

Chugach Educational Corporation (CEC)

Assembly Meeting Minutes

Date: 09/03/2020

Location: Zoom

- **Call to Order: 7:00pm**

- **Attendance**

Mandy Casurella, President

Tamar Ben-Yosef, Vice President

Joe Miller, Treasurer

Bo Grauvogel, Vice Treasurer

Fernanda Conrad, Co-Secretary

Brenda Lester, Co-Secretary

Maggie Miller, Member At Large

Liz Provencio (voting member), PC Coordinator

Clare Hill, Principal

Additional Assembly Members Present:

Tim Conrad

Beth Butcher

Amy Mick

Brian Sorbel

Danielle & Tom Crandall

David & Sarah Jefferies

Emma Giboney

Virginia Hughes

Jeff Hayner

John R

Kari Skinner

Kurt & Alex Marsch

Celeste Long

Loren Hildebrandt

Marie Hildebrandt

Ezra

Nina Anderson

Rob Forbes

Suzanne Boots

Brian Miller and Teagan

Vicki Retzinger

Will and Sara

Nathalia Grauvogel

Lindsey Hunter

Jenn Rigg

Genie

Laura Schue

Amy Brabec

Wyatt Langley

Mara

John IV

- **President's Remarks & Introductions of Board and community members**

- **7:23pm Tamar moves to introduce budget**

- **Fernanda seconds**

- **7:25 Joe Miller Budget Presentation**

- Health of our budget:

• Be Respectful • Be Kind • Be Safe • Be Productive • Be Positive •

- We have about \$49,000 in the bank, which is more than what last year's budget was and more than our proposed budget for this year.
- Fundraising is in question but will be discussed and decided upon as a community later.
- Introduction of how the budget works:
 - The CEC is a Non-Profit. The Community Assembly is made up of principal, teachers & staff, parents and students.
 - We typically do big fundraising twice a year:
 - Big Simple - which funds classroom expenses.
 - Fall Auction - which funds enrichment.
 - We also have multiple self funded events throughout the year
 - In a typical year, the budget would have been created and approved by the previous year's board. This year this is not the case.
 - Financial Policy guides how our budget functions:
 - We need a minimum of 6 months of operating expenses in our bank account.
 - Each year, Big Simple funds are carried over to the following year that are not spent.
 - Typically we have a line item budget.
- Perspective for what our budget should look like has come from feedback from our community. We need:
 - Financial Flexibility - quick action to support community needs.
 - Inclusion.
 - Transparency.
- Why the change?
 - Some of our operating expenses are underfunded.
 - It costs us \$2500 a year just to be a non-profit.
 - Teachers did not spend as much last year
 - Expenses are still coming in from last year but we are rolling in.
 - We anticipate no revenue generation this year.
- Laura Schue moves to approve the budget with amendments to spend ½ of the enrichment budget the first semester.
- Loren Hildebrand seconds.
- Loren proposes that there is a line item for \$4,000 for the library. This brings enrichment funds to \$9,000 as opposed to \$13,000.
- The assembly votes in favor of the motions and the budget is approved.

- **Next CEC Meeting Date & Time:**

- **Adjourn @ 8:52pm**

Zoom Comments Transcript:

From Tamar Ben-Yosef to Everyone: (7:11 PM)

Welcome to all the new families!!! Thank you for taking the time to join tonight with everything going on.

From Long_Celeste to Everyone: (7:24 PM)

Thank you Joe!

From Tamar Ben-Yosef to Everyone: (7:30 PM)

Teachers=supplies and extra expenses identified by the teachers. Not teacher salaries. Please feel to type in any questions and we will try to get to them.

From Danielle & Tom Crandall to Everyone: (7:45 PM)

If this year's budget has led to a carry over of a surplus, will next school year (2021/2022) be a deficit provided schools open as they normally were? Does that mean a larger budget push this spring in anticipation?

From Nina Anderson to Everyone: (7:54 PM)

The ice rink is a good example of something that could come up IF we go back to in person sometime this winter. Lego league won't be happening, most likely - at least the bigger kids

From Kurt Marsch to Everyone: (8:00 PM)

We could we increase the Board's limit to \$2,500 and achieve most of the flexibility requested?

From Fernanda Conrad to Everyone: (8:01 PM)

I agree with Kurt as this is mainly driven by current COVID circumstances, it only needs to be a temporary amendment (Tim Conrad).

From Kurt Marsch to Everyone: (8:03 PM)

Amy, is this the only source of funding for replacing and/or updating ?

From Kurt Marsch to Everyone: (8:04 PM)

Amy, is this the only source of funding for replacing/updating the library's collection? Are these funds used in other ways in the library?

From Kurt Marsch to Everyone: (8:08 PM)

Is there a role for parents to create outside of class, COVID distanced, appropriate activities for socialisation of our children? For example skiing, sledding, ice skating, hiking, nature walks, etc?

From Amy Brabeto Everyone: (8:08 PM)

Kurt: Library book line item is the only source of library funding. Library also has \$500 from Big Simple for 'supplies' - book jackets, tape, labels, barcodes, etc.

From Jeff H. to Everyone: (8:14 PM)

Hello, I would like to know why the board limit is being increased? Last year we increased this to \$1,000.

From Amy Brabec to Everyone: (8:17 PM)

Thank you, Kurt, for your library support!!!

From suzanne boots to Everyone: (8:19 PM)

Do I understand that there is enough money for our budget right now AND that we will acquire more from Big Simple? This would mean the budget will have more than now at the start of school, correct?

From Laura Schue to Everyone: (8:19 PM)

What about an agreement that we don't spend the full enrichment portion during the first semester? Like a motion to hold 1/2 of the enrichment funds for the second semester?

From Will and Sara to Everyone: (8:19 PM)

Well said Tamar

From Nina Anderson to Everyone: (8:27 PM)

Also was going to back funds for the library. I anticipate the book requests will be greater than ever this year. all of my children were over the moon excited to pick out books and then receive them today.

:) great idea Laura

At Chugach Optional We Practice Many B's

• Be Respectful • Be Kind • Be Safe • Be Productive • Be Positive •

From Laura Schue to Everyone: (8:35 PM)

I would say you could put in a \$1,000 book request tomorrow and the board could approve?

From Mara to Everyone: (8:43 PM)

Thank you Amy!!

From Laura Schue to Everyone: (8:47 PM)

Thanks so much to the Board for all their time and energy in this budget!

From Amy Brabec to Everyone: (8:48 PM)

Thank you, everyone! You are all appreciated...