



**Urban Academy Charter School
School Board Meeting
September 19, 2011
Urban Academy – St. Paul, MN
5:00 PM**

MINUTES

Board Members Attending:

Advisory Members:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ralph Elliott	<input type="checkbox"/> Mongsher Ly	<input type="checkbox"/> Luis Brown-Pena
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Melissa Hansen	<input type="checkbox"/> Mai Saevang	<input type="checkbox"/> Pamela Young
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art Allen		<input type="checkbox"/> Fong Lor
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tamara Mattison		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barbara Shin		
<input type="checkbox"/> Crystal Scott		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kristen Evans		
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Staff and Guests Attending:

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Meeting called to order by Chair –R. Elliott at 5:15 PM

Acceptance of Agenda

Board Motion: Approve the agenda as stated
 Board Member motioning to approving agenda: A. Allen
 Board Member seconding the motion: T. Mattison

Approval of August 22, 2011 Minutes – Unanimously approved.

Board Motion: Approve the Minutes.
 Board Member motioning to approve minutes: M. Hansen
 Board Member seconding the motion: A. Allen

Conflict of Interest

Nothing new to report

Reports

Nothing new to report

Board Chair Updates – R. Elliott

- Because of the new charter school law that does not allow non-teaching staff members to be a part of the board, Ralph has officially resigned his board position as a board member and board chair.
- Ralph has suggested to appoint Melissa Hansen as Board Chair

Board Motion: Approve to appoint M. Hansen as Board Chair.

Board Member motioning to approve: A. Allen

Board Member seconding the motion: T. Mattison

Unanimously Approved

- Ralph has suggested appointing Louis Brown-Pena to replace him on the board.

Board Motion: Approve to appoint Louis Brown-Pena to fill-out the term of R. Elliott.

Board Member motioning to approve: M. Hansen

Board Member seconding the motion: B. Shin

Unanimously Approved

Finance Chair Report – T. Mattison

- *Balance Sheets*
 - Summary report has not been sent to board members and T. Mattison had general questions but no concerns.
- *Check Register*

Nothing new or questions on the check register.
- *Journal Entry*

No questions regarding the Journal Entry.

Principal Report – M. Vang (R. Elliott – reported in absence of M. Vang)

MCA scores: 71.9% of students are at level D in math, which is below standards

61.3% of students are at level D, which is below standards

Questions for the principal from the board for next meeting:

1. Did she expect the scores to be this low?

2. How many of the students of the students who were tested last year have returned? Is there a baseline?
3. Is there a plan to improve these scores so the school can achieve a level of 100%?
4. Why are the results lower than expectations?
5. How is the new staff doing?

Executive Director Report – M. Ly (R. Elliott – reported in absence of M. Vang)

- Enrollment is at 317 as of 9/16
- Transportation for open enrollment students continues to be a challenge, but the school keeps trying
- Federal Executive Board of MN hosted a school supply drive, UA was chosen as one of three schools to receive school supplies
- A washer and a dryer will be installed at UA for a cost of \$2500, which includes plumbing and machines
- Annual report is almost complete, UA is waiting for complete MCA reports
- UA applied to MDE (MN Department of Education) to the federal government for a waiver regarding AYP (average yearly progress) status in MN. If granted all schools will be held in a holding pattern and given more time to close the achievement gap without penalty.
- Financial audit is wrapping up.
- All available funding applications have been processed and approved by MDE

Board Motion: Approve all reports.

Board Member motioning to approve: M. Hansen

Board Member seconding the motion: B. Shin

Unanimously Approved

Committee Reports/Comments

- Dr. Shin stated the most important report to the board is the academic achievement of the students. It was agreed upon by the board unanimously.
- Mr. Elliott reminded the board UA is starting preparations for the holiday meal, especially considering donations including toiletries, monetary donations, toys, clothing, and food.

Old Business

- Are there funds from the school to support UA teachers attending the 5th Givens Foundation Teacher Conference? Most important to attend on Saturday but Friday is important too. \$125 for Saturday or \$200 for whole weekend per teacher. B. Shin will send a request to the foundation for a group rate for 20 teachers.

New Business

- *Nothing new to report*

Open Public Comments (Limited to 2 minutes)

- *No comments requested*

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 PM

Next meeting will be held on October 17, 2011.