

WEEFC Board Meeting
March 8, 2022
9:00 a.m. at Case House

Present: **Board Members:** Dickie, Bradner, Convington, Golin, Hanser, McGrath, Taylor, and Wang
 Administration: Carter (Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning)
 School Committee: Newberg
 PTO: Trodden and Palmer

I. Grant Discussion and Vote

A. Ben Sandalls Memorial Speaker Series (WHS) \$3,200. Dr. Carter noted that award-winning author Jennifer DeLeon will visit Weston High School on May 4th, 2022 as part of the annual Ben Sandalls Memorial Speaker Series. Ms. DeLeon's novel *Don't Ask Me Where I'm From* is a fictional account of a young Latina METCO student and her experience in a suburban high school outside of Boston. Cara McGrath reminded the board that funds from the Ben Sandalls Memorial Fund cover the cost of this annual speaker series.

B. Stipend for Director of 6th Grade One-Act Play (WMS) \$1,000. WMS drama teacher Claire Higgins-Reardon submitted a request to fund a stipend for the director of the 6th grade spring one-act play, the sole opportunity for sixth grade students to participate in a spring extracurricular drama program. Dr. Carter noted that WEEFC funded this stipend in 2020, but due to the pandemic did not fund it in 2021. The board discussed the feasibility of rolling the cost of the stipend into the school budget for 2022.

C. Pro Panels Student Work Displays (WMS) \$5,396. Dr. Carter presented the request for Pro Panel Displays for the WMS annual art show, noting that WMS planned to permanently use them for various displays including J-term, drama shows, special performances, classroom teacher units, and other events. WMS and other schools borrow identical panels from the art department, which were purchased a few years ago through a WEEFC grant. The board asked various questions about the number, condition, storage and use of the existing panels and whether they could be used for this purpose..

A Motion to Approve the Ben Sandalls Memorial Speaker Series grant and the Stipend for Director of 6th Grade One-Act Play grant was presented, and members in attendance unanimously approved. (Voted in favor: Dickie, Bradner, Covington, Golin, Hanser, McGrath, Newberg, Taylor, and Wang)

A Motion to indefinitely postpone the Pro Panels Student Work Displays grant was presented, and members in attendance unanimously approved. (Voted in favor: Dickie, Bradner, Covington, Golin, Hanser, McGrath, Newberg, Taylor, and Wang)

II. Treasurer's Report

No material update since the prior meeting. Cara McGrath confirmed that we have sufficient funds to meet the costs of approved grants. The board discussed end-of-year fundraising and estimated that the WEEFC Stars campaign could raise \$5,000 - \$10,000.

III. **Chair Report**

A. Board Nominations. Kate anticipates board openings for the 2022-23 academic year and plans to send emails in early April to spread the word and help recruit potential candidates. The board discussed its commitment to diversity and the benefits of having members from the broader Weston-Boston community as well as a member with IT experience who could manage the database and auction software.

B. Spring Fundraising Opportunities. Kate shared that WHS principal, Paul Peri, is considering donating a student parking permit to WEEFC. Since parking for high school students is limited and only 12th graders are guaranteed parking spots, the board views this as an excellent form of outreach to families of rising sophomores and juniors and discussed whether to organize a raffle or an auction.

C. Fall Event Planning.

Kate and Meghan Covington updated the board on their preliminary discussions with prospective vendors. The board discussed how to recruit parents to assist in organizing the event and agreed to meet later this month to outline a plan.

IV. **Approve Minutes**

A Motion to Approve the Minutes of the meeting on February 8, 2022, was presented, and all members in attendance unanimously approved. (Voted in favor: Dickie, Bradner, Covington, Golin, Hanser, McGrath, Newberg, Taylor, & Wang)

Next Meeting: April 5, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at Case House.