

May 5, 2014 PCO Meeting

Christy read the missions statement.

Lya Batlle-Rafferty– Board of Trustees Update:

At the last meeting they reviewed the amendment to the charter. It's a very lengthy document. It's also a public document that can be viewed by anyone. The Leche School is owned by Pittsburgh Innovators and the high school would be located downtown. The first choice for the additional K-8 would be where the Ft. Pitt School used to be housed. This is a beautiful building that is currently unoccupied. These are both ECS's first choice for buildings. There isn't a guarantee that the schools will be located in these buildings.

Mini Grant – Erin Pierce

There are 5 mini grants, see the attached document for details. Sarah made a motion for the PCO to fund all five mini grants. Elena seconded the motion. Everyone was in favor.

Erin mentioned that last year there were a lot of requests for field trip funding but there hasn't been this year. It was mentioned that the PCO wasn't funding field trips this year. Christy informed the PCO that when her father passed away they created the Fitz Field Trip Fund. They received generous donations for field trips and these funds will go towards field trips for ECS students.

Summer Happenings

Garden Club – Ms Micco was given \$1000.00 from the PCO for the Garden Club. The money will be used for pots, hanging plants, and various flowers for both schools.

Grow Pittsburgh – Grow Pgh will not be working with ECS next year. Teachers will take over and help grow and maintain the garden. This was the intent of the program, for Grow Pgh to educate the staff and students and then have them take over the garden initiatives.

Urban EcoStewards – Rebecca Reid – the program started in 2010 in efforts to improve ECS's relationship with nearby Regent Square neighbors. The spot that ECS has is near Hot Dog Damn. The spot was originally covered in knotweed. ECS's group did so well over the years that they received another site. They are in need of more volunteers. The Upper School kids have gone down occasionally to the spot and helped pull weeds. Rebecca explained that it's important to remove invasive plants/weeds so they don't cancel out other plants. It affects the whole eco-system. Nothing eats knotweed, not even deer or insects.