

April 27, 2015 PCO Meeting Minutes

Christy Fitzpatrick Burns read the PCO missions statement.

Molly Bennett- Board of Trustees update

The Board is in the process of reviewing its strategic plan and trying to simplify it to make it easier to understand. They should have it done by the next Board meeting.

They're looking for new Board members, particularly for facilities and development people. ECS is hiring a Chief of Development.

The budget will be completed by the end of June.

Purchase of the Upper School – there will be a meeting on Thursday to approve the finances to purchase the Upper School building. This will provide a giant cash-flow savings. The school will pursue purchasing the Lower School next.

Amendments to the Charter – the amendment for the second K-8 school will be resubmitted to PPS Board in May. The High School amendment will be submitted after that. ECS's Board is 100% behind these efforts. If PPS rejects them we will go to the State level next.

Mini Grants

Dave explained the mini grants judging criteria which is based on a rubric that includes:

- # of students the mini-grant benefits
- Level of enhancement or innovation
- How much of what is bought is reusable
- If there are maintenance costs associated, the solution for the long-term costs
- How closely tied the min-grant is to the curriculum

There were 6 applications and the Committee has \$1,607 left to use.

Grants include:

1. My Climate Future Youth Video Screening, 8th graders - \$250 to have local musicians to perform at the event and refreshments.
2. AgRecycle Implementation- \$250 Compost at the Lower School
3. 8th grade graduation - \$200 for rental of the pavilion at the zoo for student lunches the day of graduation.
4. Buddy Bench – Anti-bullying Olweus – \$239 request from Upper School counseling for bench, paints, sealant and will be used for students who are feeling as though they don't have a group to play with at social time. Students can go to the bench if they're feeling lonely and other students keep an eye on it to see if they can help include others in their activity.
5. Bike ECS – needs a trailer to store and carry 25 bikes and gear to trails, parks and other schools.

6. Sustainable Literacy Materials – K-1 Looping Team requesting \$451.68 for purchasing durable and effective materials for literacy instructional blocks.

The Committee recommends accepting all applications but the 8th grade pavilion rental. \$416 will be funded towards Bike ECS. Christy mentioned that a fund was set up in her father's name to fund field trips at ECS. She will follow-up with the 8th grade team about funding the pavilion rental through this special fund. In addition she will follow up with the 8th grade team about the 8th grade legacy project. The PCO set aside funds for this.

Margaret motioned to approve all grants except the 8th grade one.

Dave seconded the motion.

The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

The PCO Executive Committee is accepting nominees until May 15th. Names will be pulled on June 1 and the next Executive Committee meeting will be on June 8th.

Christy mentioned that we may need to look for a new treasurer as Kerry's kids will soon be leaving ECS.

Christy also mentioned that we may make some changes to the meeting schedule for next year. We may combine the Exec Committee meetings and PCO meetings and have a few "big PCO meetings" with special topics.