



General Board Meeting

December 14, 2021

7:00pm, Amy Parlett's Home

Voting: Danielle Gallagher, Anita Embleton, Paul Chopra, Rachel Schmidt, Kelly Daggs, Kirsten Jeffery, Scott Jeffery, Amy Parlett, Dave Lewis, Stacey Hastings, Maria Nicolacakis, Michelle Colaco, Katie Sroka, Anne Keyashian, Meghvi Roig, Kristin Connelly, Jennifer Palmer, Stephanie Asadorian, Fredi Gorham, Kimberly Grover, Noel Briceño, Bill Hall, Katie Jager

Non-voting: John Nickerson, Eric Shawn, Dave Smith

- I. Meeting called to order by Danielle Gallagher at 7:21pm.
- II. Approval of October 19, 2021 General Board Meeting Minutes
  - A. Motion to approve (Kelly Daggs), second (Scott Jeffery)
  - B. Motion carries.
- III. President's Report – Danielle Gallagher
  - A. Executive Director Update
    1. Elizabeth Horpedahl has been hired as ED. Strong background in education and the non-profit sector. Officially assumes role on January 10, 2022.
  - B. Endowment Feasibility Study Update
    1. Formal presentation will be made in January to report findings of 6-month study.
  - C. Miscellaneous
    1. Stewardship
      - a) There have been an overwhelming number of emails, photos, etc. in response to "Thank You's" that this board has extended to donors.
    2. City of Lafayette - Federal Assistance Money
      - a) LPIE is being considered for the remainder of funds (~\$800k remaining), which will be allocated January 10. Letters made an impact, so please write letters if possible. Making a case for LPIE funding resources geared toward mental health / well-being carries a lot of weight.
    3. LPIE Legacy Award
      - a) Seeking approval to create an annual LPIE Legacy Award.
      - b) Motion to approve (Anita), second (Kristen)
      - c) Motion carries.

#### IV. Fundraising Reports

##### A. Annual Giving Campaign – Sam Carter & Kelly Daggs

1. Working on communication plan for Q1 2022
  - a) Suggestion to break down participation by grade.
  - b) Also targeting new families.
2. Giving Tuesday/End-of-Year Campaign
  - a) Giving Tuesday was a huge success due to collaboration across LPIE. The \$150k match (from Taylor & Jensen-Horne families) + Giving Tuesday emails from LPIE + the emails to parents from Parent Reps (and teacher follow up) + text messages to 2,500 people = largest giving day in history. Total amounted to \$176,000 in one day!
3. 2022 is all about participation!
  - a) Every school is in 50% range. Better than last year (LPIE was blamed for parent disappointment to COVID response), but would have liked to have been higher by now.... but it's the largest amount of total dollars received by December 3 ever in our history. To summarize, donations are high, but participation is low, meaning fewer people are giving but they're giving at higher levels.
4. Suggestions to drive participation:
  - a) Use the thermometer at school sites. Unfortunately, some principals aren't in favor.
  - b) Return to in-person Mascot Day – plants seeds and many people dropped checks at that time.
  - c) Presentation to parents before Science Fair.
5. Suggestion to see different cuts of data to evaluate:
  - a) How many new families have donated? Can we do another phone bank to educate? Already received mailer in summer, call during phone bank.
  - b) How many people give in January after bonuses are paid?

##### B. Major Donor Campaign – Scott & Kirsten Jeffery, Lisa & Joe Spiegler

1. Holiday Party Recap: 80-90 people flowed through; big success.
2. Slightly trailing 2019, but confident will exceed.

#### V. Financial Reports – Paul Chopra

- A. Management expenses are high because of endowment and ED recruitment.
- B. Have \$2.9M of \$3.5M goal already in.
- C. Reserves building up again – have \$4.2M in reserves (\$3.2M in Schwab and \$1M in other accounts), which is \$1M more than this time last year.
- D. Reminder that we cut \$800k in budget this year.... but it will return next year, so need to make sure we can raise that money.

#### VI. Events – Stacey Hastings

- A. LPIE Read-a-thon = raised \$92k; huge success!
- B. Poker night raised \$48k (before expenses).
- C. Gala: Would love any leads on auction items! Donations have to be in by Presidents' Day. Short on local things (e.g., restaurants, shops, etc.).

## VII. District Reports

John Nickerson, AUHSD

- A. Parent engagement and fundraising is critical to success. LPIE is looked at as a model for other parent orgs. Thank you to Amy for hosting and for serving as Interim ED.
- B. In finals this week. The shift to an earlier start in August has enabled a seamless semester with a true break during the holidays, so students can start fresh in January.
- C. School day schedule for next year – state law to start no earlier than 8:30am will go into effect next year. Surveying parents for input. So far overwhelming support from parents for each day to start at the same time (variation would come at end of day).
- D. Covid outbreak at AHS right after Thanksgiving impacted 10-15 kids + parents. Most had mild symptoms or were asymptomatic; was very contained. Staff is 100% vaccinated (did lose a few employees who didn't want to get vaccinated); students are ~92% vaccinated. The point of sharing the statistics is that high vaccination rates and mitigation strategies helped contain outbreak and prevented a need to quarantine (don't have to quarantine even if you're a "contact" (within 6 feet) if you're vaccinated). It was the first case of Covid on campus since Sept.
- E. State funding for education is robust; but not sure how much will come to well-funded districts like ours. We have a structural deficit. This year, \$1M deficit (usually \$3.5M), but that's because there's a lot of relief money from the pandemic.
- F. Question: Will there still be an Anchor Day? Answer: Parents seem to be in support of Mondays.
- G. Academy Period: Wednesday/Friday vs Tuesday/Thursday are options; Friday not well utilized and less productive, but Wednesday/Friday seems to be in favor. Academy is heavily utilized for test corrections, retesting, etc.

Eric Shawn, Acalanes High School

- A. Completing first semester and feeling comfortable and welcomed and supported.
- B. Getting to Thanksgiving was difficult and it was a much-needed break – lightness apparent in students and staff following the break.
- C. Exam Jam (after school support for finals); Freshmen seemed ready.
- D. Covid outbreak response was swift and contained. They didn't see any spread on campus, despite positive cases on campus and close contacts.
- E. After winter break, testing will be available the first Tuesday after return to school.
  - a. Suggestion to remind about testing, staying home if symptomatic, and share county resource for booster appointments.
- F. Winter sports have begun (need tennis coach, boys' water polo coach).
- G. Course selection process will begin in new year, including working with Stanley to prepare 8<sup>th</sup> graders for selections.

Dave Smith for Richard Whitmore, LAFSD

- H. Stanley will be open for testing on Monday, January 3.
- I. School Board meeting tomorrow – talking about reorg, first interim report, don't yet have CASP scores[1] (hoping to have by January).
- J. No transmission on any campus yet.
- K. Traffic safety implementation requests coming through. District making a formal recommendation to the city for improvements for all 5 schools.
- L. Search firm engaged for superintendent search; Richard will be here through July.
- M. Additional volunteer opportunities have opened for parents. In-class opportunities are at teacher discretion. Music and performances have resumed. K–8: vaccination cards need to be physically presented to school.

Upcoming Events and Meetings

- LPIE Board Meeting: Tuesday, January 11 @ 7:00pm, via Zoom