

HAMMOND URBAN ACADEMY, INC.
School Board Meeting Minutes Noted

August 18, 2016

In Attendance:

Board Members:

Kris Sakelaris (Board President)
Sheldon Cutler (Board Member)
Howard Cohen (Board Member)
Mark McLaughlin (Board Member)
Janet Venecz (Board Member)
Gus Lopez (Board Member)
Lori Lambert (Board Member)
Owana Miller (Board Member)

School Representatives

Dr. Sean Egan (School Leader)
Mira Projovic (Staff Member)
Mahdee Iqbal (Business Manager)

Not in Attendance:

Dave Ryan (Board Member)
Anne Herbert (Board Member)
Heather Garay (Board Member)
Kevin Smith (Attorney)
Ross Smith (IT Director)

Board meeting was called to order at 4:08 p.m by Board President Kris Sakelaris.

Motions Approved by School Board

- *Motion to approve June 2016 meeting minutes-* Howard Cohen motioned; seconded by Sheldon Cutler. All in favor motion approved 8-0.
- *Motion to approve June Finance Reports-* Owana Miller motioned; seconded by Gus Lopez. All in favor motion approved 8-0.
- *Motion to approve contract for Donald Hiemstra to teach 9th grade math-* Howard Cohen motioned; seconded by Janet Venecz. All in favor motion approved 8-0.
- *Motion to adjourn-* Sheldon Cutler motioned; seconded by Howard Cohen. All in favor approved 8-0.

New Correspondence

- None

School Leader Report

Committee Reports

- **Finance Committee-** Has met twice to interview candidates for the HAST business manager vacancy created by the departure of Mahdee Iqbal. They have interviewed 2 candidates & have made their recommendation to Dr. Egan.
- **Fundraising Committee-** Did not report.

HAMMOND URBAN ACADEMY, INC.
School Board Meeting Minutes Noted

- **Personnel Committee-** Did not report.

Discussion Notes

- A revision of the current board by-laws was submitted to the board members by Kris Sakelaris. At the next meeting, there will be 3 votes, one for each of the following sections: D, E & F. (Revision attached).
- Also submitted to members was a copy of the Conflict of Interest Policy for Board Members of HAST. Members are instructed to go over both documents so all can be voted on at the next board meeting.
- Respite Care, who has been renting space at HAST for the past several months, have asked to continue their contract. Kris Sakelaris is referring their request to Kevin Smith to preview.

Board Financial Inquiries

- Sheldon Cutler inquired of outstanding balances. Mahdee Iqbal reported that \$151,777.27 was collected in outstanding fees for the 2015-16 school year. The total amount outstanding is \$155,000.00. Dr. Egan reported that this is the most successful collection of fees to date.
- \$724.23 to Gopher Sport was for 6th grade teacher Mrs. Fenno to purchase cushions for student chairs. This amount was covered from a grant from the city of Hammond.
- In response to the audit, Mahdee submitted a formal response to the board which he would like members to look over before he sends it over to the auditing firm. Members discussed each paragraph & made changes accordingly.

New Business

Public Comment

- Dr. Sam Francis spoke on behalf of her Philanthropy Club. The club was established last year & will continue this year. Through fundraising efforts, they were able to purchase 3 benches for the high school. They had their first call out meeting yesterday & over 30 students attended. They would like HAST to participate in the annual Hammond Holiday parade & will be constructing a float. Dr. Francis is looking for possible spaces to house the float.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:35 p.m.