

West Fargo Educational Foundation Meeting
January 13, 2014

Attendees (in person): Mark Lemer, David Flowers, Alison Ottesen, Heather Konschak, Mark Staples, Marisa Pacella, Sabby Hussein, Karen Nitzkowski, Angela Ottesen

Attendees (on phone): Clint Schmidt, Jimmy Hoy, Greg Tehven

Guests: Assistant Superintendent of Elementary Education Beth Slette and Elementary Curriculum Coordinator Heather Sand

- 1) Updates on New or Pending Items
 - a. Historical photos of WFPS
 - i. Interested individuals should check out the “photo hallway” at the West Fargo Public Library. If there are any photos that we’d like to use on our webpage or our Facebook page, the Library can help us request permission from the appropriate photographer (many of the photos there are from Dave Samson).
 - b. Fundraising visits
 - i. Not much progress has been made since the November meeting. Important things to know and get straight before asking for donations include what the Foundation is all about and how we anticipate allocating funds.
 - c. “Ask” script
 - i. Greg and Dr. Flowers will work on a five-minute script that all Foundation members can use when they visit potential donors. Language will also need to be developed about the various giving levels/opportunities (legacy, endowment, one-time, etc.)
 - d. Curriculum
 - i. Guests Beth Slette and Heather Sand shared a brief synopsis of what curriculum currently looks like at the elementary level, what challenges the district faces and where we plan to go from here. Members had an opportunity to ask questions, and to discuss the possibility of hosting a 90-minute presentation for the Foundation about more in-depth curriculum concerns.
- 2) Website
 - a. The outside consultant working with Alison indicated he would do the work for a modest fee; he will provide a mock-up for the Foundation to review at the February meeting
- 3) Hall of Fame
 - a. It is highly likely that our event will outgrow the Hotel Donaldson this year. Foundation members were asked to brainstorm other, larger venues (within the WFPS boundaries) – larger hotels, Bonanzaville, and the Speedway Event Center are all options.

- b. Greg and Jimmy will have an update on the candidate process at the February meeting. They are really striving for a deeper candidate pool with several excellent candidates to choose from.
- c. Alison, Karen, Marisa and Sabby will meet to discuss the “vibe” of the event and to start brainstorming various large details.