



HIGHLINE ACADEMY
Highline Academy
Board of Directors' Meeting Minutes
7808 Cherry Creek Drive South, Unit 304
Denver, CO 80231
Wednesday, July 23, 2008
6:15 p.m.

PRESENT

Kristen Summer
Tom Bulger
Jennifer Douglas
Ruth Kedzior
Jon Lowry
Alyssa Whitehead Bust
Kim Easton
Frank Tuitt

STAFF

Greg Gonzalez
Kate Greeley

ABSENT

Rev. Rodney Perry
Peter Zina

PUBLIC

Tom Beck

CALL TO ORDER

President Jon Lowry called the meeting to order at 6:28 pm.

ESTABLISH QUORUM

A quorum was established.

CONFIRM AGENDA

Jon Lowry went over the agenda for the meeting. Board members introduced themselves to Kate Greeley, Highline's new Principal in Residency.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

June 21, 2008 Board Meeting

Motion: Approve minutes from 6.21.08 board meeting inserting Kim Easton's comments Tom moved the motion, Kim 2nd.

No further Discussion

MPU

ACTION ITEMS:

Further Discussion & Decisions on Ends Documents

Equitable was taken out of the mission statement, Alyssa suggested it be added back into the mission statement – *We exist to foster a diverse and equitable community of youth and adults striving together for personal, academic and civic excellence.* (Second Reading)

Core Values:

History: All the core values listed are referenced in the original charter submitted by the founding members. All the core values are what drives internal decision making.

Also all the values were pooled together from other schools that have been shown to be successful.

Discussion of Core Values: Alyssa brought up that parental involvement is not included in the core values. It should be included in “embody a learning organization” portion of the core values.

Jennifer brought up that performance grouping and Core Knowledge are not included explicitly expressed in the core values. Core Knowledge is included in bullet 2 (“ensure equitable access). After a discussion about the generality of the stated core values and the intentionality of the charter, Core Knowledge should be added to the Academic portion of the core values.

Finally equitable access should be the first core value mentioned since equitable access is the premise behind Highline.

For the second reading Alyssa will rewrite the core values to reflect the changes and to make the definition shorter.

Bylaw Revisions

Deferred to next meeting

Policy Revisions

Deferred to next meeting

Strengthen Individual Board Member and Team Commitments/Contributions

Board members were asked to brainstorm the following:

“What do we need to do in order to function as an effective team”

“We commit to ...”

- engage in healthy conflict
- hold each other accountable – board professionalism
- listen to and respect the opinions of others
- time into doing work beyond board meetings
- learn and follow bylaws and policies
- stick to agenda process
- focus on ends vs. means
- trust in each other
- strengthening parent/guardian and board relations
- board development
- openness, honesty, critical engagement
- boundary stepping – outside our own perspective
- trust our school leaders
- keep commitments
- staying focused on objectives (adherence to timelines)
- encouraging an atmosphere of support and trust
- be present, prepared for board meetings
- work from a place of governance/management trust
- learning, knowing, and living governance
- being prepared
- meaningful contribution
- follow through

The board members then narrowed down the list to 6 - 7 common items where listed that make the board function better:

- engage in healthy conflict
- being prepared
- accountability
- actively stepping outside our boundaries
- time commitment/meaningful contribution
- respect for one another/ assume good intentions
- cultivate leadership

The board members also decided that these items are items that can be assessed in order to hold each other accountable

Discussion of SWOT Analysis

Identification of 3-5 SWOT Items to Address

Assignment of Working Committee to Address Identified Items

As homework the board members are to take the SWOT items and arrange the bullets in order of importance in all 4 categories

REPORTS:

Finance Committee Update

None

Facility Committee Update

Originally the composition of facility committee included 3 board members. If 3 board members are on the committee it would need to be a public meeting. Therefore, the number of board members on the committee should be reduced.

Executive session

Administration Report and Update

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

OLD BUSINESS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ruth will be on vacation for the next board meeting

Ice Cream social will be before the next board meeting from 5:00 – 6:00 pm.

New parent/guardian dinner will be Wednesday, July 30th.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (IF REQUIRED)

Presentation of contractual proposals for representatives

Motion to go into executive committee

Tom moved the motion, Kristen 2nd

MPU

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn

Tom moved the motion, Frank 2nd

MPU