

**THOMPSON EDUCATION FOUNDATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINUTES OF MARCH 22, 2022**

The meeting was called to order at 4:20 p.m. Board members in attendance were Kim Akeley-Charron, Paul Baron, Brian Cullins, Danielle Feeney, Brandy Grieves, Lauren Haug, Diane Lapierre, Celeste Smith, Matt Thies, Sarah Walgast and Eric Weedin. Debbie Wright was also in attendance. Board members unable to attend were Blas Estrada, Cody Fullmer, Jason Hatch, Pam Howard and Marc Schaffer.

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

Lauren passed out Conflict of Interest forms for board members to complete and sign. This is in response to a question on TEF's tax return. These forms will be kept on file.

Kim had a flyer in hand for Thompson School District appreciation days at Colorado Rockies games. TSD ticket sales will benefit TEF. Tickets are available through TEF's website.

Trailblazing Thompson is only two weeks away. We will be setting up the night before at Embassy Suites at 6 p.m. Kim asked that board members arrive no later than 6:20 a.m. for the event so they can greet people coming in. Embassy Suites does not have enough staff available to do plated meals so we will have a buffet. We will open the buffet early to get everyone through prior to the program. We have school bus décor for centerpieces and each person in attendance will get one to take home. Kim ordered screen cleaning cloths with the TEF logo for giveaways as well. Kim spoke with Jerad King at King Buick GMC. He will be providing a two-year car lease for the overall TEF Educator of the Year winner. The category winners will not receive two-month car leases this year due to inventory issues, plus having the winners share one car was problematic. Jerad is considering providing car leases for next year's category winners all at the same time in the summer if he has inventory available. Providing service certificates was not a good fit for him. Kim has a series of concert and theater tickets to offer to category winners and asked if anyone had season tickets to a sports team they would like to donate. She would also appreciate donations of gift cards for door prizes. The video of students is going to be filmed on March 29. The event agenda includes speeches by Marc and Tracy Stegall, Executive Director of Teaching & Learning, who will announce the T3 initiative made possible by the OtterCares grant we received. Lauren and Kim will work on a script for the rest of the event. The event is business casual. Board members should wear their TEF name tags.

Lauren spoke about equity next steps. Kim and Lauren have found that most other foundations have an equity statement rather than a full-on policy. It is felt that crafting

an equity statement that we can turn into a policy that aligns with TSD's policy would be a good first step. The board will do some deep work around this in April, May and June.

Kim placed the order for supplies needed for this year's Help Kids Succeed effort. The cost is about \$10,000 more for the same number of packs. This is partly due to the backpack mishap last year; we were given a really good deal but will need to pay full price this year. Middle school and high school students need padded backpacks and the better quality packs add about \$3,000; the additional \$7,000 increase is for everything else. Kim decided not to do the Scheer Fund mailer this month because we will be asking for donations from the same people in two months for Help Kids Succeed. A discussion was held around fundraising for this effort – Kim can put a blurb in the TSD newsletter that the Communication department puts out. Paul noted that his company does sourcing all the time; he will see if he can get a cost comparison on the backpacks we are ordering.

Kim visited with Top Golf representatives over spring break. According to Top Golf, they pull a lot of guests from Northern Colorado. Kim asked what the board thought about doing a second golf event this year. A discussion was held regarding other events board members have attended at Top Golf. It was agreed that with some forethought, this type of event could go well. It was noted that Top Golf is attractive to young golfers as well as to people who are not necessarily golfers. The hard cost would be \$5,800 for three hours for 100 people. The board felt it would be a good fundraiser for General Unrestricted funds. Kim will continue the conversation with Top Golf.

We currently have three board members who have volunteered to be on the scholarship selection committee. We need at least three more. Kim will send a follow-up e-mail tomorrow asking for additional volunteers.

We received eleven Great Idea Grant applications. Three were from Kansas, so we are down to eight. Kim reviewed the applications to make sure they fit the criteria and ran them through Risk Management. She will post the applications for the board to read so recipients can be chosen at the April board meeting.

Eric presented an idea he had around doing Parent of the Month awards. It's something he thought of while talking to an educator in the district. The idea is to have teachers nominate parents that are going above and beyond in the classroom; the parent would receive a gift card and we could do social media posts around the award. A discussion was held. Paul thought it was a great idea and feels that anything we can do as advocates for parents to keep them engaged is worthwhile. Lauren was concerned because not all parents can take time off work to volunteer. Eric noted that parents checking in with educators would also be worthy of the award. Sarah agreed with Lauren; we would have to be mindful of all parents. Danielle brought up that the district has a social media specialist that does shout outs on different staff members on Facebook; shout outs would work for community members as well. Kim likes the idea of recognizing the positive impact of community members but is concerned about the capacity of staff and teachers; participation could wane over time.

The board held a discussion regarding the Educator of the Year finalists. The 2022 recipients were selected for the following categories: TSD Staff Member of the Year, Principal of the Year, Elementary Teacher of the Year, Secondary Teacher of the Year and Thompson Education Foundation Educator of the Year.

Upon motion duly made, seconded and carried, the meeting was adjourned at 5:53 p.m.