## Board of Directors Meeting March 4, 2025 6:00 p.m. at GCC conference room

Board members in attendance were: Mike Fawl (President), Berrigan Willmott (Vice-president), Marshall Madill (Treasurer), Kelli Forbes (Secretary), John Schierling, Cheryl Garrett, Brandi Wells and Dustin Elder. Board member unable to attend was Debbie Gloss. Also in attendance were Becky Florance, Brittany Lang and Danae Schoenberg.

**Opening prayer** was led by Mike Fawl.

**Approve agenda and minutes of 2/4/25 meeting:** There were several items added to the agenda including a report from the Executive Committee meeting, elections for new board people for July and an update from the Parents Group meeting.

*Motion:* I move we approve the agenda with the changes. By: John Schierling;

Second: Brandi Wells. Passed.

**Motion:** I move we approve of the 2/4/25 minutes as presented. By:

Berrigan Willmott; Second: Marshall Madill. Passed.

**Recognition of visitors:** Brittany Lang and Danae Schoenberg were welcomed.

**Financial report:** Marshall distributed and reviewed the financial report. He stated the Aplos subscription has been canceled. There are two new accounts open at the bank, the general scholarship account, and the designated scholarship account.

The website is clear on how to apply for scholarships, but we want to help families with this. Brittany suggested having a parent meeting to explain the costs and how to get scholarships. Discussion was had and it was agreed to have two meetings before Kindergarten Roundup. There will be two meeting options, a morning one and an afternoon one. Mike will lead one of the meetings and Marshall will lead the other. Becky stated she sent out an e-mail to parents about the ACE scholarships. Discussion was had about applying for ACE.

Brandi stated the bill passed to give \$4,000 for students going to a non-accredited school. Marshall stated that Caleb Current will be available to help families with financial planning and to get the state tax credit through the 529.

Marshall filed the 2024 IRS form 990 in mid-February.

Revenue from the Groundhog Supper fundraiser was close to \$14,000. There were donations from 71 individuals, families or businesses last year. Discussion was had.

**Principal's report:** Becky gave a copy of the February Principal's Report to board members and discussion was had. John stated the students who went to the Rescue Mission were good workers.

**Executive Committee report:** Brandi has redone the teacher evaluation form, but it hasn't been used yet. Each of the three Executive Committee members are doing teacher evaluations and then will collaborate and talk to the teachers. The new forms were distributed to board members and they agreed that they look good.

Brandi stated she met with the Parent Group and that according to the Bylaws, they are able to form a committee. They would like to have a separate account for fundraising and be able to do things separately from the board. A lengthy discussion was had about possible options and John suggested making it a line item, having a treasurer and Brandi being the board liason. Mike asked if Brandi and the Parent Group could come up with a proposal of how they want to do it and bring it to the next meeting.

**Upcoming events – Kindergarten Roundup:** The Kindergarten Roundup will be only in the morning of April 4<sup>th</sup>. There will be pizza for lunch that day and the families will be invited. Kindergarten and first grade will come that day and there will be volunteer coverage. There will also be a photo-op booth.

**Surveys:** Becky sent the surveys to 74 people and 14 were returned. Brandi read the results of the survey and discussion was had. Most of the surveys stated they are not in favor of school uniforms. Board members agreed that the surveys provided good feedback, and that they should be done twice a year, one mid-year and an exit survey at the end of the year.

Becky stated she e-mails the school board agenda to parents and the meetings are on the school calendar. Meeting minutes are on the school website.

(Brittany Lang absent from the conference room.)

**School pictures and photographer:** Marshall distributed forms from Kramer Photos, which is located in Melvern, and stated that he would like to work with a Christian school. School pictures could be done in late September or early October and families should have them in two to three weeks. Student IDs can also be done. Discussion was had.

*Motion:* I move we use Kramer Photos for school pictures next year. By: John Schierling; Second: Brandi Wells. Passed.

John stated he will call Jerry Kramer with Kramer Photos.

Becky spoke about Carl's updates. The website for computer use is done but he needs to check it for a mobile site. He is still willing to do facebook for the school unless someone else wants to. Becky suggested he create a calendar to post upcoming events like Kindergarten Roundup, the play and the National Day of Prayer flyer, and Brandi suggested adding the ACE deadline.

He will also be making a flyer for the open house and field day on the last day of school. Brandi stated the Parent Group is talking about doing the open house during the Overbrook fair. Mike suggested an ice cream contest and selling bowls of ice cream and Cheryl suggested ice cream floats. Discussion was had whether it should be over at the fairgrounds so people won't need to cross the highway. The Parent Group will look into this.

This year's yearbook will be ready at the Back to School Day in August. Last year's yearbook will be provided digitally to those who want it. Becky asked Carl to post the job opening on the website under employment. Brandi suggested posting it on Indeed also since we're advertising for '25-'26. She will send the job description to board members.

**Site Committee:** Becky stated there is no site committee yet, but it would be beneficial for the school and the five-year plan which has been discussed. A board member and someone from the GCC Cabinet would be on it as well as parents for a total of five to seven members. There will be an application for the committee and Becky will contact someone from the GCC Cabinet. Some of the structure things of the school such as windows in classrooms could be run through this committee instead of with the board. It will also fuel what we do for grants as we cannot move forward with grant writing until the needs are determined.

Discussion was had about the school's long-term goals of having a building and Marshall stated that GCC has expressed willingness to donate land for the school.

**Grant-writing Committee:** Becky has applied to a founders network called VELA and was accepted. They are looking for non-traditional schooling options and do quarterly grants. We have an open for being able to do a micro grant and the next one is due May 30<sup>th</sup>. Becky read the details about VELA and it seems to be wide open for what it can be used for. It was discussed that the Jones Foundation does grants for structures that improves the community, and the playground would also be on the Site Committee's agenda.

**Teacher applications:** Becky stated she will get the teacher position posted on Indeed and will start visiting churches. Brandi stated she has also sent it out.

**Board positions:** Interviews of candidates will be set up for June so they can start serving on the board in July. Brandi suggested the board positions be added to the website.

**Other business:** Brandi suggested we have a child volunteer form as she has been asked about young people in 4-H volunteering at the school. Board members agreed to this.

It was discussed and agreed that the Board would like to help the teacher's assistant by giving her a scholarship to further her education. She has been dedicated and is an asset to the school.

The teacher hiring process was discussed and it was agreed that Brandi will create a form for the interviewing process and the Executive Committee will do the interviews. It was agreed that the first priority in hiring a teacher in the future will be their faith in Christ. Becky stated she ordered a garage sale ad, as was approved last year, so the school will be in the flyer for the Overbrook garage sales.

A brief discussion was had about the playground, and Dustin will meet with Brittany to see if there are any problems with it.

Closing prayer was led by Marshall Madill. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:55 p.m. The next meeting will be on April 1, 2025 at 6:00 p.m. in the GCC conference room.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelli Forbes, Secretary