

GO Team meeting minutes/emergency meeting, March 27, 2017

Present: Kimberly Dick, Galit Levitin, Colin Heydt, Leda Everett, Sharyn Briscoe, Victor Hicks, Karin Dusenberry (late), Melanie Levs, Stephanie Shumacher (late)

Absent: Emily Fuller (maternity leave)

The meeting was called to order at 8:11 a.m.

It had been announced Friday afternoon that each school's austerity cut would be returned to their budgets. Mary Lin's cut is \$51,311. The Go Team was instructed to determine what the school wanted to do with these returned funds and vote on it by Thursday, March 29.

Ms. Briscoe at the previous March meeting proposed that if the school received its austerity cut, some of those funds be used to raise the salary of one of the EIP teachers to fit the job of the position, which is an instructional coach position. A teacher costs approximately \$85,000, and the coach position pays approximately \$102,000. Ms. Briscoe proposed we use \$17,000 of the austerity funds to equal the coach position salary. Once we vote on this, she will make sure the person being offered this raise is, in fact, qualified for the position and also will discuss with the leadership team of the school to make sure they approve (though they do not vote on the matter).

Ms. Briscoe also proposed that approximately \$5,000 of the austerity funds be used to pay for another full-time-during-lunch cafeteria monitor along with the school employee who also monitors the cafeteria during the entire lunch period. One of the school crossing guards had approached Ms. Briscoe inquiring if such a position were available. Ms. Briscoe told the Go Team that currently, there is just one cafeteria monitor there the entire lunch period, and Ms. Briscoe has assigned a kindergarten parapro and a custodian to monitor different lunch shifts in the cafeteria, as teachers are by law required to have a duty-free lunch. The crossing guard would be another person in the cafeteria during the entire lunch time.

Funding the instructional coach raise and the cafeteria monitor would take \$22,000 of the \$51,000, and the remaining austerity funds would go into a general fund to be used for supplies, technology and other items that Ms. Briscoe often asks for from the Foundation.

Galit asked if the austerity money would be helpful if we were leveled. Ms. Briscoe replied that we would not be able to use the funds to buy an additional teacher (we don't

have enough) but we could, in fact, buy a paraprofessional if we were leveled. We would have to call another meeting, however, to determine if that is what we would want to do with the money if, in fact, we are leveled.

Melanie moved to accept the proposal to offer a raise for an instructional coach. Kimberly seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved.

Kimberly moved to hire the crossing guard as another full-time-lunch cafeteria monitor. Galit seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Public comment

Parent Chris Fitzgerald said “Unless the kids are being disruptive, they shouldn’t be reprimanded”. The cafeteria is loud and therefore the focus should be on sound dampening, but “there is too much threatening” of silent lunch, taking away recess and the like; the students should not be able to get up but “they should still be able to be kids.”

Ms. Briscoe suggested that some of the money in the general fund be used to cover sound dampening panels in the cafeteria, as there are inexpensive ways to work on that. Several Go Team members expressed agreement of looking into that possibility.

Galit motioned to adjourn the meeting. Victor seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 a.m.