



Eureka Schools Foundation
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the 2009 Operating Committee
Wednesday, February 11, 2009

The Operating Committee of the Board of Directors of the Eureka Schools Foundation, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation, held its regular meeting on Wednesday, February 11, 2009 at 5:30 p.m. at the Eureka Schools District Office, 5455 Eureka Road, Granite Bay, California.

Attendance

Greg Sazima, President, called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m.

Present at the meeting, from the Operating Committee, were Greg Sazima, Renee Nash, Marisa Schorer, Phil Johnson, Dina Burns, Cheryl Nelson, Gloria Costigan, Marisa Schorer, Judi Gavia, and ex-officio member Superintendent Tim McCarty.

Also present were Executive Director Julie Guerrero, Kim Nash, Warren Holt, Scott Pease, Jennifer Mobell, Shelly Davis, Kate Gould, Robyn Harris, Connie Whalen, Katie Zabrowski, Kelly Byars, Jennifer Arey, T.C. Beier, Heidi Biermann, and Heidi Dettwiller.

Minutes

MOTION: After Renee Nash made a motion to approve and accept the January minutes as presented, it was seconded by Cheryl Nelson and approved by the Board.

Operations/Housekeeping

Greg Sazima announced the resignation of several member of the Board and expressed appreciation for their service to ESF: Rhonda Kerry, Scott Pink, Rob Ligeti, and Brian Fisher.

MOTION: Renee Nash made a motion to accept the resignation of the above Board members; Phil Johnson seconded the motion, which was approved by the Board.

Greg Sazima announced incoming Board members Connie Whalen, Scott Pease, and T.C. Beier.

MOTION: Judi Gavia made a motion to accept Connie Whalen as a new member of the Board; Renee Nash seconded the motion, which was approved by the Board.

MOTION: Phil Johnson made a motion to accept Scott Pease as a new member of the Board; Renee Nash seconded the motion, which was approved by the Board.

MOTION: Cheryl Nelson made a motion to accept T.C. Beier as a new member of the Board; Renee Nash seconded the motion, which was approved by the Board.

Greg Sazima asked for mentors for the new Board members and the following pairs were established: Phil Johnson/Scott Pease; Marisa Schorer/T.C. Beier; Judi Gavia/Connie Whalen.

Gratitude Break

Greg Sazima took a moment to recognize the efforts and hard work of Kate Zabrowski, who is working hard on the Country Faire. Connie Whalen listed some of Kate's many accomplishments and efforts.

Greg also recognized Cheryl Nelson for her success in securing the Fountains as a major supporter of ESF and noted that he would speak to her success later in the evening.

Treasurer's Report

Greg Sazima reported in Denise's absence. There is about \$400,000 in current funds. More will be discussed on budget items later in the meeting.

Executive Director's Report

Julie Guerrero reported on the Annual Giving Campaign. The kick-off letter is scheduled to be mailed out. The campaign will be featuring new items such as bookmarks and community banners, which will be updated each week. Julie explained that this year's campaign will be reaching out to the community as a whole, including a mailing throughout the community. The campaign will kick off on Monday, March 2, where volunteers at each school will be passing out individual Life-Savers packets with campaign materials. Julie asked each Board member to volunteer one morning between 7:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. There is the possibility of one round of ConnectEd calls.

Phil Johnson talked about creating a buzz around the campaign – using kids, principals, and enrichment teachers. There was a lively discussion on the possibility of stickers with a slogan along the lines of, "My parents gave to ESF. Did yours?"

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Tim McCarty thanked the Board for all of the work and support in the last few months. There was no further report.

Fundraising Reports

Country Faire: Connie Whalen reported on the status of the Faire. They are currently at \$14,500 for corporate sponsors, including our newest sponsor, the Fountains. Connie reported on progress with the rides, booths and vendors. The venue has grown to the extent that it now requires health permits for food. The 5K "Fund Run" is also coming along well and is expected to attract new participants.

Golf Tournament: Warren Holt reported that while there is no trouble selling foursomes, it is still difficult to attract new sponsors. They are looking for more, smaller sponsors at the \$500-\$1500 level. Phil Johnson recommended letting our potential sponsors' marketing person dictate the approach for their own marketing. This was echoed by Cheryl Nelson.

Sponsorships: Cheryl Nelson reported on our newest partner, Fountains at Roseville, which is supporting ESF for \$12,500. Many individuals helped to bring in Fountains. There was a discussion about how to attract sponsors. Dr. Mark Holt has contributed \$2500 to be a Fund Run sponsor and tax attorney Roni Deutch has contributed \$1500.

Dr. McCarty talked about gathering information from parents in the district and developing an "info share" database. There was discussion about the best manner of approaching parents. Dr. McCarty said that he would share a draft letter. It was agreed that this is a delicate matter and should be approached after thorough review of proposed communication.

Auction: The Auction is planned for November 7th, with a theme of "Come Aboard the Orient Express." There will be more items online this year. We are still working to determine the participation of Thunder Valley.

Marcom: Julie Guerrero reported that she is trying to get the website up and running by the week of 2/23/09. This is critical before the AGC goes live in March.

New Business

Greg Sazima introduced Heidi Biermann and Dr. Heidi Dettwiller, who will be giving reports on the Spanish program and the 21 century/pilot teachers/teacher excellence initiative, respectively.

Heidi Biermann reported that the Spanish program is basically at grades 1-3 and 4-6. Participants can take Spanish two days/week, before and after school. Issues from the beginning of the year regarding classroom management and teachers have been resolved, for the most part. Her goal is to work toward the program being open to all children, but this is a long-range goal. Heidi hopes that we can work toward a program at the junior highs that will help student "step up" to their high school foreign language classes. Heidi clarified that there was no homework and no tests, as promised to parents, but assured the Board that there are ongoing assessments to ensure that curriculum is working.

Dr. Heidi Dettwiller spoke to the Board about the teacher excellence program [Note: The Board passed a motion in November 2008 to direct the dividends from the Endowment (the principal cannot be used) to fund a “Teacher Excellence Fund”]. 13 teachers across the district have been chosen under a pilot program to do site visits, develop new inquiry-based thinking and teaching skills, and design new teaching-learning experiences. The group has been learning content and skills to help teachers to learn/teach under a 21st Century Skills model. Dr. Dettwiller is developing an outcome-based rubric to ensure information sharing. There will be a 21st century Expo Night at Eureka School on May 21st at 6:30 p.m.

Kim Nash asked if teachers would be open to taking on these new tasks/roles. Dr. McCarty talked about leaders / followers, and then the point at which this type of teaching becomes mandatory. Phil Johnson asked whether there are measurable performance standards. The answer is that student progress will be tracked.

Greg Sazima presented a comprehensive overview of budget assumptions and allocation discussion points. ESF currently has about \$406,000, and the District has \$161,000 in unspent ESF funds. The Board is being asked to cover current “baseline” funding for 2009-10, and then assume full costs of enrichment for 2010-11 and beyond, at an estimated additional yearly cost of \$290,000, which would thus require minimum fundraising of over \$780,000 annually. This does not take into account any additional funding for block grants, pilot program funding, etc.

Greg asked the Board to continue to think about our current priorities, particularly in the areas of enrichment; our fundraising abilities; the use of block grants; the Spanish/foreign language program; the endowment dividend; a technology depreciation fund; and other items, to be specifically addressed in the very near future. Dr. McCarty said that federal economic stimulus package may help the district with some funding and may contain some backfill for education. These budgetary discussion items and any action items will be taken up at the next Board meeting.

Adjourn

There being no further business to come before the Operating Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

Attest:

Greg Sazima, President _____

Dina Burns, Secretary _____