

**Members of the Straight A Fund Governing Board**

Kristina Phillips-Schwartz

Rep. Gerald Stebelton

Alex Fischer

Supt. John Scheu

Rep. Andrew Brenner

**Ohio Department of Education Staff in Attendance**

Dr. Susan Zelman

Immy Singh

Donald Leming

Aaron Rausch

Peggy Sorensen

Rachel Landerman

Londa Schwierking

Katherine Harper

The seventh meeting of the Straight A Fund Governing Board was convened on May 12, 2014 at 03:00 pm by the Chairperson of the Governing Board, Alex Fischer.

Rep. Gerald Stebelton motioned to accept the minutes from the fifth meeting of the Straight A Fund Governing Board. Rep. Brenner seconded the motion. There was no debate and the minutes were accepted.

**Program Update**

Dr. Zelman outlined the items on the agenda. Peggy Sorensen updated the board on the RFP status for the FY14 external evaluation. Six bids have been received. Representatives from the Department of Education and the Department of Health will evaluate the proposals. Donald Leming updated the Board on the addition of Marysville and Pickerington to the FY14 Reynoldsburg grant. Rep. Andrew Brenner motioned approval and Supt. John Scheu seconded the motion.

## **Changes in House Bill 342 and MBR**

MBR update from Aaron Rausch. Proposed language for the Senate version would allow use of the funds for two years after the award.

## **Statistics on FY15 applications**

Peggy Sorensen updated the board on the statistics of the FY15 grant applications. Updates include the number of applications, amount, distribution of applications, goals applied in applications, typology and themes. Rep. Brenner questioned the low number of grant applicants in region 5. Alex Fischer questioned the lower number of grants and impact on the grant.

## **Sustainability**

Dr. Zelman discussed the effect of sustainability and its impact on the grant applicants. She discussed the challenges and solutions applied when helping applicants understanding sustainability. Londa Schwierking updated the board on changes to the budget grid, narrative, worksheet and FIT. Londa Schwierking also presented information on the new Supplemental Financial Reporting metrics and updates to question 15. Londa Schwierking also discussed calculating spending reductions and the scorer's method of calculating the expected cost savings of the grant.

## **Results of sustainability scoring**

Donald Leming discussed the process of determining sustainability in FY14. Donald Leming addressed the possibility of reviewing the Community Schools that scored a 0 or 1. Rep. Andrew Brenner questioned why community schools passed at

lower rate. Kristina Phillips-Schwartz questioned where the threshold of grants for sustainability would land. Donald Leming described the logic model and flagged areas of the 35 reads. Donald Leming also suggested that the 35 grants be reviewed.

### **Board Open Discussion**

Alex Fischer gave an example of FedEx and sustainability. He is looking to make sure innovation is not stifled. Supt. John Scheu questioned if other types of schools would feel the Community Schools would be given an advantage if they were looked at separately. The reason given to look at Community Schools is because the other categories had 75% advancement as opposed to Community schools at about 50% rate. Rep Brenner would like to have the Community schools reviewed for bias. John Sheu asked how sustainability is calculated. Londa Schwierking explained they have to use their five-year forecast. Community schools have all funds in their general fund while traditional and ESC's separate their other funds from the general fund. Alex Fischer agreed there was consensus on the review of community schools and the 35 other grants.

Kristina Phillips-Schwartz asked how the data will be presented to the Board. Donald Leming detailed the process from last round and gave suggestions on how the data could be displayed. Alex Fischer would like to see the 0's and 1's redacted to see the quality of the applications. He suggested giving each board member 10 redacted applications and scorers comments.

### **Timeline**

Katie Harper discussed the timeline.

### **Adjournment**

Alex Fischer asked for adjournment, Rep. Andrew Brenner motioned, Supt. John Scheu seconded.

### **Close of Meeting**

Alex Fischer closes meeting.