

# West Fargo Education Foundation

## Summary of 10.22.12 Meeting

Attendees: David Flowers, Gary Clark, Clint Schmidt, Mark Staples, Allison Otteson, Greg Tehven and Heather Korschak // Karen Nitzkowski and Jimmy Hoy (via phone)

### 1) Vision and Mission Statements

- a. Dr. David Flowers, Greg Tehven and Mark Staples have met as a subcommittee several times to discuss the vision, mission and values of the Foundation. Their last meeting culminated in a first draft of the mission and vision statements for the Foundation:
  - i. Mission > “Create exemplary futures for West Fargo Public Schools students, by enhancing the district’s capacity for all students to achieve 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills.”
  - ii. Vision > “To boldly advance the education of West Fargo Public Schools students by providing progressive opportunities for learning above and beyond the basic curriculum. These actions will be achieved by respecting West Fargo heritage, building on the West Fargo Alumni legacy, and inspiring the future by noble pursuits. Through these endeavors, the West Fargo Education Foundation will strive to empower students with the capacity for success.”
- b. Suggestions for revisions to the statements included:
  - i. Maintaining an intimate relationship with the district; enhancing what the district is working on.
  - ii. Incorporating the fact that EVERY student should be learning via a 21<sup>st</sup> century skills model of instruction.
  - iii. Supporting exemplary teachers’ efforts; support for parents and guardians
- c. President Clint Schmidt will utilize the input received to create the second draft of the vision and mission statements. The second draft will be provided to the Board via email prior to their next meeting.

### 2) Focus Points

- a. Mr. Schmidt compiled a list of suggested points that the Foundation could use to focus and lead their efforts in these first months:
  - i. Focus on what is currently working and expand on it, rather than focusing on what’s wrong
  - ii. Provide opportunities for translational skills
  - iii. Enhancing networks and creating connections to further these aims for the students
  - iv. Achieve tangible results and have a measurable impact for the students
  - v. Marshall and rally West Fargo Alumni, and their various acquired skills, to aid this endeavor
- b. Mrs. Nitzkowski asked that the Board also consider a timeline for setting monetary goals.

- c. Mr. Schmidt shared that he has also been brainstorming potential fundraising options for the Foundation, including state and federal sources, fraternal organizations, charities, local businesses and the alumni.
  - d. Several Board members asked that the Foundation focus on staying abreast of changes at the state and federal level that impact education. Two current examples: the changes in admission standards for higher education and the election of a new state superintendent of public instruction.
  - e. The Board agreed that another focus point for them would be to take ownership of the West Fargo High School Hall of Fame event for 2013. Greg Tehven, Jimmy Hoy and Allison Ottesen agreed to serve on a subcommittee to begin fleshing out the details of the 2013 WFHS Hall of Fame event as the Foundation's "signature event."
- 3) Membership and Leadership of the Foundation
- a. Jimmy Hoy accepted the position as Second Vice President.
  - b. Mark Staples accepted the position as Secretary.
  - c. Allison Otteson accepted the position as Treasurer.
  - d. Everyone was encouraged to continue approaching other individuals to gauge their interest in serving on the Board of the Foundation.
- 4) Next Meeting
- a. Mr. Schmidt committed to sending out a "newsletter" with current notes and action items prior to the next meeting.
  - b. Two items for the next meeting agenda:
    - i. How the Foundation can start impacting students now (potential pilot projects)
    - ii. Vision for governance relative to a director
  - c. The next meeting of the Foundation Board will occur in late-November.