

HAMMOND URBAN ACADEMY, INC.
School Board Meeting Minutes Noted

May 20, 2021

In Attendance:

Board Members:

Kris Sakelaris (Board President)
Marty Weilgos
Dave Ryan
Jackie Perez (Parent Board Member)
Julia Morales (Student Board Member)
Steve Grimm (Teacher Board Member)
Lori Lambert (Parent Board Member)
Janet Venecz
Africa Tarver
Owana Miller
Monica Rubio

School Representatives

Dr. Sean Egan (School Leader)
Dennis Small (Business Manager)
Johnathon Lozano (HR)
Karen Quintana (PNW Intern)
Mira Projovic (Minutes Secretary)

In Attendance Virtually (Zoom):

Board Members:

Heather Garay
Kevin Smith (Attorney)

Not in Attendance:

Anne Herbert

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

Motions Approved by School Board

- *Motion to approve April 2021 meeting minutes* — Dave Ryan motioned; seconded by Janet Venecz. All in favor motion approved 12-0.
- *Motion to approve April 2021 Financial Reports* — Marty Weilgos motioned; seconded by Monica Rubio. All in favor motion approved 12-0.
- *Motion to approve 2021-22 School Budget*— Heath Garay motioned; seconded by Owana Miller. All in favor motion approved 12-0.
- *Motion to approve new teacher contracts for Yolanda Claybrooks- 6th grade ELA, Colin Brandon- 10th grade global studies, Iris Gibsons- 9th grade science & Ashley Lund- Guidance/Social work* — Lori Lambert motioned; seconded by Africa Tarver. All in favor motion approved 12-0.
- *Motion to adjourn* — Janet Venecz motioned; seconded by Owana Miller. All in favor approved 12-0.

HAMMOND URBAN ACADEMY, INC.
School Board Meeting Minutes Noted

New Correspondence

- No correspondence

School Leader Report

Committee Reports

- **Finance Committee-** From Heather Garay:
 - FC met for several hours last week to discuss a number of topics, including HAST leave policies, teacher & staff salaries & the 2021-22 Budget.
 - Members of the Compensation Committee joined us to discuss their leave policy proposal. We had a productive conversation about the goals & concerns of the leave policy & the FC will meet again to draft a revised policy to share with CC.
 - FC will set f/u meetings to discuss the leave policy, PTO policies, administrative staff salaries & the stipend proposal.
 - FC will recommend approval of the 2021-22 Budget.
- **Personnel Committee-** The committee met with 2 potential student candidates & 1 potential parent candidate for the upcoming vacancies. They will meet with a 2nd parent next week & will be announcing the new student & parent board members at the next board meeting.
 - The committee also met with Dr. Egan for his annual review. Janet Venecz said overall it was an excellent evaluation after a particularly challenging year.
- **Fundraising-** Committee on hold until further notice.

Discussion Notes

- Dr. Egan shared the monthly athletic update he receives from Athletic Director Lisa Sarwacinski. He said she has done an amazing job organizing & growing the program throughout the pandemic. She was hired on a part-time basis & he is recommending she be made a full-time employee next year.

Board Financial Inquiries

- The executive committee approved increasing this year's teacher raise from the annual 3% to 6%, making the minimum teacher salary \$40,000/year. They also raised all hourly employees to a \$15/hour minimum.
- Dr. Egan is skeptical about the current auditing company & their increasing demands. He would like to see the Board price out other firms in the future. Heather Garay pointed out this is typical for school-centered accounting firms, especially this year with the sizable increase of federal money flowing to schools.

New Business

- Dr. Egan would like to purchase a storage container to be set up near the school to accommodate extra storage from room rearrangements in the building. The container could double as an outdoor art installation for the school & community.
- Several graduating seniors have asked if the school could increase the number of guest tickets to this year's graduation ceremony. The event will be held at the Hammond Civic Center & currently 2 guest tickets are allowed per student. Dr. Egan & Kris Sakelaris said the venue could easily allow graduates to bring in more guests. Lori Lambert & Monica Rubio recommended capping the number of guest tickets to 5 per graduate to allow better viewing for all guests. Dr. Egan will meet with the senior sponsors & work out a new plan.

HAMMOND URBAN ACADEMY, INC.
School Board Meeting Minutes Noted

- The administration team will have a summer retreat on June 22nd at PNW (exact location TBD). Kris Sakelaris would like all Board Members to meet with them for lunch that day to show their support.
- The final board meeting for the 2020-21 school year will be June 17th.

Public Comment

.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:50 p.m.