

Meeting Date Tues, September 26, 2023

Meeting Location: Lineweaver Library

Members present	Teachers: Karen Fields, Russ Halliday, Lourdes DeLeon Parents: Callie Jackson, Paul Bell, Joshua Polacheck Classified : Bianca Mendoza Carreno Community : Janine Malkin Principal : Emily Walls
Members absent	None

**I.** Called to order at 3:20 pm by Karen Fields

**II.** Approval of Minutes for August 29, 2023

DISCUSSION NOTES	Prior minutes reviewed
CONCLUSIONS	
Joshua moved to approve the minutes; Janine seconded. Minutes unanimously approved.	

**III.** Call to the audience

DISCUSSION NOTES	No audience member had any input for the council.
CONCLUSIONS	
ACTION ITEMS	

**IV.** Reports

REPORTS TO REVIEW	Principal's report / Staff Update / Newsworthy / Staffing update
DISCUSSION	Principal Walls shares that current enrollment is 524 students. We are currently in the process of hiring our third monitor, who is a good fit for our school. We are hiring an ex ed aide for targeted support for a new student whose IEP calls for such support. We are looking for an Ex Ed TA. We are also looking for a .7 resource teacher. This position is difficult to fill as it is only part-time and requires specific certification. A district-wide problem is the lack of a designated psychologist for Lineweaver. This shortage means that mandatory IEP-review every three years cannot be completed easily, as that

	<p>requires a psychologist. It also means that students with learning/behavioral needs cannot move beyond the MTSS process into the support they need without these formal evaluations. Mrs. Walls is reaching out to the district constantly through the department head, Sabrina Salmon who is the Ex ED coordinator, but at this point, it is a systemic problem for the education system in general.</p> <p>The end of the first quarter is almost here, and much is happening. Quarterly testing will be on Monday and Tuesday 10/2 and 10/3, it will be Spirit Week, ROAR parties will happen, Walk and Roll to School week, and Fall Break from Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup>.</p>
<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>	
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	
No action to be taken.	
<b>REPORTS TO REVIEW</b>	Spending Plan explanation
<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Mrs. Walls explained that state law requires that tax credit funding and expenditures be explained and detailed such that taxpayers can fully see how their tax credit donations are designated and used. Tax credit donations that are designated for certain things (e.g. chess program, drama, fine arts, OMA, sports, field trips, &amp; Wright Flight) can only be used for said programs. The program funds in these lines are used only for those programs. Funds that are not used during the current school year will roll over into funding for future years. Mrs. Walls showed how funding for said programs are encumbered, i.e. committed for use for things like paying coaches or program sponsors or positions.</p> <p>Undesignated tax credit donations (Lineweaver currently has almost 86K in undesignated funds) can be spent when a proposal is made to and approved by the School Council (this body). Mrs. Walls explained that we are currently in a special dispensation of funding possibilities for undesignated tax credit funds. Generally, tax credit funds are fairly restricted for use for programs / employees that are directly tied to student academic enrichment. “Things” are not considered a direct tie to said goals. Until June 2024 however, undesignated tax credit funding can be used for many things that could have long-term benefits for students. Capital items, furniture, technology, library books, curriculum enrichment, musical instruments, sound equipment are just some items that could be funded with undesignated tax credit funding. That ability will leave in June 2024.</p> <p>Mr. Polacheck inquired about the verbiage for field trip costs, and Mrs. Walls will investigate what, if anything, the district says about how field trip costs are solicited from our families. Mrs. Walls explained that no child is ever excluded from a field trip due to financial considerations.</p>

<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>	
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	

**V. DISCUSSION / INFORMATION ITEMS**

<b>ITEM TITLE</b>	Proposed School Council by-law amendments
<b>DISCUSSION NOTES</b>	<p>Karen Fields discussed amending our by-laws very simply to allow more flexibility in the number of parents and teachers that are required on School Council. She reported that amending our by-laws to allow between 3 – 5 parents and teachers (equal numbers of each) would allow us to conduct business while naturally adjusting for the interest of our community for participation in this body.</p> <p>The Council agrees with the amendments as proposed, and Karen Fields will continue in the process for by-law amendments as outlined in the current by-laws. The next step is to write up a final draft of the amendment and to post it for review for all constituency groups for twenty-five (25) days. After this time, each constituency group must vote to approve the amendment within 55 days of the original posting. Parents, certified and classified groups must ratify the proposed amendment.</p>
<b>RESOLUTION</b>	
Karen will write up the amendment proposed and post it. She will send Joshua Polacheck the original by-laws and the proposed amendment so that Joshua can inform the parent group.	

<b>ITEM TITLE</b>	Tax Credit Spending plan for 2023-2024
<b>DISCUSSION NOTES</b>	<p>The council must approve our current spending plan which is to allocate/designated available (undesignated) tax credit funding for the 2023-2024 school year, as needed to sustain programs, payroll, and supplies. Our school will also consider capital projects with this funding.</p> <p>Mrs. Walls notes that we can consider /propose capital projects with this funding. Proposals can come from any of our stakeholders; parents, teachers, or classified staff can submit a proposal for the use of these funds. Ms. DeLeon suggests that these proposals could fuel more tax credit donations if donors realize the wide scope of funding possibilities for this current year. Mrs. Walls informed the council that capital spending should be submitted by April so that there is adequate time for the procurement process to finalize in the fiscal year. Mrs. Walls also commented that, although all undesignated tax credit funds are available to be used, it is good fiscal policy to retain some level of unincumbered funds in case of urgent needs.</p>
<b>RESOLUTION</b>	

<b>ITEM TITLE</b>	Tutoring / learning coaches funding
<b>DISCUSSION NOTES</b>	Mrs. Walls reports that Lineweaver has used undesignated tax credit funds for learning club enrichment for students. Teachers use testing data, observation, attendance data and other needs assessments to designate students who could show big gains by some additional time and support. Two teachers per grade level (twelve teachers) would be paid \$25/hour to provide this help after school. Historically, we have used a variety of sources for similar programs – generally some combination of tax credit or Title One funding. The program typically runs from the second quarter until about the end of April. This program has been very successful for helping students. Ms. De Leon explained that teachers design the curriculum that would be most helpful in language arts and math. The proposed cost of this program would not exceed \$22,000.
<b>RESOLUTION</b>	
<b>ITEM TITLE</b>	Author visit March 2024
<b>DISCUSSION NOTES</b>	Lineweaver historically has a “Love of Reading” week in the first week of March. Shalom Rockwell, our Reading Interventionist, has arranged for a local children’s author, Laurie Alexander to present to all students on March 7 <sup>th</sup> and 8 <sup>th</sup> . This would be during our “Love of Reading” week, and this has historically gotten our students very exciting about reading. It also aligns with the U of A Festival of Books that happens in March. The cost of this Author visit would be \$1050; payable after services are rendered.
<b>RESOLUTION</b>	

**VI. ACTION ITEMS**

<b>ITEM TITLE</b>	Tax Credit 2023 – 2024 Spending Plan Approval
<b>DISCUSSION NOTES</b>	Joshua Polacheck moves that the Lineweaver tax credit spending plan be approved for the “23-24 school year; designated to accounts as needed to sustain programs, payroll, supplies, considering capital projects. Janine Malkin seconds the motion. Motion was unanimously approved.
<b>RESOLUTION</b>	
<b>ITEM TITLE</b>	Designate up to \$1,050 for an author visit / presentation from undesignated tax credit; payable upon completion of services to Lineweaver
<b>DISCUSSION NOTES</b>	Joshua Polacheck moves that \$1050 of undesignated tax credit be used for the author’s visit in March. Lourdes De Leon seconds the motion. Motion unanimously passed.
<b>RESOLUTION</b>	

<b>ITEM TITLE</b>	Designated up to \$22,000 from undesignated tax credit to fund tutors / learning coaches for the 2023-2024 school year
<b>DISCUSSION NOTES</b>	Joshua Polacheck moves that \$22K from undesignated tax credit be designated for funding tutors / learning coaches for the '23-'24 school year. Lourdes De Leon seconds the motion. Motion unanimously passes.
<b>RESOLUTION</b>	

<b>ITEM TITLE</b>	
<b>DISCUSSION NOTES</b>	
<b>RESOLUTION</b>	

- VII.** Submission of items for next agenda.
  - a. Revisit the language for field trip fees
  - b. Revisit possible capital projects for undesignated tax credit funding and what categories/things can funding be used for
  - c. By-law amendment proposal update

**VIII.** The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m. by Karen Fields

