

HAMMOND URBAN ACADEMY, INC.
School Board Meeting Minutes Noted

October 17, 2013

In attendance:

Board Members:

Kris Sakelaris (Board President)
Mark McLaughlin (Board Member)
Jerry Gomez (Board Member)
Heather Cook (Board Member)
Rick Calinski (Board Member)
Janet Venecz (Board Member)
Kris Kantar (Board Member)

School Representatives

Dr. Sean Egan (School Leader)
Mahdee Iqbal (Business Manager)
LaTysha Sanders (Vice Business Manager)
Kevin Smith (Attorney)
Mira Projovic (Staff Member)
Bill Hutton

Not in attendance:

Howard Cohen (Board Member)
Tom Dabertin (Board Member)
Dave Ryan (Board Member)
Sheldon Cutler (Board Member)
Owana Miller (Board Member)

Board meeting was called to order at 4:07p.m by Board president Kris Sakelaris.

Motions Approved by School Board

Not enough board members present to have a quorum so no motions were approved.

No new correspondence

Discussion Notes

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Board Financial Inquires

- We are absolved of our common school loan. It was a loan set up for charter schools and new schools. It was nearly a million dollars, nearly \$215,000 yearly.
- The audit report contains several errors. Another draft will be requested from McMahon & Assoc.

New Business

- Policy Discussion: student tardies due to trains. Mr. Gomez is asking if we can create a system of waiving a tardy for students when a train is known to be stopped in the area. Mrs. Cook did some research and found that Hammond Schools typically do this. Local schools claim that 1-2 students are tardy to school because of trains daily. Mrs. Sakaleris inquiring if HAST has policy of excused or unexcused tardies. Dr. Egan replied that the school currently does not.
- Mr. Gomez inquired about a promise that was made to students in the first year about them keeping their laptops upon graduation. Mrs. Sakaleris referred this matter to the finance committee.

Public Comment

- Mrs. Rita Vega, mother of Gabi and Diana who have attended HAST from the beginning. She is a professor at PUC and says HAST is never going to get the respect for its curriculum as long as kids aren't passing the state exams. She has some ideas for implementing a program where parents get more involved. Left copies of her ideas with board members.
- Brandon Swart, senior at HAST representing the senior committee, asked Mrs. Sakaleris to be the master of ceremonies at graduation. She accepted.
- Mr. Hutton asked if the board had made a decision about the gym floor. Mrs. Sakaleris tabled the comment.

Meeting Adjourned 5:02 p.m.