

HAMMOND URBAN ACADEMY, INC.
School Board Meeting Minutes Noted

September 23, 2021

In Attendance:

Board Members:

Kris Sakelaris (Board President)
Marty Weilgos
Janet Venecz
Steve Grimm (Teacher Board Member)
Jackie Perez (Parent Board Member)
Jessica Moreno (Student Board Member)
Africa Tarver
Kevin Smith (Attorney)

School Representatives

Dr. Sean Egan (School Leader)
Dennis Small (Business Manager)
Mira Projovic (Minutes Secretary)

In Attendance Virtually (Zoom):

Anne Herbert

Not in Attendance:

Monica Rubio
Dave Ryan
Owana Miller
Heather Garay
Nicole Bazan (Parent Board Member)

Board meeting was called to order at 4:06 p.m by Board President Kris Sakelaris.

- The President reported that the Board met in Executive Session immediately preceding this meeting pursuant to IC 5-14-1.5-6.1 to discuss the strategy with respect to the purchase of real estate. Also discussed was a personnel matter. She further certified that these were the only subjects discussed.

Motions Approved by School Board

- *Motion to approve August 2021 meeting minutes* — Janet Venecz motioned; seconded by Marty Weilgos. All in favor motion approved 8-0.
- *Motion to approve August 2021 Financial Reports* — Marty Weilgos motioned; seconded by Jackie Perez. All in favor motion approved 8-0.
- *Motion to approve raising the substitute teacher daily pay* — Marty Weilgos motioned; seconded by Africa Tarver. All in favor motion approved 8-0.
- *Motion to approve an employee contract for Joseph Guardiola (Human Resources)* — Africa Tarver motioned; seconded by Marty Weilgos. All in favor motion approved 8-0.
- *Motion to adjourn* — Marty Weilgos motioned; seconded by Janet Venecz. All in favor approved 8-0.

HAMMOND URBAN ACADEMY, INC.
School Board Meeting Minutes Noted

New Correspondence

- No correspondence

School Leader Report

Committee Reports

- **Finance Committee-** Met on August 12th, notes from Heather Garay:
 - Committee discussed the new policy regarding payout for unused PTO time for employees with 3+ years of employment who are either retiring or leaving HAST.
 - Also discussed was the formalization of our FMLA policy for teachers. They are working to schedule a meeting with the Compensation Committee to review both policies before presenting proposals for the board's consideration at the September meeting.
- **Personnel Committee-** Committee did not meet.
- **Fundraising Committee-** Committee on hold until further notice.
- **COVID Task Force Committee-** Committee & Dr. Egan shared the following:
 - HAST will continue enforcing masks in the building for all staff & students
 - Wednesday e-learning will also continue so the building can get a thorough cleaning
 - No decision has been made concerning possibly switching to full e-learning for the time between Thanksgiving & Christmas holiday.
 - Current vaccination rate: 95% for staff & 52-53% for students.

Discussion Notes

- Pat Function, HAST Building Maintenance Engineer, presented to the board. He gave a brief description of all that he does in a day. He especially loves working on special projects. Kris Sakelaris asked him how the building is holding up after 10 years of wear & tears. He said he is proactive on all maintenance & said the building is in excellent shape.
- Kris Sakelaris asked Dr. Egan if HAST is experiencing a shortage in substitute teachers & what can be done to help. Marty Weilgos suggested becoming more competitive with other schools & increasing our pay to match. Dr. Egan says there is a limited amount allotted for substitutes from the yearly budget. Many of our part time subs have become full time subs at Hammond School City since they are having a much bigger need. Marty made a motion to match the tier pay from Hammond School City, a daily rate of \$100 for non-bachelor's & \$125 w/ a bachelor's degree.
- Dr. Egan suggested HAST holding a zoom presentation from a medical professional to discuss COVID & vaccinations to anyone in the HAST community who is interested. He also suggested holding a vaccination clinic in the gym. Both Jessica Morena & Steve Grimm supported the idea & think there would high interest from parents & students.

Board Financial Inquiries

New Business

Public Comment

- None

HAMMOND URBAN ACADEMY, INC.
School Board Meeting Minutes Noted

Meeting Adjourned at 4:49 p.m.