

Minutes of FAME Board Meeting 2/11/2006, 428 Broadway Avenue.

Members Present: Jill Otis, Alisia Dupre, Carlos Zervigon, Pierre Lebovics, Teddi Locke, Jim Korndorffer

Members Absent: Ashton Ryan, Charly Borenstein-Regueira, Karl Connor

Meeting was called to order. Dupre moved to table adoption of the minutes of the Dec. 23, 2005 Meeting. Second by Otis. Passed unanimously.

Principals Report: By Janice Dupuy

314 students are enrolled.

164 met the criteria for free and reduced lunch therefore the school is Title 1 eligible. Eligible for up to \$125,000 but will receive \$85,000. Additional \$19,000 available via Title 2, 4, and 5. Described Title 4 will be used for safety evaluation, security for events, (not a crossing guard), storage.

IT for grades being considered, including Power School, Grade Quick

New Business

1. Adjustment in Charter Language on Teacher retirement

Zervigon stated the State is requiring teachers to remain in the Teacher Retirement System of Louisiana. Otis stated the original language was used to give the teachers an option. Zervigon motioned to change the charter in Section VIII, Attachment 47, under employee Benefits, teacher retirement p. 109 to read Teachers who were employed by the local public school system, and who are on a leave of absence, **shall** continue their participation in the Teacher Retirement System of Louisiana. This motion was seconded by Otis and passed unanimously.

2. Budget update

Presented by Dupre. Karen Marsal assisting pro bono. A \$35,000 loan was received from the PTO to meet payroll. \$16,000 direct gift from PTO was received. A line of credit will be available on Monday 2/13/2006. Federal Charter School grant will be awarded in late March. "Some" local MFP money expected. The 21st Century Community learning Center Grant is in effect for \$199,000. It pays for after school, after care, Arts Reach, but must include a summer program and community involvement. Full plan is due in 6 days.

3. Fundraising Update.

Presented by Korndorffer. Development and organization of the Fundraising Committee was presented. This includes the Fundraising Chair from the FAME board (currently Korndorffer), the Strategic Planning Partnership Development director, the

Alumni Affairs director, and other individuals willing to serve as committee members. All are volunteers. Other development staff may be added as funds allow. Current partnership opportunities being pursued include: Shell Oil, WDSU, Zephyrs Baseball, Tyco, Johnson and Johnson, Audubon Institute, etc. Community Coffee fundraising went well and participation allowed for a grant to be requested. Other grants applied for: Entergy, Frost, RGK, Keller, and Rosemary. David Wolf, an Audubon parent who runs a video business has offered to develop a fundraising video for Audubon. All costs except hard costs will be donated in kind. Therefore the \$9000 video will cost \$2000. An estimate was distributed to the board for consideration. Zervigon suggested obtaining the services of a part-time grant writer for 10,000 and have the PTO consider paying.

4. Admissions policy for the 06/07 year

Proposal for Kindergarten read by Zervigon. See attached. Korndorffer questioned if this is a charter change. Zervigon informed that this is a policy that complies with the charter and is not a charter change. Testing will occur according to the charter but will not be a criteria for admission if policy approved. Otis concerned there will be a lack of parent commitment if test not used. Dupre questioned if the school would be eligible for Title 1 funds if testing were to be used for admission. Zervigon also noted other grants may not allow testing and the Montessori Method was based on open enrollment. Public comment: French Director expressed via proxy: testing is needed. Other teachers: More education of the parents will be needed. If an open enrollment occurs, an exit policy needs to be firmly established. Plan: principal to set up orientation programs for parents to ensure true commitment to the program chosen and will develop an exit policy. Zervigon moved to accept the policy, second by Locke passed unanimously.

Proposal for Grades 1-8 read. See attached. Dupre objects to not placing all siblings in tier 1. Zervigon moved to accept the policy, second by Locke. Passed 5 – 1 with Dupre voting no.

5. French Grants: Presented by Lebovics. Visit by the Cultural Council Representative. Project additional funds for specified programs and objectives. 10,000 books/text to arrive in the US in April. Some to be distributed to Audubon.

Korndorffer Motion to adjourn. Second by Dupre. Motion passed unanimously.