

Watershed APC Meeting Minutes
January 17, 2019

Members present: Jarrod Decker, Renee Rember, Jason Gillam, Lisa Beattie, Abigail Paul, Amy Arneson, Dave Merrill, Carie Green, Kelly Mansfield, Moira O'Malley

Meeting commenced at 6:05 pm.

Agenda Item 1: Review/approve minutes

Amy moved to approve, Dave seconded; unanimous vote to approve

Agenda Item 2: Charter renewal update

- The timeline moved up to meet deadlines.
- There was a FNSBSD School Board Work Session held on 12/3/2018 to go over Watershed's charter renewal application.
 - Gender balance during lottery process was topic of concern at the work session.
 - EEO officer in FNSBSD looked into the matter.
 - Jarrod asked ANC School District for any info
 - Final word from state was that gender balance will be allowed for Watershed (and other schools in AK).
 - Dept. of Ed asked if could use Watershed's language for a Kenai school
- 1/15/2019 the School Board approved the Watershed charter renewal unanimously.
- Need to do:
 - Get signed resolution, contract and fiscal assurance letter from the school district
 - Jarrod will update the renewal application with any edits and update page numbers in TOC
- Jarrod inquired if the Dept. of Ed if Watershed's renewal could be considered at the March mtg (probably won't happen because we missed the 90-day deadline from the School District approval), but it will likely be on the June agenda

Agenda Item 3: 2019-2020 calendar

- The draft was reviewed and discussed. No APC members received feedback from parents.
- Abigail moved to approve, Dave seconded; the calendar was approved unanimously

Agenda Item 4: Homework policy discussion

- There were no school district updates at this time.
- Jarrod believes Watershed should have its own homework policy given Watershed has a different curriculum than the school district and because of the age range (K-8).
- A Homework Subcommittee was elected
 - Members: Abigail, Renee, Jarrod, Carie
 - Ideas for research: teacher input, parent input, maybe student input

- Student input in the form of a math lesson (7th & 8th grades), class discussions, citizen science (6th grade – Carie)

Agenda Item 5: Head teacher update

A. Budget

- a. On track for spending
- b. After the renewal application is finished, need to work on the lease renewal, which is up in June 2019
 - i. Chinook Charter School (same landlord) lease went up, so may need to expect the same for Watershed
 - ii. Lease is based on base student allocation
- c. Jarrod is looking into new recess equipment with PTSA assistance (maybe monkey bars): cost ?
 - i. Carrie mentioned Boreal Sun's plans for their equipment as a possibility
 1. Jarrod will touch base with that school
- d. New cart of laptops for middle school: cost ?
- e. Need new flooring for K-2 classrooms (10 yr-old carpeting): cost ~ \$20K
- f. Planning on holding onto the pre-pay as a way to absorb budget cuts

B. Mission

- a. Staff are continuing to incorporate stewardship lessons: middle school poster, 1st grade poster (acknowledges kindness), K made a book of how to take care of yourself

C. Enrollment application window and lottery

- a. Application period opened on 1/7/2019
 - i. Already received 50 applications
- b. Kindergarten only grade we know for sure of available seats (re-enrollment hasn't been conducted yet)
- c. Going to post flyers soon
 - i. Preschools
- d. School of Choice Fair – March 2nd
- e. For 2020, try to make lottery digital, both application and drawing
 - i. Contract out the set-up
 1. Jarrod has been in contact with School Mint
 - a. They will set up the only application
 - b. Sibling waitlist from year to year might be a problem, but could be programmed
 - c. An automated email will be sent to applicant telling them what number they were drawn (this should reduce the amount of phone calls the school receives)
 - d. Waiting on a quote for pricing
 2. Power School is another company to get quotes from

Agenda Item 6: Additional items

- A. School security at the end of day

- Carie brought up a concern of security of kids being picked up at the end of the day
 - Jarrod said that the benefit of smaller school is that staff recognize parents (often acknowledged by name) and persons that are unfamiliar who will be addressed
 - There are staff out in the parking area at the end of the day to monitor
 - Bussing has helped because 25% of students ride the bus (30-40 fewer cars in the parking area)
 - K-2 teachers are in the hallway checking on kids being picked-up
 - ALICE related – parents in the school make it safer for the school
- B. Jason's comments

A thought that came about from the School District Work Session discussions was what is the vision for the next 10 years for Watershed. It would be a good idea to come up with some goals for the school.

Examples: Homework policy, tracking Watershed students after they leave (graduation rates?), etc.

Agenda Item 7: Next meeting

February 21st

Meeting adjourned at 7:25pm.