

**HAMMOND URBAN ACADEMY, INC.**  
**School Board Meeting Minutes Noted**

**September 15, 2016**

**In Attendance:**

***Board Members:***

Kris Sakelaris (Board President)  
Dave Ryan (Board Member)  
Sheldon Cutler (Board Member)  
Howard Cohen (Board Member)  
Mark McLaughlin (Board Member)  
Janet Venecz (Board Member)  
Owana Miller (Board Member)  
Anne Herbert (Board Member)  
Heather Garay (Board Member)  
Lori Lambert (Board Member)  
Kevin Smith (Attorney)

***School Representatives***

Dr. Sean Egan (School Leader)  
Mira Projovic (Staff Member)  
Dennis Small (Business Manager)  
Arthur Young (Dean of Students)

**Not in Attendance:**

Gus Lopez (Board Member)  
Ross Smith (IT Director)

**Board meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m by Board President Kris Sakelaris.**

**Motions Approved by School Board**

- *Motion to approve Aug. 2016 meeting minutes-* Dave Ryan motioned; seconded by Owana Miller. All in favor motion approved 11-0.
- *Motion to approve change in bylaws: creation of Teacher Representative Board Member—* Dave Ryan motioned; seconded by Sheldon Cutler. All in favor motion approved 11-0.
- *Motion to amend change in bylaws: creation of Student Representative Board Member, including specific attendance policy—* Howard Cohen motioned; seconded by Anne Herbert. All in favor motion approved 11-0.
- *Motion to approve change in bylaws: creation of Student Representative Board Member—* Anne Herbert motioned; seconded by Owana Miller. Motion approved 10-1, Sheldon Cutler voted against.
- *Motion to approve change in bylaws: creation of Conflict of Interest Policy—* Sheldon Cutler motioned; seconded by Anne Herbert. All in favor motion approved 11-0.
- *Motion to approve Conflict of Interest Policy—* Sheldon Cutler motioned; seconded by Dave Ryan. All in favor motion approved 11-0.
- *Motion to approve Aug. Finance Reports-* Dave Ryan motioned; seconded by Sheldon Cutler. All in favor motion approved 11-0.
- *Motion to approve contract for Dennis Small as HAST Business Manager-* Dave Ryan motioned; seconded by Janet Venecz. All in favor motion approved 11-0.
- *Motion to approve changes to HAST handbook-* Owana Miller motioned; seconded by Anne Herbert. All in favor motion approved 11-0.

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- *Motion to adjourn-* Sheldon Cutler motioned; seconded by Janet Venecz. All in favor approved 11-0.

**New Correspondence**

- Dave Ryan sent a Conflict of Interest letter. Sakelaris forwarded the letter to all board members to review for the next meeting.

**School Leader Report**

**Committee Reports**

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

**Discussion Notes**

- During the discussion of the Student Representative Board Member motion, Howard Cohen asked that a specific attendance requirement be created & stated in the bylaws. The Board agreed to include a 90% cumulative attendance rate for eligible student candidates.
- Kris Sakelaris asked the Board for their preference on when the 2 new board member positions should be filled. Dave Ryan & Howard Cohen said they would like to see the process beginning as soon as possible. Dr. Egan is asking for 2 weeks to find eligible candidates to present to the personnel committee. Personnel committee is comprised of Mark McLaughlin, Owana Miller, Anne Herbert, Sheldon Cutler & Janet Venecz.
- In lieu of members sometimes receiving financial information close to the meeting date & not having enough time to review, Kris Sakelaris would like to recommend members having the option of asking financial questions at the next meeting.
- Arthur Young introduced several changes he would like to see made to the HAST handbook. (Changes included in minutes).
- Gus Lopez asked what the dress code policy was for teachers & staff. He believes teachers should follow most of the rules HAST students follow.

**Board Financial Inquiries**

- \$947.05 to Mike's Sporting Goods for uniforms. Sheldon Cutler inquired why HAST was buying uniforms when families were supplied with a website link where they can buy uniforms directly. Dr. Egan explained the school purchased a bulk of shirts & sweatshirts before this link was made available. These items will be held at the school & sold as needed.
- \$25.00 to Treasure Lake County. Dr. Egan explained we don't pay any property taxes but we are still required to file a form. This fee was paid because the form was filed late.

**New Business**

**Public Comment**

- Dr. Sam Francis spoke in response to Gus Lopez's comments concerning teacher dress code policy.

**Meeting Adjourned at 4:22 p.m.**