Teacher Center Meeting – 12/6/17 at Clarence CSD

Present: Kelly Talbot, Paul Cary, Cheryl Keller, Jaime Garver, Nancy Lalley, Dana Besch, John Arcese, Elizabeth Dunne, Kristen Overholt, Colleen Schaefer, Susan Frey. Elizabeth Freas, Meri Tomasulo-Pellow

Absent: Leeann Haj, Greg Heer, Jen Cordon, Dave Hall, Nicole Roberson, Judi Roberson, Deb Cary

Paul Cary (Vice Chair) called the meeting to order at 12:30PM

* Motion to approve November meeting minutes made by Kelly Talbot and seconded by Nancy Lalley. Motion carried with the following two corrections.
* The correct spelling of Jaime Garver’s name
* The correct spelling of Eric Jensen’s name
* Budget Report
* Grant (826) Balance $40,603.75
* Balance (952) Balance $64,299.95
* Motion to approve –Elizabeth Dunne seconded by John Arcese motion carried
* Director’s Report
* Jon to attend Far West Meeting tomorrow – RFP Approval to be the main focus
* There have been requests from Social workers and counselors for courses/resources with content focused on their needs. A focus group was suggested but duplicating services from school support is a concern
* Melinda Gigantelli working with districts on updating website to make it more accessible – changes include a zoom screen and color scheme.
* Jon Erwin to meet with PDAC (Professional Development Advisory Council) in February
* Old Business
* Policy Board Membership – There is nothing in the by-laws on recruiting new members. One question was “Can members sit on more than one TC Board?” Jon Erwin to inquire about duel membership for the Teacher Center Policy Board at the Far West meeting tomorrow.
* Kristen Overholt to ask Kristen Capuana from Buffalo State if she or one of her colleagues would be interested in participating on the board as a higher education rep
* Elizabeth Dunne from Clarence works at the Apple Store advised the board that there is an “Open Invite” for teachers to go to the Apple store to take classes at no cost - Books, lesson plans and devices are all provided. Courses are 1 ½ hours long and run after school hours and weekends. Classes are small 5-12 (maximum). Field trips for teachers are also offered – email edunne@apple.com for more information
* New Chairperson – Lynn Fisher, a teacher at Lancaster and the Chairperson for the Teacher Center Board resigned her seat. Colleen Schaefer, also a teacher from Lancaster will replace Lynn. Nancy Lalley, a teacher at Erie 1 BOCES agreed to a term of one year as Chairperson for the board. Motion made by Paul Cary – seconded by Elizabeth Dunne – all in favor – motion carried. Nancy and Jon Erwin will work together on goals for the Teacher Center Policy Board. Paul Cary, a teacher at Clarence will continue as Vice Chair.
* Event Planning – The board decided on a large event with the best time frame to ensure good attendance being either the last week of school or the End of August with a “Welcome Back” theme possibly pairing the event with new teacher orientation “Great Beginnings”
* Event will be probably be at the BOCES/WNYRIC Education campus and open to about 80 participants with a “common room” for everyone to meet and separate rooms for breakout sessions. Technology, special instruction and learning strategies were all topics suggested for breakout sessions. Paul Cary made a motion seconded by Nancy Lalley to include a session on CTLE – All board members were in favor of this suggestion
* A keynote speaker (possibly someone from State Ed or a teacher, maybe Science, Physical Education or Robotics) raffles, gift cards and refreshments were all suggestions the group would like to see included in this event
* New Business
* Approval of Winter-Spring 2018 Courses
* Some courses were deemed by the board to be too long in content hours. A 10-hour maximum will be implemented
* Learning goals as well as complete course descriptions need to be listed in professional development course proposals
* More workshops and fewer online courses are needed. Jon Erwin to email teachers advising them of the changes
* A learning vehicle is needed for Non Erie 1-component district teachers. A no cost, one hour study group that serves all the districts was one suggestion. The goal is to build collaborative communities.
* Compare models in Schoology and Google

Motion to adjourn by Meri Tomasulo-Pellow seconded by Dana Besch. Meeting adjourned

The next Teacher Center Board meeting is March 14, 2018 at 8:30 AM. Location: Lancaster CSD, Central Avenue School, 149 Central Ave. Lancaster, NY