Pine Lake Preparatory Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: November 12, 2008

Location: PLP Upper School

Directors Present: Anne McIntosh, John Moloney, Bill Neal, Barbara Freund, Chris Perri, Antoinette

Ellison

Directors Absent: None

Administrative Staff: Kate Alice Dunaway, Kari Jolly, Chris Scholl, Gloria Miller, Amy Sevic

Mark McCurry, Jennifer Gnann, Kay Johnson

Guests: See Attached List

Meeting called to order at 6:04 p.m. by John Moloney. John lays out protocol for meeting agenda and introduces Antoinette "Twan" Ellison, our newest board member.

- ➤ Minutes from the October 2008 meeting minutes moved by Chris; seconded by Twan; unanimous approval; motion carried.
- ➤ Traffic update. Chris updates that plan review approval has been received from the NCDOT for our traffic light. We are working to resolve an issue with the railroad and hope to do so in the next month. We are a minimum of 6 weeks from having a functioning traffic light. Sequencing of the light will be worked out after construction/installation of the light based upon input from administration, Town of Mooresville, NC DOT. Whether or not a learning opportunity exists for US students to form statistics for sequencing will be researched. Mark McCurry is still working on a technological solution to expedite dismissal. Mark updates that we are still working on joining the "Share the Ride" group. Chris questions if there is an update for time coming in and getting off of campus − Gloria shares the entire dismissal process was 36 minutes today and the parent who times us each day reported 12 minutes for her ride.
- ➤ Kate Alice shares our Mission Statement with the audience... "Pine Lake Preparatory prepares individuals in a nurturing environment for leadership and academic success within the kaleidoscope of an engaging community."
- ▶ Pride Moment. Amy Sevic and Kate Alice recognize the MS Cross Country team which came in 1st place at our conference. Each student is recognized individually. Kate Alice thanks all of the PLP athletic academic partners special gratitude for Andrew Moceri who led this team to success. Amy Sevic also takes a moment to recognize our other Fall sports teams. Kate Alice recognizes Micah Clemmons, the newly elected student government body president. Micah is a 10th grade student. Mica is very involved with activities at PLP. Micah shares his vision for PLP and its student body. Kate Alice notes that the other members of the student council will be introduced at next month's board meeting. John Moloney takes a moment to speak about the athletic conference that PLP participates in and encourages everyone to attend an athletic event, so that they can have a chance to see the caliber of athlete our athletes compete against. John also recognizes Tom Murphy's nomination for the NC Technology Association member of the year award.
- Open Discussion. Two minutes are allotted to each speaker.
 - o Gil Allred. Opens with an expression of gratitude for efforts. He addresses concerns about some books being chosen by the administration. He suggests that choices for our students be more of a nurturing nature. He asks that the board consider creating a committee that would work with the administration to select the books that are assigned to the students for required reading. He also encourages unity and bringing uplifting books to the PLP curriculum.

- o Bob DeVries. He shares thanks for efforts made to this point. He shares his concern over the required 9th Grade reading "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings". He does not think that this is an age appropriate choice for our students. He expresses concern that he did not receive any communication about this book being assigned before his daughter brought it home. He reads from a written statement. He would also like to suggest a literature review committee and that all world views are represented on this committee. He also recommends that all books be presented to the parents at the beginning of the school year and that any books that may have questionable content be identified at that time.
- Dennis and Sandy Zinchuck. Mr. Zinchuck opens with a statement of "thanks". He expresses concern over the recent book choices for US students. He asserts that PLP was a choice made because they thought PLP would offer a caring environment. He opines that this book is not an appropriate choice for our students and that future choices are of a more "moral" nature. Mrs. Zinchuck reads from a statement written by another, unidentified, parent, who was not able to be at tonight's meeting.
- Paresh Patel. He requests an update on the implementation of Accelerated Reader and when whiteboards for each classroom can be expected. Jennifer Gnann confirms that AR and AM have been ordered and we are currently uploading student data into the program. AR should be up and running next week; AM will launch upon receipt of scanners and bubble cards. Kate Alice explains that she published a letter on Edline Sunday evening updating on these, and other, items. AR is for K-8 students, AM will be for K-11 students. The question of how tests will be administered; Jennifer states that they will given in class.
- Open discussion closes.
- ➤ Head of School report. KA updates that, moving forward, EdLine will have a Head of School letter each month. She also refers everyone to Edline for the recent letter posted. She updates that we have received access to our second state allotment which has allowed us to move forward with our acquisition of AR and AM. The Lego League teams are rolling out; the mock trial team led by Miko Red Arrow is moving forward. The capital campaign is underway and our Fine Arts program is preparing a very large outdoor event for December. She expresses her pleasure with EdLine. She also shares that our 2009-2010 application process has opened. Siblings of enrolled students will be given priority over general population. A Kindergarten open house will be held on Saturday the 22nd.
- Budget update. Bill presents a budget amendment to move \$20K from textbooks line item to the instructional software line item; Bill motions; Chris seconds; unanimous approval; motion carried.
- ➤ Bill Neal departs the meeting @ 6:52.
- FF update from Karen Thomas. She outlines the PLP partnership program shall be up and fully functional by the end of the week. She expresses her pleasure of working with all of the PLP volunteers and the Academic Partners. We have a large arts celebration scheduled for 12/11/08, Thanksgiving Feast; the Upper School play on 11/22/08; the Festival of Trees during the Christmas in Davidson celebration at Homewood Suites (trees donated by Lowe's Home Improvement); 12/9/08 celebrations around the world for Lower School. John Moloney expresses gratitude for Karen's efforts and all of our volunteers. He questions if Edline posts partnership opportunities; Karen affirms that we are working to launch that. Jennifer also shares that ConnectEd is now up and running and will be available to IFFs for their use in announcing upcoming events. Anne questions if a directory of all partnership leads are available; Karen has given that information to Amy Sevic. Anne also suggests forming a "political" partnership who would work to correspond with elected area officials about PLP needs and a grants partnership to work on identifying grants, communicating information to AP, and helping to submit grants.

- A Literature Review Committee is being formed and will be lead by Barbara Freund. Committee members will include Chris Perri, Kate Alice, Amy Sevic, 2 teachers from Upper School, 2 teachers from Middle School and 2 teachers from Lower School. The curriculum will remain unchanged until January. The first meeting will be held in early January; date to be announced on EdLine. A questions is raised from the audience about other books that are to be assigned and if there are any parents should be "concerned" with; Amy affirms the booklist is posted on Edline for review; Chris Scholl affirms that teachers will share any "warnings" when they make an assignment; Mr. Moore suggests that the committee have our books reviewed by the PLP attorney. John and Chris S. will send the book list to Rachel Hitch for review and opinion.
- > STEMology Partnership. The Lego League teams are up and running in the Middle School and the Lower School.
- ➤ Student Performance Metrics. Jennifer is working with home LEAs to obtain last year's EOG reports for each student. The Dean's List is made up of B average students and the Dean's Honors List is made up of straight A for students in grades 3 11. The Davidson Learning Center is teaching a SAT prep class to US students who wanted to participate. John questions if we will be launching Study Island. Kate Alice states that we would like to start Study Island, but needs to assess budgetary limitations/opportunities before doing so. Chris Perri questions where we would refer interested families for PLP statistical information. Jennifer shares that NC Report Cards are published each year in the Fall. Jennifer announces the 8th grade computer skills test will be held in December.
- ➤ Capital Campaign. John shares that interviews were held 2 weeks ago and a proposal has been prepared by ISC. In January, we hope to launch the campaign. Kate Alice thanks Joanne Tabor for her efforts on this front.
- ➤ Grant writing update. Anne shares that Food Lion has come back with some questions stemming from our application; there are a few other options being reviewed at this time as well. Anyone with information about grant opportunities should be shared initially with a member of the leadership team.
- Kaleidoscope Foundation. John outlines briefly the goals of the Foundation; steps are being taken to establish that organization. John recognizes Michael Kern and Natalie Miller for their efforts on this front.
- ➤ Board governance & Strategic Planning. 1/10/09 is the new date for the board training session with Brian Carpenter.
- ➤ Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m. and closed session commences.
- Next meeting tentatively scheduled for December 10, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. at the Upper School.