

HAMMOND URBAN ACADEMY, INC.
School Board Meeting Minutes Noted
February 21, 2013

In attendance were:

Board Members:

Kris Sakelaris (Board President)
Mark McLaughlin (Board Member)
Dave Ryan (Board Member)
Sheldon Cutler (Board Member)
Kim Poland (Board Member)
Owana Miller (Board Secretary)
Dana McCue (Board Member)
Jerry Gomez (Board member)
Rick Calinski (Board Member)
Janet Venecz (Board Member)

School Representatives

Dr. Sean Egan (School Leader)
Matt Tomczak (Business Manger)
Kevin Smith (Attorney)
Debbie Snedden (Curriculum Director)
James Borom (Assistant to the principal)
Brent Fox (IT Specialist)
Mark Sienicki (IT Director)
Bill Hutton (Architect)
Leslie Otero (Executive Assistant)

Absent: Tom Dabertin and Owana Miller

Board meeting was called to order at 4:07 p.m. by Board President

Motions Approved:

1. *Approval of January 17, 2013 meeting minutes* – Sheldon Cutler motioned; seconded by Jerry Gomez all in favor motion approved 8-0
2. *Approval of Dr. Egan's 1 year contract* – Sheldon Cutler motioned; seconded by Dave Ryan all in favor motion approved 8-0
3. *Approval of payments* – Sheldon Cutler motioned; seconded by Kim Poland all in favor motion approved 8-0

No new correspondence

Discussion Notes:

- Dr. Egan's school monthly progress report (Please see attachment)
 - i. Human Capital Management
 - ii. Instructional Leadership
 - iii. Personal Behavior
 - iv. Building Relationships
 - v. Culture of Achievement
 - vi. Organizational, Operational and Resource Management
 - vii. Counselor update
 - viii. Discipline update
 - ix. Enrollment
- Currently 15 teacher observations have been completed in the past 2 days. Dr. Egan is satisfied with overall results. At this point staff has not given any reason for concern regarding contract renewal.
- DOE has agreed to review appeal regarding overall grade and will respond at a later time.
- DOE staff person was scheduled to visit in January regarding improvement plan, however that was not feasible. DOE will be visiting in spring to observe implementation of improvement plan.
- Students in grades 6, 7, and 8 have daily scheduled enrichment or remediation in Math (2 days/wk) and ELA (2 days/week). Students are grouped by ability for these daily sessions so that grade level teachers can best meet their academic needs.
- Mr. Haiwei Wuan is employed with SIL as the exchange program coordinator. Mr. Wuan is city liaison for Sister City project between Hammond and Shahe City. He also visits on a daily basis to educate our students on how to obtain/improve math test scores.
- Student exchange documentation has been submitted to the Chinese consulate. After approval by the Chinese government 10-15 HAST students will have the opportunity to experience enhance cultural, economic and educational exchanges. Mr. Wuan hopes to assist students with financial support from Chinese executives.
- Dr. Egan is working collectively with PUC Special Ed staff to plan a summer literacy program for middle grade students.
- PLTW advisory committee will be moving forward to discuss partnership with CIVS center at PUC. Seniors will have internship opportunities using industrial applications of 3D modeling.
- Assistant to the principal Mr. Borom presented to the board what state reporting entails. That included scheduling, month-to-month submission, individual staff input and the process of report completion in order to submit to DOE.

New Business

14 Science Olympiad students presented the 4 events chosen for regional

1. Experimental design
2. Keep the heat
3. Boomer Lever
4. Helicopter

Brief history

1st year participants didn't make it to state, but qualified for wild card.

2nd year participants secured 1st place at the Hammond Invite we went to regional and placed 4th

3rd year students proceeded to Hammond Invite and qualified for 1st place

Public comment

Ms. Kitten Gray stated her concerns regarding the following:

- For extra credit a student chose watermelon to represent soul food
- Movie choice for Black History Month
- Black History month is not acknowledged or depicted adequately by HAST
- During Black History Month students should be obligated and not given the option on who assignments will be about

Mrs. Kelli Lucito stated:

- In defense of her colleagues Black History month was honored and recognized
- Students at HAST are encouraged and supported
- Staff members enjoy working at HAST

Ms. Heather Cook stated:

- Ms. Cook commends HAST for incorporating history with math and science

Motion to Adjourn 5:06 p.m.

Rick Calinski motioned; seconded by Dana McCue all in favor motion carried 8-0