

**WEEFC Board Meeting**  
**March 16, 2021**  
**9:30 am (via Zoom)**

**Present:**

**Board Members:** Bradner, Dickie, Augustine, Golin, Hanser, McGrath, Taylor

**Administration:** Carter (Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning)

**School Committee:** Muzila

**PTO Chair:** Rassinger

**i. Grant Discussion & Vote**

1. The Board reviewed and discussed a grant request submitted by Linda Oshman to fund a writing presentation by Jack Gantos (\$3,000). This is an annual grant including a 1.25 hour presentation to each MS House. Due to COVID, Gantos did not present to this year's 6th grade class but the proposed grant would be for next year's incoming 6th graders.
2. The Board reviewed and discussed a grant request submitted by Yino Wang and Karen Rietze (\$1,580) for a Lyn Hoopes Virtual Visit for current 3rd graders at Woodland and Country Schools. Grant would include 2 presentations and 3 workshops for 8 sessions benefitting approximately all 140 3rd grade students.
3. The Board reviewed and discussed grant requests submitted by both John Gibbons (\$2,000) and Dan Green (\$2,569.74). The proposed grant for the Field School is to fund their first school garden. The proposed grant for the Middle School is for the rebuilding and repair of the existing garden, which would include the cost of new materials. The WEEFC Board discussed approving the grant with the contingency that the garden is consistently tied to curriculum and J-term timing for the MS.

**A motion to approve the first three grants was presented and members unanimously approved.** (Voted in favor: Bradner, Dickie, Golin, Hanser, McGrath, Muzila, Taylor)

4. Mary Liu, WHS Science Teacher, along with Biology teachers (Janet Kresl-Moffat and Chris Chiodo) proposed a new, two-piece grant (\$21,701). This grant is seeking funds to purchase lab equipment that will enhance Biology education for all WHS Biology students by bringing a scientific technique that is being used frequently and is relevant in today's world. The first component of the grant is seeking 25 kits for \$14,375 and includes MiniPCR machines allowing 52 AP Biology and Biotech students to run experiments and experience the process of the PCR. The second component of the grant is seeking 7 kits for \$6,230 plus shipping for Biobits @home Central Dogma kits for all 144 sophomore Biology students.

**Committee Discussion:** After a two hour meeting and thoughtful discussion about WEEFC'S financials and the proposed science grant, the Board decided to approve it for several reasons. The Board believes it's precisely the type of grant WEEFC loves to fund: new, innovative, impactful, and relevant. It also has longevity and will benefit hundreds of students over the next several years. While participation numbers are down, donors who contributed to the anniversary appeal were very generous. WEEFC has the means to support this grant but will also proceed with a targeted appeal to WHS parents with the specifics of the grants.

**A motion to approve the grant was presented in the Executive Session and members unanimously approved.** (Voted in favor: Bradner, Dickie, Golin, Hanser, McGrath, Taylor)

**ii. Treasury Report**

\$55,000 has been raised with 16% participation for February appeal with several days remaining and strong marketing efforts still at play. Year to date, WEEFC has raised \$160,000 compared to \$193,000 in 2019 and \$127,000 in 2020. After approval of current grants, funds would run at a \$34,000 deficit. However, the Board is hopeful this gap will close with final Feb appeal numbers and targeted science grant.

**iii. Chair Report**

Continued marketing efforts discussed including a requested email from Midge and Kimo and additional videos from teachers. Thank-you efforts for year-end and Feb Appeal will also begin after appeal ends and Ashley Hanser will lead this effort.

**iv. Approve Minutes**

A Motion to approve the minutes of the board meeting on February 9, 2021 was presented and all members unanimously approved. (Voted in favor: Bradner, Dickie, Golin, Hanser, Muzila, McGrath, Taylor)

**Next Meeting: April 6th, 2021 at 9:30am (via Zoom)**

*WEEFC supports innovative and creative grant which enrich the learning experience beyond the regular school budget.*