



**Highline Academy
Board Minutes
Board of Directors' Meeting
Highline Academy
2170 S. Dahlia St.
Denver, Colorado 80222
Monday, January 9, 2012
6:15 p.m.**

PRESENT

Tom Bulger
Jon Lowry
Tina Valtierra
David Larm
Rachel Hutson
Edith Zemanick
Ruth Kedzior
Jennifer Holladay
Francis Scheve

STAFF

Gregg Gonzales

NONSTAFF

ADVISORY BOARD

ABSENT

Papa Dia
Derrick Hudson

PUBLIC

CALL TO ORDER

President called the meeting to order at 6:20 p.m.

ESTABLISH QUORUM

A quorum was established.

CONFIRM AGENDA

President confirmed agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT. None.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Motion: To approve the minutes of 12.12.11 with corrections.

Jennifer moves the motion, Rachel 2nd.

MPU

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATE

Gregg reported on Replication. This was a joint report-out with Growth Committee. Gregg has had many meetings with different charter schools regarding replication. BOD had decided

previously to put off replication application until April, 2013. If accepted, the new campus will open in 2014. The next logical step is to hire a principal-in-residence, the next Highline leader. This would be for a two-year residency. There are two cycles to funding the new campus. Funds will be available in \$20,000 - \$30,000 increments for planning. When the application is approved, we will get more. Structure was discussed. Initially the two principals will report to the BOD, but eventually there may be a Chief Executive Officer. Timeline would be to hire the principal-in-residence in March of this year. This is the best plan for long-term success and sustainability because it gives the person time to buy in and learn the culture, in addition to all the planning that goes on before the start of a school year. This person would first work on the replication application, then on implementation. This timeline fits in with what Nora recommended. Tom made the point that we are planning for another round of PPR cuts in next year's budget so next year is looking bad. Gregg recommends looking at internal candidates first. An ad hoc hiring committee will be formed to search for and recommend candidates which the BOD will have to approve. Tom will be organizing, but will not be a committee member.

Motion: BOD authorizes the Growth Committee other than the chair and administration to proceed with an internal post through the end of January, 2012 for the position of principal-in-residence for Highline Academy.

Tom moves the motion, Jennifer 2nd.

MPU

Motion: BOD authorizes the Growth Committee other than the chair and administration to promptly constitute an ad hoc hiring committee consisting of two parent/guardians,, two faculty members in addition to the school administration to search for the principal-in-residence.

Tom moves the motion, Jennifer 2nd.

MPU

BUSINESS MATTERS

Reports

SAC (Accountability) Committee.

Tina and Gregg reported on progress towards Personal and Civic Excellence. Past and present efforts were discussed. There are many efforts to address these goals, advisories, community time, FAAT class, classes taught by Miss Cross, etc. The process to determine who receives awards has been standardized. Teachers also participate by giving each other Reach cards. Civic Excellence is addressed through project for Colorado Homeless Coalition, Jump Rope for Heart activity, etc.

Development Committee.

- Edith reported that the Playground Committee has not met since the last BOD meeting, but will meet this Thursday. Research has been going on and student and family feedback will be evaluated in order to make a decision how to proceed. Tom suggested Edith put out an incidental update to be circulated by Jennifer if there is anything to report.
- Gregg and Ruth met with fund raising consultant, Kathy Kramer-Ryan. More to come.

Finance Committee. No formal report. Tom will distribute a summary of the Lobato case to help understand school financing in Colorado. Expect tough conversation on budget next month.

Board Development Committee.

- Francis, Tina, Jennifer, Jon, and Derrick must decide soon if they are going to seek reappointment. This may need to be staggered.
- Jennifer met with Gregg and is continuing to work on figuring out what makes Highline Highline. Surveys are out to parent/guardian community to evaluate people's attachment to Core Knowledge, performance grouping, etc. Focus groups will meet to follow up on this.

Growth Committee. Tom will work with Jennifer to draft a general announcement concerning replication. This will be distributed to BOD for feedback, then published in the newsletter.

Policy and Advisory Board. Tim has been on a bit of a hiatus, but will return soon to help with replication.

Executive Committee. The principal mid-year evaluation matrix was distributed. The goal is to decide on principal renewal for Gregg. Full-year data is not available yet, as our data is always a year behind. This will be given to Gregg as a tool for his development and will be helpful in identifying areas of improvement. For now, please send feedback on the form to Francis, and begin thinking about feedback for Gregg.

OLD BUSINESS

- Gregg reported that 3 chairs have volunteered to head up the auction, Ms. Faye, Ms. Cavecchi, and Carrie Oss. PWP is on board and everyone is excited.
- Building Corp Update. Jon reported that some work on insulation was done. 6th grade lockers have been ordered and should be here by the end of January. There will probably be \$15,000 left, the suggestion has been made that this be written to the school for use on the facility. There are still some issues, but there will be a point where the construction process ends. Building Corp will meet again soon.
- An update was given on the new lottery system, School Choice. There are some kinks, and confusion over the need to fill out forms and some concern over the possibility of losing neighborhood schools.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jan. 10 Restaurant Night at Slices Pizza

HA Cook book on sale. Check your newsletter for information on how to order.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To adjourn.

Francis moves the motion, Ruth 2nd.

MPU