

Dixie Home and School Club
Public Meeting
October 2, 2009

In Attendance: Matt Luchessi, Kelly Campagna, Julie Bloomberg, Julie De Graves, Kim Scheibly-Jones, Pamela Ceccanti-Harris, Elizabeth Foehr, Evi Smith, Michelle Kakleas, Susan Parkinson, Lisa Berghout, Teresa Mastreani, Andy Hyman, Noel Olson, Gwynne Karchem, Lynn Merrion, Elizabeth Fenn, Heidi Paul, Kim Finn, Lonnie McHale, Maya Bartolf, Annette Lowder, Stephanie Hoff, Liz Schultz, Kel Harris, and Sharon Erickson

1. Call to order/introductions: Evi Smith called the meeting to order at 1:05pm and the Executive Board introduced themselves.
2. Approval of Board Minutes from September 4, 2009. Heidi Paul asked that her name be excluded from the minutes, as she was not present at the September 4th meeting. Matt moved to approve the minutes with the above change and Elizabeth seconded. All in favor none opposed.
3. DCF/Can Do! Presentation by Jacquie Gribbens, Can Do! Chairwoman.
 - a. Jacquie explained that she was here to clarify some of the questions raised at last month's board meeting.
 - b. The Dixie District is comprised of 4 schools: Dixie Elementary, MES, Vallecito and Miller Creek Middle School.
 - c. Dixie Children's Fund (DCF) is a non-profit organization established to support the school district.
 - d. Can Do! Is the biggest campaign that DCF runs but DCF is also responsible for other fund raising efforts such as: Auction, Business Partners, Escrip, The Golf Tournament, and the directory. The difference between

these fundraisers and Can Do! is crucial. ALL the money raised in Can Do! goes into the Can Do! bucket. The Can Do! budget (bucket) is the responsibility of Coordinating Council. DCF has no control over that bucket. The money raised by the other DCF fundraisers helps fund technology at the 4 schools as well as counseling at Miller Creek, and recognition events for the District.

- e. 4 years ago each individual school had it's own enrichment funds. The district parent organization's and DCF decided to pool their resources to have one big campaign and collectively they raised approximately \$100,000 more than they did individually.
- f. The \$350 per child ASK is not just a number Can Do! pulls out of a hat. Originally, it was the cost of the enrichment fund programs divided by the number of children in the district which identified how much money per child was being spent on these programs.
- g. The Coordinating Council is made up of all the Co-Presidents of each of the Home and School Clubs in the Dixie District. Dr. Lohwasser also sits on the Coordinating Council representing the Administration Team and Robin Gerrity, the Executive Director of DCF, represents DCF. A facilitator runs the meetings. The Coordinating Council meets once a month exchanging ideas and they also decide how the Can Do! money should be divided. Every school presents and ASK amount in the spring. The ASK is determined by the need to sustain these programs at these schools. Here at Dixie School Patty facilitates the amount of the ASK with the teachers, administrators and home and school board.
- h. Can Do! pays for the following programs at Dixie Elementary: PE (includes K-1 movement), K-2 music,

art and drama. Each school comes up with their own ASK based on their school needs. The District does provide each school with a range that they can pay the specialists and Dixie is at the top of the pay scale.

- i. Can Do's Budget also includes \$20,000 per school for PE.
- j. Patty explained our situation last year when Kim Danforth left in August. We hired Blanca and her salary was less than Kim's. We had extra money in DHSC budget.
- k. It was asked why the Can Do! ask is only based on the salaries of the specialist and Jacquie explained that this is what is happening at Dixie. Pamela stated that we have in the past asked for discretionary money (not salaries) She feels this is the first time she has heard that Can Do! can only pay out on salaries. Patty clarified that our ASK is based on salaries but we do have money left over at the end of the year because specialist do call in sick etc.
- l. Jacquie then proceeded to explain about what happens after the money goes out to all the schools. If Can Do! does have unallocated money it is taken up at coordinating council as to how the money will be spent. The superintendent and the district bring their recommendations to coordinating council to decide how the unallocated money to be spent. For example 2 years ago it was decided to send teachers from all four schools to Apple Training. Last year since economic times were uncertain, coordinating council decided to hold onto the excess in case it is needed due to additional state budget reductions.
- m. It was asked if there was a protocol that Coordinating council follows if they are short. Evi answered stating that if Can Do! fell short each Home and School club

along with DCF would equally contribute to make up the difference.

- n. DCF also does other fundraising efforts as stated earlier. The money that is raised by these individual fundraisers goes to support technology at all the 4 school sites, counseling at Miller Creek as well as recognition events for the District.
- o. Jacquie took off her Can Do! hat and commented as a parent of Dixie School. She stated that we need to show a sense of community. This debate should not be over the \$6000. We should focus our efforts to support the school and the staff.
- p. Kel Harris thanked Jacquie for her hard work and for helping us figure out the buckets and where the money comes from. He stated that there seems to be a disconnect between all the entities. And there seems to be some fears in asking the "powers that be" questions.
- q. Matt put up an overhead showing the different ASK amounts from each school
 - 1. Dixie \$79,500
 - 2. MES \$64,500
 - 3. Vallecito \$66,500
 - 4. Miller Creek \$68,00
 - 5. District PE \$60,000
 - 6. Can Do Expenses \$8,000
 - 7. Total = \$346,500

MATT MADE A MOTION TO HAVE OUR CAN DO ASK FOR 2009/2010 SCHOOL YEAR \$73,500.

ELIZABETH SECONDED

18 for

3 opposed

MOTION TO AMEND OUR ASK TO \$73,500

PASSED

4. Green Team Presentation: Kim Jones (please refer to budget)
 - a. Kim stated that the district has asked each school site to reduce their waste by 25%, which has prompted each school to look at their waste management. Presently on campus we have no place to sort our waste. Our site needs to take into consideration a lot of elements such as vandalism, animals and weather. Unfortunately, these factors eliminated a lot of products.
 - b. The recycle bins that the Green Team is proposing are made of recycled lumber and do not need to be painted. They are proposing one unit inside of each of the buildings. They will include signage on the front and on top.
 - c. The Bottom picture on the attachment is for the outside structures and is lockable. These are permanent structures and will be located on the field and in front of the office.
 - d. Lisa Berghout stated that this seems to be a little expensive. She suggested that we look into district funding since this could be considered a capital improvement. Also asked if we researched grants.
 - i. Kim is looking into all areas of funding. She stated that this is the cost of the grand plan but she is working hard on grants and other sources of funding but to date has not received any alternative funding.
 - ii. Concerns were raised over how much money we are spending on recycling. Everyone knows it is the right thing to do however concerns were raised over not putting more funding into educational programs.
 - iii. Lisa would like more information

- iv. Julie Bloomberg asked what additional information people needed before a decision could be made.
 - v. Concerns again voiced over the fact that this is a capital improvement and we should not be putting money into capital improvements. Kim stated that the district is asking schools to use their reserves for capital improvements because of the budget cuts.
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- e. Kim provided us with a breakdown of the expenses. Each interior unit costs \$925 which includes taxes and shipping. Each outdoor unit is \$1425 each.
 - f. Kim just found out through Matt that the Lions Club might be able to get us the worm bins.
 - g. Kim explained The Green School Summit. It is a convention that goes over all the funding sources (state, private and federal) it also goes over curriculum to present to the student body.
 - h. Heidi Paul expressed concerns on the amount of their budget. At last months meeting they stated that they would need approximately \$8000.00 for their start up budget, now they are asking for in excess of \$13,000. Susan Parkinson stated that the Dixie Arts Council also has a budget and needs for the school year. Can we vote on a reduced amount?

EVI MOVED TO APPROVE THE GREEN TEAM'S BUDGET GIVING THEM \$8000 FROM THE VANGUARD ACCOUNT.

Annette Lowder seconds. All in favor none opposed.

Meeting adjourned 2:35