

## WEEFC Board Meeting

December 14, 2021

9am at Case House

**Present:**

**Board Members:**

Bradner, Covington, Dickie, Golin, Hanser (Zoom), McGrath, Wang

**Administration:**

Carter (Assistant Superintendent for Teaching and Learning)

**School Committee:** Newberg

**PTO Representative:** Palmer

**Grant Discussion & Vote:**

Dr. Carter discussed the following grants

1. Tuba purchase request from Chris Memoli for \$7,500. Chris Memoli is requesting funding to purchase a new tuba to support growing interest in this instrument. This is a long-term investment. Historically, new instrument purchases have been funded by WEEFC. This is a way to support the music department.

*A motion to approve* grant (voted in favor: Dickie, Wang, Taylor, Bradner, Golin, Covington, McGrath, Hanser)

2. Field School Innovation Center grant request by Dan Green. Total with wish list is \$54,427.67 and without wish list is \$38,378.67. Group discussed how to make sure the maker space gets used and incorporated into the curriculum. Dr. Carter discussed that through our science curriculum and Dr. Erikson, they are looking at the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade science units – Science and Engineering – that need to happen in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Scope and sequence will be revised when they have the maker space to support the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade use of this space as part of the science curriculum. In class during science they would be able to take advantage of the maker space. Second avenue to be able to use the space is to change the library block and use it for added time in the maker space. Innovation Center can also be used before school, after school, as drop-in and for family specific projects. Budget neutral or not, Dr. Carter discussed having an innovative specific person that is dedicated to this position. There will be a hiring process that will be discussed to fill this role and how best to make this work. Materials and supplies line item in the school budget needs to be robust enough to support the needs of the maker space. Dr. Carter ensured they are aware of this, and it is in the budget as a larger line item.

The group discussed a possible way to promote additional fundraising for the maker space and brainstormed a January zoom with Dr. Erikson, Dr. Green and Dr. Carter, in which the community would be invited (primarily Woodland, Country & Field) to learn about the vision for the maker space. Families can learn more about the idea behind the space which can help to drive fundraising. Create visuals and renderings to help families/donors see what they are supporting.

Board discussed whether to approve in full or partial without wish list and wish list later. Agreed to approve and fundraise for the maker space throughout the spring to support the grant.

*A motion to approve* grant (voted in favor: Dickie, Wang, Taylor, Bradner, Golin, Covington, McGrath, Hanser)

3. Virtual Author Visits K-4 through the balance of the year - \$10,200. Great that they are submitting all grants at one time. Ken discussed also exploring author visits at the high school level that could be more mentorship based. There is definitely more focus at the elementary school level but these could be beneficial at the high school level as well. Gail Palmer discussed speaking with the high school to emphasize more of these types of grant requests.

***A motion to approve*** grant (voted in favor: Dickie, Wang, Taylor, Bradner, Golin, Covington, McGrath, Hanser)

### **Treasurer's Report**

Cara discussed Stars and making sure that we are breaking out the star donations from the other donations so that Cara can track the trends in giving. We may need to go back and separate the donations out to be able to track the stars for the month of December. So far, there have been 40 stars purchased in December alone. This year we will track the dollars the best we can and possibly the overall school tracking system will be changed for next year.

As of 12/13 we have raised \$46,000 total. \$36,000 has been raised through the winter campaign. We have approved \$11,500 in grants. If we approve all grants that have been requested in this meeting, the total approved dollars will be \$83,000.

In terms of other grants coming our way, we don't know of any additional large grants. We typically get about \$5k from STEM (origami, etc.) year to year.

Our goal for the end of year campaign is \$80,000 which we are hopeful to reach. We then have our end of year fundraising event, with a net goal of \$40,000. Our overall 2021/2022 fundraising goal and average grant requests total \$120k-\$140k.

### **Winter Appeal**

#### **Plan:**

Currently we have raised \$36,000 and have a goal of \$80,000. Weekly emails are going out and will continue to go out throughout the month.

Signage will be going up this week "Support WEEFC today"

All schools and between library and Case House. Sandwich board at Rt 20. Additional signage will be distributed to Board members for their lawns.

#### **Marketing Ideas:**

Vinyl banner for spring for town center

### **Approve Minutes**

***A motion to approve the minutes of the meeting on November 16, 2021*** (voted in favor: Dickie, Wang, Taylor, Bradner, Golin, Covington, McGrath, Hanser)

### **Next Meeting: January 4, 2022, at 9 a.m. at Case House.**

*WEEFC supports innovative and creative grants that enrich the learning experience beyond the regular school budget.*