

HAMMOND URBAN ACADEMY, INC.
School Board Meeting Minutes Noted

May 18, 2017

In Attendance:

Board Members:

Kris Sakelaris (Board President)
Dave Ryan (Board Member)
Sheldon Cutler (Board Member)
Mark McLaughlin (Board Member)
Janet Venecz (Board Member)
Lori Lambert (Board Member)
Mira Projovic (Teacher Board Member)
Gabe Nava (Student Board Member)
Gus Lopez (Board Member)
Heather Garay (Board Member)
Anne Herbert (Board Member)
Kevin Smith (Attorney)

School Representatives

Dr. Sean Egan (School Leader)
Dennis Small (Business Manager)

Not in Attendance:

Howard Cohen (Board Member)
Owana Miller (Board Member)
Ross Smith (IT Director)
Arthur Young (Dean of Students)

Board meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m by Board President Kris Sakelaris.

Motions Approved by School Board

- *Motion to approve March 2017 meeting minutes* — Dave Ryan motioned; seconded by Anne Herbert. All in favor motion approved 12-0.
- *Motion to approve March Finance Report* — Sheldon Cutler motioned; seconded by Dave Ryan. All in favor motion approved 12-0.
- *Motion to approve all future financial reports be sent to board members a month later* — Gus Lopez motioned; seconded by Anne Herbert. All in favor motion approved 12-0.
- *Motion to approve Monique Foote for the position of 6th grade Science teacher for 2017-18* — Dave Ryan motioned; seconded by Sheldon Cutler. All in favor motion approved 12-0.
- *Motion to approve Rebecca Hamilton for the position of 7th grade Language Arts teacher for 2017-18* — Gus Lopez motioned; seconded by Lori Lambert. All in favor motion approved 12-0.
- *Motion to approve Brock Daniels for the position of 8th grade Global Studies teacher for 2017-18* — Sheldon Cutler motioned; seconded by Janet Venecz. All in favor motion approved 12-0.
- *Motion to approve Christine Politis for the position of 10th grade Science teacher for 2017-18* — Heather Garay motioned; seconded by Anne Herbert. All in favor motion approved 12-0.
- *Motion to approve Roger Schwager for the position of Special Education Director for 2017-18* — Sheldon Cutler motioned; seconded by Janet Venecz. All in favor motion approved 12-0.
- *Motion to approve Richard Soria for the position of PE/Health teacher for 2017-18* — Sheldon Cutler motioned; seconded by Janet Venecz. All in favor motion approved 12-0.

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- *Motion to adjourn-* Heather Garay motioned; seconded by Dave Ryan. All in favor approved 12-0.

New Correspondence

- Kris Sakelaris received a recommendation for the student board member position & has forwarded the application to the personnel committee.
- Kris Sakelaris received a recommendation for the board member position vacated by the retiring of Dr. Howard Cohen. She has forwarded the application to the personnel committee.

School Leader Report

Committee Reports

- **Finance Committee-** Heather Garay had a meeting with First Midwest Bank today to discuss bank fees. They have agreed to waive the fees for this year.
- **Fundraising Committee-** Dr. Egan reported that the Spring Talent Show raised \$4300 in donations, \$783 in ticket sales & \$163 in concessions.
- **Personnel Committee-** Kris Sakelaris received a recommendation for the student board member position & has forwarded the application to the personnel committee.

Discussion Notes

- Sheldon Cutler & Dr. Howard Cohen are leaving the board & Dr. Egan presented plaques to both in honor of their long service with HAST.
- One of the items discussed at the Board retreat was the financial reports notification/approval timeframe. Gus Lopez motioned that reports be received a month after the fact.
- Teacher contracts for incoming new teachers were individually motioned & approved by the board.
- Adam Erler, 10th grade Math teacher introduced a Teacher compensation proposal to the board. This past semester, a group of teachers created a committee to create the proposal with the objective of creating a plan to compensate & retain HAST teachers. Mr. Erler believes the biggest problem facing teacher retention is compensation. Dr. Egan said the committee did a fantastic job & he endorses the plan. Kris Sakelaris & Heather Garay would like to forward the plan to both the financing & personnel committees for further review.

Board Financial Inquiries

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New Business

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Public Comment

- Amanda Berg, 10th grade HAST student, spoke on behalf of juniors being allowed to enter into the ACC program HAST will be joining in the coming school year. The current plan is for qualifying students in the senior class be allowed to attend classes. She would like to enter into a 2-year program & waiting till her senior year would negatively affect this.
- Samantha Francis, 10th grade Biology teacher, spoke on behalf of her departure from HAST. She loves HAST but before she leaves would like to bring a few things to the attention of the board:
 - School lunch

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- Teacher protocol be added in the school handbook
- Teacher compensation
- She also thanked the board for all its done in her time here.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:26 p.m.