

AGENDA AIPAC meeting 21 May 2020:

1. Administration updates-

New guidance for funds

Federal funds now have until 9/30/21 to spend but encourage spending sooner.

Balance to spend at this time is \$14,464.88 as we did not hire a mentor (no applicants). Must be used to provide supplementary services to Indian students. Could provide internet for families that don't have it, tutoring during school year (but recommend not requiring person to be American Indian, still could be the preference), items 5, 6 listed below, could apply some toward cultural liaison salary (tight budget in 2020-21)

State Funds now have \$2,685.35 to spend.

Will have additional funds for 2020-21 -- \$38,000+ state have used \$25,000 toward liaison cost this year and would like to continue that , around \$10,000 federal

2. Liaison updates-

[-Ideas for ways to use our funds-](#)

[Survey for PBIS](#)

[Book List to choose from for students, teachers, and classrooms.](#)

3. End of the year picnic with hand drum and activities (after June 1st)

Bonnie note: Would need to meet all CDC guidance which I currently understand to be no more than 10 in a group, masks required, any hands on activities problematic, 6 feet apart unless a family, could expand number who gather over the summer months, I'd be very cautious here

4. T-shirts for students (state funds only)

5. Materials for students that risk falling behind over the summer

6. Summer enrichment materials like a backpack with books and cultural activities

7. Open discussion

Attendance: Dawn Lyons, Bonnie Jorgenson, Christina Van DeWiele, Emily Smith, Emily Silverness

6:02 May 21, ,2020

Administrative updates- new guidance for funds. The federal folks have let us know we can have all of next year to spend this year's money because of the Covid 19 crisis. We can't provide anything for Indian students (words used by state), it has to be above and beyond what we are doing for everyone (example we provided chromebooks for everyone so we cannot do that). If it doesn't change and families that needed the internet then that would be an option. There would also be the possibility for tutoring. Materials and summer enrichment would be allowable federal funds. There is much uncertainty about the state budget with the deficit. The total school budget is a concern. If there is a willingness to put toward the salary of our cultural liaison that would be helpful to our school. We have \$14,464.88 this year left to spend. We do not have to spend it by the end of June. The state funds which we need to spend sooner have about \$2,600.

Survey sent to parents- they were excited about summer books and crafts. It is on Dawn's agenda to spend some money- craft supplies to send to each student- award feathers, dream catcher kids, quill wheel kit, goose feather hair clip, childrens pendant necklaces, small leather pouches, etc. from Knock Bay \$643.00 total

We bought leveled reading books for our reading interventionists- we want level G and level F books for them also, which is \$800. Books for art and cultural night have not yet come- Bonnie will check into it. Dawn would like to order a Thomas Peacock book for all of our students or spend the rest of the \$1000 on a variety of books for our students and drop them off. Thankful we don't have to spend the federal funds now and lose that money.

We have a survey from PBIS (both Dawn and Emily are on those teams at our schools- stands for Positive Behavior Intervention Systems)- it is a survey we want to send out to American Indian families to get their feedback on how they feel the schools are doing serving our American Indian students. There is a survey from MDE for parents and a survey for staff. Dawn debated sending it to staff because they are overwhelmed right now.

MDE and Dept of Indian Ed made a book list that goes with all the state standards (which kids are tested on at MCAs)- and they have books that coincide. Dawn would like to put it out to teachers (especially reading interventionists K-5) to possibly get new books for language arts and maybe use some federal funds for that. Yes we can use some federal funds on that, but state funds if we are wanting to spend the \$ on the way Dawn is suggestion. We need to put it to motion to our group. Christina makes a motion to approve the spending the way Dawn Lyons suggested, Emily Smith seconds the motion. All in favor.

Dawn will put orders in, depending on mail service, she will get to school and start making packets and figuring out how to deliver those to families. Emily Smith asked if packaging mail is part of that list- yes it is an allowable expense. Emily Smith asked if the mishomis book is part of that list? Dawn said yes she has many copies of the mishomis book.

We do not want to put our families in danger- want to hold off on having our annual picnic until at least the fall. We would like to put it on hold. Agreement.

T-shirts for students, we aren't sure if we will have \$ after we have purchased all the books.

Unanimous choice of books.

Purchasing language apps? Considering they have chromebooks at home. MDE put out a list of resources for language apps. Christina- all for it- Bois Forte has a free app. You can get it on multiple platforms (even phone)- there are pictures to go with the words- both English and Ojibway. We could get a hold of the app and start learning. Emily Smith- it's worth checking out. Dawn- will contact tech guys to see about getting the apps purchased for each of our 99 student's households (multiple students are in a household). Bonnie- You'll want to talk to Chris Modoc-Halvorson about the permissions on the chromebook- it is likely students cannot download what the school has not already put on them. Partly so kids have something to do,

families will keep the chromebooks over the summer. Emily suggested- can the school afford to purchase it as a whole? Then all the classrooms could use it- then we could give them the code and maybe all students could be learning.

Dawn has been attending Dreamcatcher every Wednesday. Other schools have been spending on MN Indian Education Conference as Dawn went to the National Conference. She is on the fence about going this year as it is repetitive. She finds it redundant that we are teaching each other about ourselves. Dawn is more for teaching others about ourselves. It is a good connection point about presenters and new lessons they have. Professional development- we could use some for that. Last year we had ordered 2 sets of LaCrosse sticks for North Star. Maybe in August before we start school maybe we could hire someone to come and teach our gym teachers how to play. Dawn would like to order one set for Raleigh also.

FonDuLac tribal and community college has a class that offers a deep dive into special education with a Native focus. We can use some of our funds to send parents of students with special needs so they can know their rights in relation to their student needs. Dawn has the flyer if we know people interested.

Culture trunks- backpack bundles- markers, pens, papers. Emily Smith asked- can we get the list and fill them up for families? Is our funding allowed for that? Bonnie- potentially we may be able to use federal funds as we do not give stuff to everyone. We also do have those school kits. Dawn- we have never done that before, but this is the first the liaisons have ever gotten a chance to talk about this kind of stuff. It has been helpful for Dawn to know what other districts are doing with their funding. Price pulled up on Amazon are \$155.99 are for 30 kits with backpacks on amazon- . Our school kits are \$40-45 but do not come with a backpack.

The Space- Bonnie-There is a long range 3-5 year plan the school is starting to develop. We do not use school money to pay for it, our building company pays for it. It's about Snowflake and our outdoor education. One of the pieces we are going to have by year four or five will be a cultural space. Dawn and Emily have been helping and talking to look through the concepts. It will be a cultural space to focus on Indian education. A revised one is taking into account their suggestions, and wants to honor the Ojibway and other traditions native to forest Snowflake is a part of. Emily Silverness- some things we liked were the round spaces with the directionals, some spaces for the gardening and natural things we wanted to get into the space, they had places to acknowledge the different tribes represented at the schools with the flags or a wood display that changes as the population of our school changes. There was also a space for a wigwam. It was fun for us to be a part of the conversation about the space before it started. Dawn- part of a professional growth plan is to have Indian Education for all. Putting an outline together for our lead teams. Bonnie- that is now part of our schools strategic plan. Good stuff is happening even in the bad times.

Christina- pleased with that plan. Like the idea of honoring the tribes. Lots of our kids are connected and they don't even know they are. That space will be more meaningful to staff and families- we don't utilize as much as we could. Emily- there is also a primary importance from

that group that there will be a play space. Bonnie- the first priority will be the fields- we needed more space even before social distancing but now we will really need it. 3-5 year project. \$600,000-\$800,000 which is why we have to roll it out slowly as our building company also does not have that kind of money yet.

Meeting adjourned after 30.11 minutes.