

BEAVER COUNTY EDUCATIONAL TRUST
Board of Trustees Meeting
Friday, August 18, 2023

President Michael Jones called the meeting to order at 11:56 am

Trustees Present: Michael Jones, Dennis Nichols, David Wytiaz, Lincoln Kretchmar, Yvonne Connor, Victor Raskovsky, Joe Guarino and Executive Director Jamie Connelly

Trustees Absent: Daniel Rossi-Keen, Joe Rubino, Dan Donnelly and Roger Davis

Guest Speakers: Speakers today were teachers that received grants from the Educational Trust grant program. Each reviewed their projects and how our grants contributed to the success of their events and projects.

Presenters were:

Isaac Dixon - Rochester School District, also our Teacher of the Year awardee. Isaac has received a grant for the last 3 years for the school's garden project which he started with the help of several other teachers. The project has grown and now includes an irrigation system and a hydronic indoor garden. Most of what they grow is used in the school's food service department.

Megan Leskanic – Western Beaver School District
Megan has received several grants from the Educational Trust. The grants help fund the Fairview Elementary School's Story Walk. The event has various activities for families, including snacks, physical activities, raffle baskets and crafts. Each child receives a book to take home.

Heather Bixler – Beaver Area School District.
Heather and several other teachers organized a Day of Giving that was held right before Thanksgiving. It was a half day event that students signed up for to give back to the community. Activities ranged from helping clean class rooms to making holiday decorations for shut ins. There were also several off-site opportunities for service that were part of the day.

Procedural Actions:

President, Michael Jones, presented the minutes of the June 9, 2023 Board Meeting for approval. Motion to approve was made by Dennis Nichols, Seconded by David Wytiaz. Motioned Carried.

Treasurer, Lincoln Kretchmar, present the Treasurer's Report for review and approval. Motion to accept and approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Lincoln Kretchmar, seconded by Victor Raskovsky. Motioned carried.

Directors Report/ New Business

Executive Director, Jamie Connelly, reported that she is serving on a Task Force for a new initiative, Flourish Beaver County. A kickoff event will be held at CCBC on August 30, 2023. An invitation will be sent to the Board by e-mail.

The EITC application has been approved.

The Sales Tax exemption has been renewed for another 5 years.

An Advisory Board meeting will be held on September 26, 2023. The goal is to have at least one representative from each school district.

Location: Wooden Angel

Time: 4:00

Donor Event will be on October, 24, 2023.

Location: Timberhouse

President, Michael Jones, asked the visitors if they had any suggestion that would improve our ability to communicate and inform others about the BCET. Several were made including more social media, Instagram developing a QR code that can be used for the GWB program.

Upcoming Meetings:

Executive Committee:

September 7, 2023, 10:00 AM

Zoom

Board of Trustees:

November 10, 2023, 11:45

Wooden Angel

Adjournment:

Motion to Adjourn the Business meeting at 1:18 pm was made by Lincoln Kretchmar, seconded by Dennis Nichols. Motion carried