

HARTRIDGE ACADEMY

SEPTEMBER 20, 2023

Board Meeting

The following board members – Officer Lopez, Sherry Kelley, and Lisa Street - were in attendance as well as Principal Richards. The meeting was called to order and the minutes from the previous meeting read and accepted.

The Principal presented financial information, grant information, and a consent agenda. Sherry Kelley was called away for an emergency during the meeting. A majority of members remained present and able to continue with the meeting rather than postpone.

The Principal showed that Hartridge remained in a strong financial position despite the large increase in insurance costs and major capital expenses. The Principal confirmed that the roof was completed as well as the dumpster surround and handwashing sink in the lunchroom. However most of the extensive projects were still not complete due to contractor work load, materials, and working around the student's day especially a month of testing taking place. The Principal has worked many extra hours, summer and holiday breaks to assist with the projects and will continue to do so. Additional help had also been given through Kelly Services until a new staff member was recently hired to replace a support position opened by a previous sentinel's family leave request. By month end the Principal will be asking the district to come get items purchased with federal funds. If they decline, the items will be disposed of within guidelines to reduce storage costs off campus and storage room on campus.

A status update was also covered regarding the ESSR grant balances and past present uses. The ESSR grant covers the cost of our new certified teacher as well as the Afterschool Tutoring Program which has started already. There is more than enough left that expires September 2024 to pay staff for extra hours (reimbursed) to help our growing population of students with IEPs and new to English. Testing ends district wide September 29 but we are on pace to finish September 22. Some results are in and many returning students took the expected summer downward slide. Many new students had low or no score as they do not understand English yet and or did not attend a VPK program. One on one tutoring is needed for gains.

The principal also discussed the delay in getting information to the independent auditor timely and completely. Much extra documentation and backup is necessary for the increase in volume, extra time worked, multiple grant programs and the principal's availability with so much else needing attention immediately and simultaneously. The auditor has been patient but the volume and delay is expected to result in a higher cost this year, as has insurance, contracted labor and materials. The principal is working long hours with hopes of the auditor being able to complete on time despite the delays, interruptions, and volume.

The members asked the principal about getting AED's donated if possible and with training. If not, then Hartridge would purchase the devices and training. There was no one in the audience asking to speak.

The other items on the consent were discussed and no changes requested. Lisa Street made a motion that they vote to accept the agenda in its entirety and Mr Lopez seconded. The vote passed unanimously and the meeting was adjourned.