

FAMIS: Board of Directors

## **FAMIS Board Meeting (teleconference): Friday, March 20, 2008; 1 PM**

Marsha Cole and Brad Schuette, Co-Chaired

Meeting Called to Order: 1:02 PM

Board Members Present: Bruce Patrou, James Wendt, Doug Dillard, Marsha Cole, Brad Schuette, Jack Hartley, Bill Piotrowski, David Smith

Discussion:

Due to the budget crisis and significant cuts now facing school districts, and in recognizing that FAMIS has income booked from this conference (approximately \$22,000., with an additional \$14,000 pledged); and over \$52,000. Net proceeds from last year's conference and carry forward was \$57,000. – that consideration be given to measures to give some financial relief benefits for full conference attendance.

Brad/Marsha will forward to David Smith the vendor list for posting on the web site.

Brad will forward a letter to the Superintendent's (Bill Piotrowski will forward to State Superintendents' Association listsrv).

Marsha will forward a list of district contacts for Board members to make personal contacts.

Motions:

- a. Board Members – one night paid; no registration (moved, seconded; and passed unanimously)
- b. K-12 school districts, consortium, and private schools – refund or credit for one night per person, given full attendance (all three days of the conference), for up to two people (moved, seconded; and passed unanimously) for this conference.
- c. District, Consortium and Private School Presenters – no registration (passed unanimously)

Meeting Adjourned: 2:05 PM

Handouts/Materials:

**From:** Brad Schuette [mailto:bschuette@cityofnorthport.com]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 17, 2008 10:32 AM  
**To:** Piotrowski, Bill; Cole, Marsha L.; Opper, John; Bill Bush  
**Cc:** George Vensel  
**Subject:** RE: Sunday night Costs Proposal... FAEDS and FAMIS Board members

The income we already have would easily cover the second item. I guess I don't really see the benefit for the first since we have easily taken in enough money to cover all costs. What we as an organization might want to consider is if we can cover one of the three nights (Sun., Mon., Tues.) for district attendees. This would send an even more significant notice of our seriousness to the districts and the roughly \$10,000 (for 100 attendees) is already covered by income we have in hand or committed. If the conference costs us \$21,000 then we would in theory be able to cover an additional \$10,000 in expenses just off of sponsorship money.

If you are looking to send a message to the districts, then the fact that they can get the quality level of presentations we will have for less than \$300 out of pocket (\$50 registration, \$200 room if we help or \$300 as is, meals are provided) should be enough to get at least some one from most districts to attend. We need to play up the partnership angle and the fact that only through collaboration with fellow districts are most of us going to survive these trying times. The conference is one of the best values around without us subsidizing anything. Cutting back on the Board dinner while noble and probably the right thing to do does not make a visible indication of our commitment to helping the districts. Even if we put it out that due to tight times we are offering all who register by April 4<sup>th</sup> a \$50 break in room costs (subsidized by us) we would be sending a message everyone would hear.

Just my two cents! I agree this is worth discussion.

Brad

**From:** Piotrowski, Bill [mailto:piotrowskiw@leon.k12.fl.us]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 17, 2008 10:15 AM  
**To:** colem@dreamsbeginhere.org; Opper, John; Brad Schuette; Bill Bush

**Cc:** George Vensel

**Subject:** Sunday night Costs Proposal... FAEDS and FAMIS Board members

**Importance:** High

RE: FEADS and FAMIS – Board expense consideration, an opportunity even...

Hey Folks...

I am not sure, but I expect that most school districts are in pretty rough shape financially and that out-of-county travel and time-out of the office are at the highest premium it has been in at least three CIO/CTO generations...

Proposal: that instead of FAMIS or FAEDS paying for a dinner for Board members and associates/family that the a. **Board dinner expenses be covered only for Board members – and at a place reasonable enough to include other associates or spouses at a rate close to \$25. (not including drinks), AND b. that FAMIS and FAEDS provide the rooms for Board members at least for Sunday night. This second item being the more helpful.**

Comment: This would be a good time for the respective associations to “step-up” and is likely a necessary expense for those on the Board as well as the conference planners/site arrangement types hired for the conference and program production. This would help assure attendance, and be a win-win with regard to vendor fee impacts... More important, this will serve as significant notice to the respective Superintendents that this is a serious association commitment. This is – in my view – a reasonable and necessary association expense, this practice is commonplace for professional association and private Board members, and this incentive could be a significant consideration for current and future Board member participation.

(Note: I presume the included “donated” rooms could off-set some of the total Board member room costs, and that this item could be a future negotiated item)

Your thoughts...

Bill Piotrowski