared this [article](#).

**Approval of April Board Minutes:** A motion to approve the minutes was made by Megan and seconded by Andrea

Roll call vote: Vashti - yes, Jeff - yes, Megan - yes, Andrea - yes, Jason - yes. Motion passes

**Public Comment:** Our guest Kelly introduced himself; he is potentially interested in serving on the board as a community member.

**Treasurer's Report:** Total Revised Revenue Budget for April was \$288,674.34 versus April Actual Revenue of \$187,166.71. Total Revised Expense Budget for April was \$219,566.33 versus April Actual Expenses of \$236,503.91. Cash total for all accounts at the end of April was \$1,073,060.87. As of the end of April, our year to date actual expenses of \$1,942,483.93 and actual revenue of \$2,193,054.09 leave us with a year to date net gain of \$250,570.16. Check #18393 was voided and reprinted (as check #18405), and checks #18394-18399 were all voided and reissued because of a data misprint.

A motion was made to approve the Treasurer's Report for April by Vashti, seconded by Megan.

Roll call vote: Vashti - yes, Jeff - yes, Megan - yes, Andrea - yes, Jason - yes. Motion passes

### **Director's Report:**

- ACT Testing was held April 21st. The school-wide average composite score went up 2.0 points from the last administration, which was two years ago
- Transcript discussion -- another meeting with charter school leaders and the head of the Bethel University's admissions department.
  - building a database with highschools involved and 2- and 4-year schools that we've had students accepted at.
  - next steps include convening another meeting with folks from state schools, 2 year programs, and schools not yet on the list of where our grads have gone on to or schools that are less familiar with our various non-traditional transcripts or more "difficult" to get students into
- Bethel Authorizer Annual Meeting -- the theme was the importance of having a succession plan (for replacing the school director)
- Podcast -- Peter and Will Richardson (Big Question Institute) talked about learning models during the pandemic, what is learning, and explained NWPHS
- Explore Your World -- virtual fundraiser, which includes a gift registry this year, will run through the month of May. We saw an increase of about \$4,000 in flower sales
- Enrollment Open House -- held in-person on 5/11 with four families in attendance

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- Staff reviews are still in process
  - This year the focus has been much more about reflection, growth, where we go from year, and what things we want to carry forward
- Legislative Update: the two sides are a little closer than we thought they would be
  - Projecting we will see about a 2% increase in funding over the next two years (which is under-funded but has been the norm)

#### **Old Business:**

- No old business

#### **New Business:**

- Signature policy
  - Topic sparked by how much of the documentation with IEP's is digital
  - It is strongly recommended that we have an official policy on the books
  - Will have policy statement to review in June
- Committee for policy review to work over the summer
  - Jason, Peter, Vashti, Megan, Jeff is interested
- Marketing Update -- second recap from Hubbard Broadcasting
  - We're getting a lot of traffic increases from pre-campaign, but not seeing the info meeting sign ups or info filled out online
- Open Board Position
  - Kelly is checking us out and will let Jason/Peter know if they're interested in joining us. If not, we will still have an open position for a community member
- Summer School Discussion
  - Formula #students\*#days summer school offered\*number hrs/day \* \$4
    - 36 students\*8days\*5.5hrs\*4 = \$6,336
    - Cost of doing summer school (licensed teaching staff, paraprofessional, program supplies, entry fees, transportation) estimated \$15,000
      - Deficit of almost \$9,000 per session (\$18,000 for two sessions)
    - Governor supposedly was making a statement on this topic this morning...
      - As of right now there hasn't been a detail on what this will be
    - We need about \$6 per pupil unit
  - Motion to have a special board meeting next week on Tuesday 5/25/21 to decide on summer school plan made by Jason, second by Vashti  
Roll call vote: Vashti - yes, Jeff - yes, Andrea - yes, Megan - yes, Jason - yes. Passes
- Covid policy
  - Minnesota is moving towards districts making their own Covid policies
  - Peter proposes we wait until our August meeting to approve a policy for the start of next school year
- Employee Life insurance benefit
  - Increasing the life insurance from \$10,000 to \$25,000 and maintaining a similar long-term disability benefits would cost \$419.53 annually (total for all staff)
  - This is a deal offered for switching to MetLife, and would lock in the rates for 3 years
  - A motion to change the life insurance benefits plans as proposed by Dona is made by Jeff, seconded by Andrea.  
Roll call vote: Vashti - yes, Jeff - yes, Andrea - yes, Megan - yes, Jason - yes. Motion passes

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**Future Items:**

- Student handbook
- Budget Revision
- July board meeting date
- Principal Leadership Academy

**Reflection:**

- Jason enjoys having the robust discussions as a group
- Appreciate the different perspectives, experiences that each of us brings
- Andrea expresses thanks for this welcoming community (board, and school)
- Appreciate that it's an open environment -- everyone's input is welcome ***and desired***
- The meeting runs smoothly

A motion to adjourn made by Jeff, seconded by Megan. Roll call vote: Vashti - yes, Jeff - yes, Andrea - yes, Megan - yes, Jason - yes. Motion passes

Adjourned: 6:59 pm

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Jason Olson, Board Chair

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Vashti Pearson, Secretary