



**Urban Academy Charter School
School Board Meeting
February 27, 2012
Urban Academy – St. Paul, MN
5:30 PM**

MINUTES

Board Members Attending:

Advisory Members:

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

Staff and Guests Attending:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Roger Sykes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
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**Meeting called to order by Chair – M.Hansen at 5:45 PM
Board Minutes taken by K. Evans in the absence of M. Ly**

Acceptance of Agenda

Board Motion: Approve the agenda as is.
Board Member motioning to approving agenda: Mattison
Board Member seconding the motion: Shin
Unanimously approved.

Approval of January 23, 2012 Minutes

Board Motion: Approve the Minutes.

Discussion: M. Hansen: Slight change to minutes (the spelling of her name)
Board Member motioning to approve minutes with change: Shin
Board Member seconding the motion: Mattison
Unanimously approved.

Conflict of Interest

Nothing new to report

Reports/Announcements

- Nothing to report

Board Chair Updates – M. Hansen

- Nothing new to report

Finance Chair Report – T. Mattison

- *Balance Sheets*
Nothing new or questions on the balance sheets.
- *Check Register*
Nothing new or questions on the check register.
- *Journal Entry*
No questions regarding the Journal Entry.

Discussion: Mattison did not have a snap shot for the meeting. She will get the template.

Principal Report – M. Vang

No Child Left Behind waiver came through for Minnesota (handout)

Annual Yearly Progress (AYP) will be different-->calculating growth data

AYP targets: 6 years in all subgroups to close all achievement gaps

Is mobility related to the growth measure?

This has been asked to the Commissioner and has not been answered at this time.

The new growth measure will look at previous results and compare to current year
i.e. If exceed in standards last year and met or partially met this year, then this would result in negative growth for the student and the school

Partner schools together to help each other (schools that are doing well with schools that are not doing well)

What are the parameters of the partnering? (i.e. close in location, similar demographics, etc.)

What kind of support is the state offering besides partnering?

What are the resources for the inclusion plan?

Where is Urban Academy according to this new ranking?

before: bottom 5%
Will it change according to the growth model?
no current mandate on this
Urban Academy is applying for Q Comp
School responsibility: 1 year of growth
State is looking at 2 years of growth-->why just two?
Does it need to be more? 3-4?
MMR calculations will be in May

Executive Director Report – M. Ly

ADMINISTRATION DUTIES:

1. Deciding to stay with NEO – They have committed to a 3-5 year authorization contract. But pushing for a 4 - 5 year commitment. The NEO Board chose the 4 year term mainly for distributing the school evaluation cycle.
 - A contract will be given to UA for Board approval within 30 days, and once both signatures from UA and NEO are complete, it will be delivered to MDE.
(NOTE: NEO’s review committee of UA’s application and information was labeled the “BEST” application that they have seen. They will be using UA’s application information as a template to share with other charters.)
2. Q Comp application
 - 95% approved by the teachers of UA. The other 5% was only concerned about the “equality” of evaluations.
 - The application is in development with a team of educators and consultants
 - Filing due date is March 15, 2012. UA’s goal is to submit it to MDE before the 15th.
3. REMINDER TO ALL BOARD MEMBERS: UA Board retreat to do some strategic planning will be on August 18, 2012 from 9am – 3pm. If you have a place that would be able to host the retreat, please forward the information to me.

OPERATIONS:

1. **REMINDER:** 2 Board positions are up for election ~ officially 3 positions are open:
 - Art Allen (community member)
 - Crystal Scott (parent)

(Timeline for Board elections:)

- January – February (Board meeting) – NOMINATIONS. (Board Approval)

- February – March (Board meeting) – ELECTIONS (Board Approval)
- March – April (Board meeting) – WINNERS (Board Approval)
- June (Board meeting) – Winners will be seated as new Board members as of July 1, 2012. (Board Approval)

Candidates:

1. Michael Ahrant – Community Professional
2. Crystal Scott – UA Parent
3. Roger Sykes – UA Parent

Discussion: The Board would like to see the resumes of the candidates. What is the status with Art Allen, is he interested in another term?

Board Motion: Approve the candidates.

Board Member motioning to approve the candidates, with the exception of following up with Art Allen: Shin

Board Member seconding the motion: Mattison

Unanimously approved.

2. Student recruitment has begun applications have been coming in for the new school year.

BUDGET/FINANCE DISCUSSIONS:

1. Budget Review and Revision in March.
2. Title I funds have been approved.
4. UA qualifies for the MDE finance Award “again”. All materials and application has been submitted to MDE.
5. NCLB MN waiver has been approved by the Feds. What does this mean financially?
 - Supplemental Educational Services are no longer mandated, effective ASAP. So the funds can be distributed back to the regular Title I programs to help gen ed services, if SES programs have not started.
 - Fund 2 funds can be transferred back to Fund 1 at 100%, where before it was only at 50%. (Effective ASAP).

Board Motion: Approve all reports.

Board Member motioning: Evans

Board Member seconding the motion: Mattison

Unanimously Approved

Committee Reports/Comments

African American history month

facts are read daily in the morning announcements

Soul Food night took place recently

good turn out

had activities: face painting and story telling

Incident of bullying another student reported to the authorizer

Discussion: What are the trends with this school wide?

- PBIS System in place
- Policy and Procedure is in place
- Zero tolerance for bullying (classroom visits to discuss the severity of bullying have been made by Mr. Elliott and Ms. Hickman)
- System is in place to handle bullying, which involves administration, teacher, and parent.

Old Business

- Academic Data from Mai Vang will be reported quarterly

New Business

Urban Academy completed regional PBIS training today

SWIS data to be presented to the board (as needed)

The Total Special Education Systems manual needs to be adopted by the board

Will be posted to the school's website to be reviewed by board members before the next meeting.

Open Public Comments (Limited to 2 minutes)

- *No comments requested*

Meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM

Next meeting will be held on March 26, 2012.