

Steamboat Springs Education Fund Board  
April 13, 2022  
5:30PM  
Human Services Board Room

Education Fund Board Directors participating included Sam Jones, Cristina Magill, Mary Johnston, Amanda Koziar, Mandy Maass, Jim Beers, and Adam Alspach. Kipp Rillos joined the meeting in progress. Jon Wade, Lisa Ruff, and Kandise Gilbertson were absent. Also in attendance were Linda Thomas (SSEF accountant); Brad Meeks, Stephanie Juneau, Jay Hamric (SSSD); Jaime Passchier (NRCCS); Christy Sinner (HSD); Rim Watson (SR) and Emily Barnhart (SM). Sarah Katherman prepared the minutes.

- **Call to Order:**

Adam Alspach called the meeting of the Steamboat Springs Education Fund Board to order at 5:30 PM.

- **Public and Advisory Board Comment**

No comments.

- **Meeting Minutes – March 16, 2022:**

Jim said that he did not have the time to provide the content for press releases and other communications for SSEF.

### **MOTION**

*Jim moved to approve the EFB meeting minutes cited above, as amended. Mary seconded the motion. **The motion carried unanimously.***

- **Financial Report**

Linda reviewed the financial report, as included the meeting materials. She noted that the City had informed her of the April deposit amount, which had been included in the report. Overall for the year, revenues are up 29.41% over the prior year. Sam noted that because the April deposit amount is known, it could be added to the total available budget for granting. The budget approved in March was preliminary only. The new total amount would be \$7,672,942. Sam offered that the allocation model could be applied to the new total amount. Following discussion of how best to adjust the application process to accommodate the additional funds, it was decided that the applications already submitted would be reviewed and approved at this meeting, and that a new application form would be distributed to the districts with their supplemental funding amounts. These supplemental applications would be reviewed and approved in May, along with the final itemized budget.

- **School District Grant Application Review**

- **SSSD**

Stephanie reviewed the SSSD application. She said that with the additional funding SSSD would likely add a literary coach. In response to a question from Cristina, Jay clarified the nature of the summer cultural immersion program and explained the duties of the recovery coordinator, who in addition to handling the program that allows students to make up failed courses, also manages the online offerings

that allow students to take courses that cannot otherwise be accommodated in their schedules. Regarding the proposed soccer field, Jaime Passchier, the NRCCS Principal, explained that the field would be available for use by the NRCSS Soccer Club, other sports teams, and the community in addition to being used for school-based PE classes. She said that fundraising has been done to support the construction of field, and Stephanie added that bond funding would also be available. In response to a question from Sam, Stephanie clarified that all the numbers cited in the SSSD application include NRCCS and that the student-facing staff includes the paraprofessionals.

- **HSD**

Christy reviewed the application, which includes teaching staff, technology, and curriculum. She said that the HSD technology request supports a 1:1 device to student ratio, with Chromebooks for the older kids and iPads for the younger ones. There were no questions.

- **Soroco**

Rim reviewed the application, which includes requests for teaching staff and technology. He reviewed the positions to be funded and noted that SRSD has an MOU with SSSD to manage the technology for the district. There were no questions.

- **Montessori**

Emily stated that 100% of the SSEF grant would be used to support student-facing staff in order to maintain a low student to teacher ratio.

## **MOTION**

*Mandy moved to approve all four school district applications, as written. Jim seconded the motion. **The motion carried unanimously.***

- **Community Group Grants**

Mary stated that the Piknik Theatre application had been withdrawn, as the additional funding needed for the project to move forward could not be raised this year. It is likely that Piknik Theatre will reapply for funding next year. Mary said that without this request, the allocated amount would be sufficient to fully fund all community group grant requests. She offered that discussion was still merited.

Sam added that STARS had informed him that they will not be able to use the full amount of their current grant this year on school-based programming. The balance will be rescinded to the SSEF in the fall. Sam said that Susan Peterson had told him that the \$28,000 requested for next year would be used. Jay clarified that the STARS in-school programming had been reduced due to COVID, but that the STARS program for next year will be part of the school curriculum, not a private after-school program.

Consensus was reached to fund most of the grant requests fully. Mary noted that many reviewers had recommended little or no funding of the Steamboat Springs Youth Soccer request. Cristina offered that the request is not within the mission of the SSEF. She said that the SSHS PIC had provided some funding for the program. Sam offered that providing SSYC with funding would set an inappropriate precedent.

Mandy noted Jr. Achievement had stated that with additional funding, their program could be expanded. Cristina suggested that it would be unfair to provide additional funding to one group without offering it to all. There was discussion of adding a question in the future regarding the ability of groups to use more funding than requested, if it becomes available. It was agreed that community groups should be encouraged to apply for as much money as they can use in their school programming.

## **MOTION**

*Mandy moved to approve full funding for all community groups, with the exception of SSYC, which was awarded no funding, and Piknik Theatre, whose application was withdrawn. Mary seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

The total amount awarded to all community groups was \$233,440. The surplus over the allocation of \$50,375 will be added to the April deposit for the supplemental funding to be distributed to the school districts.

- **Supplemental School District Funding**

The total of the April deposits and the surplus funding from the unawarded community grant allocation was determined to be \$274,151. *(After the meeting, this amount was revised to \$248,207.)* Cristina added the supplemental funding to the Working Budget Spreadsheet. The EFB agreed to adjust the percentage allocations to apply to this funding as follows: SSSD – 83.55%; HSD – 6.15%; SRSD – 5.15%; SM – 5.15%. Cristina calculated the supplemental funding amounts.

## **MOTION**

*Mandy moved to approve a revised preliminary total budget of \$7,672,942. Amanda seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

- **Public Relations**

Sam noted that the *Steamboat Pilot & Today* has a new staff reporter interested in covering education. Amanda agreed to work with him and provide content to him for upcoming articles about this year's SSEF grant cycle once the final budget has been approved in May. The open positions on the SSEF Board should also be mentioned.

- **Other business**

Sam stated that the annual D & O insurance policy renewal information had arrived via snail mail at Paul Sacks' office. He and Sarah will work on getting this transferred to electronic notification, with the SSEF email as the address, but Kipp as the contact person.

- **Agenda for May meeting**

- Review school district supplemental grant applications
- Approve final budget
- Communications: PR piece on upcoming grants
- Set schedule/topics for summer sessions

**The EFB meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.**