

# **CONFIDENTIAL**

## **THOMPSON EDUCATION FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 19, 2021**

The meeting was called to order at 4:17 p.m. Board members in attendance were Kim Akeley-Charron, Paul Baron, Brian Cullins, Blas Estrada, Danielle Feeney, Cody Fullmer, Brandy Grieves, Jason Hatch, Lauren Haug, Pam Howard, Brian Jacobson, Diane Lapierre, Mark Miller, Celeste Smith, Sarah Walgast and Eric Weedon. Debbie Wright was also in attendance. Board member Marc Schaffer was unable to attend.

Lauren welcomed the new board members and had everyone at the meeting introduce themselves.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, the Consent Agenda—consisting of the December 15 board meeting minutes and the December First National Bank Investment Management Account statement—was approved.

Kim pointed out that the Summary of Transactions report now includes a subtotal of the General Unrestricted, Operating and TEF Managed funds. The subtotal amount is what we have control of as a board; hopefully this will be helpful in making financial decisions as we move forward. TEF received approximately \$1,700 in General Unrestricted donations at the end of the calendar year. A large purchase was made from the Elementary Instrumental Music Fund for PA system speakers for the elementary music teachers. The Help Kids Succeed Fund received an unsolicited \$500 donation, and the Resiliency Fund received a \$1,000 gift to support students. The new Dr. Stan Scheer Memorial Student Opportunity Fund was opened and has raised nearly \$20,000. An expenditure of \$2,633 was made from the CTE Program Support Fund for furniture for the Thompson Career Campus business hub. A \$55,000 grant was received for the Pulliam Trust Fund which helps supplement the salary of Thompson School District's K-12 science TOSA, Larissa Clark. The district is aware that this funding for salaries will end and future grants will be more program focused. The Fundraising Goal Report is tracking well with a total of nearly \$133,000 raised in December. We had no idea how fundraising would go with COVID; there has been less impact than expected. We are watching the Monthly General Unrestricted Summary report because of COVID. Just under \$5,000 was raised in December, which matches some previous years.

Kim provided updates to her Executive Director Report, which was posted online. Scholarship applications opened today. Once someone submits an application on the scholarship platform, you can no longer make any changes, so everything was checked and double checked before it opened. Applications will close at midnight on March 14, 2021. The process has been streamlined for high school counselors to provide input on the applicants. Eric suggested some names for the scholarship platform: Score! or ChaChing! Lauren suggested changing Score! to \$core! Paul will bring some ideas to the next board meeting. A final decision needs to be made in February. Kim received an e-mail from the Thompson Valley Rotary Club letting her know that the valentine heart purchased by TEF is on Lincoln Avenue between 1st Street and Eisenhower. The Great

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Idea and Encore grants opened last week and will close March 8. The Educator of the Year nominations closed on Friday. We received 114 nominations for 79 people, which is a pretty typical amount. Dr. Schaffer asked Kim to pass along some information since he was unable to attend the meeting. He is excited to have PK-8 students back in school – high school students return January 25. He’s hoping COVID vaccinations for district staff will start in March; TSD’s Health Services staff will be giving the vaccinations and are receiving them first. Kim will be sending a bio form to all board members so they can update their information. She needs this information when submitting grant applications. Board members were asked to submit a new photo for the TEF website if theirs is out of date or let Kim know if they need to get a new one taken.

A discussion was held on how the board would like to handle the review of the Educator of the Year nominations. In the past, we’ve had an outside committee review the nominations and choose five to eight finalists in each category to be brought to the board to make the final choices. Kim asked if the board would like to see all the nominations. Scoring is done online. Cody suggested that the board be split into groups to review different Educator of the Year categories and bring their top five to the entire board. The board liked this idea and decided to move forward with Cody’s suggestion. Number wise, it makes sense to have three committees: one for Elementary Teacher nominations, one for Secondary Teacher nominations, and one for both Principal and TSD Staff nominations. The nominations will be sent out to the nominees’ supervisors for their input, then they will be ready to go to the board. The board committees for each category will be chosen randomly. Finalists will be determined based on the committees’ online scores. Kim asked whether the board would like to schedule a separate meeting or extend a board meeting to discuss the finalists and choose the recipients. The board chose to extend the March board meeting.

The teacher valentine fundraiser has been launched thanks to Christine Forster’s team at My Big Day. Physical valentines will be printed out and volunteers will handwrite the messages. The goal is to have one delivered to each TSD staff member. The cost to send valentines is \$6 each – the actual cost is \$1 with \$5 in profit. So far, 21 have been sold. The fundraiser is on NoCo Style's event calendar and is being pushed out on social media and into the schools to share with families. Kim has 25 volunteers to write the messages on the cards; requests have only been sent to TEF volunteers and will be sent to TSD volunteers as well. She asked the board to share the information on social media and “like” the TEF Facebook page. Details for the April event, which will be a combination of the Educator Appreciation Breakfast and annual fundraiser, are still being worked on. Hopefully educators will be vaccinated for COVID by that point so we can at least have a hybrid event with educators at Ray Patterson field when the finalists are announced, which can then be shown at the virtual event. The Scheer family wants to build the Dr. Stan Scheer Memorial Student Opportunity Fund into an endowment through a golf tournament at Mariana Butte Golf Course. Kim has not done a golf tournament before, but others on the board have. The Scheer family will be involved this year. They plan to have dual events in Loveland and Murrieta, California, either simultaneously or during the same week in August. Kim has begun conversations with the golf pro at Mariana Butte to see if they are open to hosting and helping in any way to make the tournament a success. Kim will send her thoughts on the tournament to board

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members with golf tournament experience for their feedback. Jason gave Kim the name of a contact at McKee who has been successful with raising funds at golf tournaments. Blas also offered to introduce Kim to people he knows that have spearheaded successful tournaments. Eric suggested visiting with the chamber as they have run golf tournaments for years. Kim knows that some districts do incredibly successful tournaments and will connect with them as well. Paul suggested putting together a committee to start planning for the tournament right away.

Kim reminded the board about the general school support that was voted on at the October meeting. TEF will send funds to all schools and let them choose how to spend it instead of awarding Founders Grants this year. We will send the money out now that students are back in school. Each elementary school will receive \$500; each charter school, K-8 and middle school will receive \$750; and Early Childhood and each high school will receive \$1,000. The total expenditure is \$21,000.

The board was presented with a partnership opportunity that is to be kept **CONFIDENTIAL** at this time. The Loveland Rotary Club Foundation is currently the fiscal agent for KidsPak. KidsPak is a hunger-relief program for TSD students. KidsPak has been run by volunteers for the last 10 years, and the volunteers are aging. They are looking for a partner agency that is better mission aligned to host the program long term. TEF is one of the organizations being considered by their executive committee. Lauren and Kim met with Tom Carrigan, Corinne Carrigan and Trish Will. Our alignment with TSD is a point in our favor. Their financial situation is solid and they provide an amazing service. Some financial resources would have to go toward hiring a staff member to run the program. Their executive committee and their group will foster the program until the transition is complete. If we are moved forward as a finalist, we will do a deep dive into the financials, the contract, the transition plan, hiring a staff person, etc. They have partnered with the Food Bank and are using their building, but that location will no longer be available after June 30 due to expanded Food Bank hours. An in-depth discussion was held. The board agreed that KidsPak is an invaluable program in our community and it makes sense for TEF to move forward with these conversations. Kim will share more information when she hears back from Kids Pak and reminded the board to keep this discussion confidential until final decisions are made.

Under Other Business, Lauren reminded the board that a succession plan needs to be discussed. In the short term, we need to fill the vice president position on the board. The vice president would fill in for the president if unavailable and would be in line to fill the president position. For the long term, please think about possible board candidates. This discussion was tabled until the February board meeting.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 5:34 p.m.