

Oya No Kai

Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 15, 2009

Board members present: John Baumgardner, Julie Nieman, Alison Walcott, Melissa Gorgan Clark, Cathy Zaerr, Sarah Stephens, Teresa Schultz, Kurt Lootens

Guests: Michael Bacon, Archer Clark

The meeting was held at the home of Teresa Schultz. Our previous meetings were auction planning sessions. As such, there were no minutes to review

I. Fifth Grade Cultural Exchange:

- a. Departure date issue- the trip overlaps with the teacher contract year. Human Resources is looking into it, and we are looking at back-up plans.
- b. Disciplinary issues- Alison will talk to Dustin Klinger and Sean Stephens about legal issues.
- c. Assistant director- trying to fill this position. All preK-12 teachers will be busy with FLAP grant inservices. Perhaps an intern or a past intern can fill this position.
- d. Sapporo- trip add on. \$300 additional cost for airline flights. Parent and child need to travel together (not chaperoned by others). Can ONK offset the cost for 10 people, 5 parent/child sets? This could be non-fifth grade families. Michael Bacon /another teacher might be there at the same time attending to FLAP grant/high school internship groundwork. Motion passes: (7-0)
- e. Student eligibility- We have a fifth grade student who is leaving the program, would like to attend the cultural exchange, and is able to attend the required cultural series. ONK votes he may attend. We have another student who left the program two years ago, is living in Japan, and cannot attend the required cultural series. ONK votes he/she may not participate in the cultural exchange because he/she cannot attend the required prerequisites. He/she may join up and visit with the group in Japan.

II. Interns (Michael Bacon)

- a. We have 16 confirmed interns for April 2010-April 2011. Placements need to be decided by February. There are five more potentially qualified candidates.

- b. Question: Are we willing to expand? All three schools have said yes. We would need to rewrite the training manual. We need to secure host families first, then invite interns as we can. We'll check back on January 15<sup>th</sup> to see how many we can house.

### III. High School Redesign

- a. PPS, in search of equity amongst the schools, has not yet found a place of immersion programs. Answers to our questions are changing over time. John Baumgardner is working with Shu Ren (Chinese Immersion parent group) and the Lincoln cluster parent group. He will send out a letter to redesign team, superintendent and our three school principals on behalf of the ONK board.
- b. Question: How will these decisions affect the younger grades of the programs?
- c. Next step- John B. will send out a joint letter from all three parent groups and will post on our listserv.

### IV. Class funds:

- a. Question: Should we restructure our accounting without the model of class funds?
- b. Sarah may form a group to examine this issue.
- c. It would have to happen over time.
- d. High school- Will they use class funds for their internship? Could all eligible students attend?
- e. Concerns: It is hard to raise funds if your own class does not benefit. Parents pay more on fundraisers than the cost of their child's trip.
- f. Possibilities: We could look at the Foundation model: 2/3 goes to class fund, 1/3 goes to trip fund. We could have a scholarship fund for people who would like to donate specifically to assist students to go to Japan. We think a fundraiser position on the board would help.

### V. Budget:

- a. We need an additional \$20,000 from the auction proceeds to cover this year's expenses.
- b. Some eighth grade residency costs: 1) scholarships, \$1,500 each, from eighth grade class funds, 2) group leader, \$3,000, 3) substitute costs, \$1,800-2,000.
- c. First annual read-a-thon launches this month.

Next meeting: January 26, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Zaerr, Oya No Kai secretary