



The Edith Winthrop Teacher Center of Westchester

Tuesday, September 29, 2020

Policy Board Minutes

Present:

Sheila Ahern, Jessica Bauer, Jeannemarie Cregan, Michelle Kaczmarek, Maureen Lindner, Kristie Martinez, Christine Metrisko, Jean O'Brien, Linda Palumbo, Elizabeth Pineda, Carlos Ramirez, Randie Shaw, Jaclyn Warren, Shelley Wepner

Non Voting Members: Lori D'Andrea, Susan Farrell, Theresa Gallucci

Members Absent: Cora Carey, Cheryl Joseph, Megan Lasky, Bettina Spargo, Katherine Tovar

Meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm by Lori D'Andrea

Introductions:

Lori welcomed everyone back and thanked all for attending. She asked everyone to introduce themselves and to share how the beginning of the school year is going through these unprecedented times.

Lori then turned the budgetary part of the meeting over to Susan who reminded the members that the Teacher Center state grant is \$74,963 for the 2020-2021 fiscal year. However, these grant monies are subject to change if Governor Cuomo makes cuts to the budget after the November 3 presidential election. She went on to explain that all PD offered through the state grant must be made available to all consortium members. However, the monies received from the districts and unions can be used to design customized programs tailored to each district's specific need.

Open Meeting Law

Lori reviewed the salient points governing the Open Meeting Law and emphasized that NYS Teacher Centers must conform to the NY Open Meeting Law which gives the public the right to access our meetings, must be held in a public venue and further states that we must give public notice of the meeting dates. In accordance with the Law, our meeting dates, agendas and minutes are posted on our website and on the Greenburgh CSD (LEA) website. This allows the public to attend if they choose and to inspect and copy our meeting minutes.

By-Laws

Lori reviewed the roles and responsibilities for the 2020-2021 school year for the benefit of the new PB members. She explained the Grant application approval process including amendments to the budget. She asked the members to act as a liaison in communicating and disseminating information to members in their school district and requested that they meet with their building principal regularly and, if applicable, speak at faculty meetings to share Teacher Center information.

Professional Development

The Teacher Center offered 10 free inservice courses this summer with over 100 teachers participating. Many of these courses were offered by our Policy Board members, including the year long Mentoring program that began last month. These TC classes were open to all K-12 teachers in our consortium districts.

In addition, we have begun PD work with three of our consortium districts and Lori and Susan have Zoom meetings set up with several more administrators in the month of October.

- Elmsford - NYU Equity Training
- Greenburgh CSD - New Teacher Institute
- Tarrytown - Teachers College Reading Writing Project

Manhattanville - Changing Suburbs Institute (CSI)

Lori D'Andrea asked Shelley Wepner, Dean of Education at Manhattanville College, to share information on the virtual professional development workshops available at the college.

Westchester Teacher Center Institute

Fall and winter course offerings have been entered on My Learning Plan. We will continue to update as classes are submitted and vetted. Course information is available on our website www.ewteachercenter.com. She reminded our members that they can follow us on Twitter: EWTC @EWTeacherCenter, Lori D'Andrea @teacherwarrior and RTCI WTCI @RocklandTeacher. She asked them to share this information with their colleagues.

A motion to adjourn was made by Jean O'Brien and seconded by Shelley Wepner

The meeting was adjourned at 4:55pm
Our next meeting is Tuesday, December 1, 2020
Respectfully submitted by Theresa Gallucci

