

HAMMOND URBAN ACADEMY, INC.
School Board Meeting Minutes Noted
January 17, 2013

In attendance were:

Board Members:

Mark McLaughlin (Board Member)
Sheldon Cutler (Board Member)
Owana Miller (Board Member)
Dana McCue (Board Member)
Jerry Gomez (Board member)
Tom Dabertin (Board Member)
Rick Calinski (Board Member)
Janet Venecz (Board Member)

School Representatives

Dr. Sean Egan (School Leader)
Matt Tomczak (Business Manger)
Kevin Smith (Attorney)
Kris Kanter (Attorney)
Leslie Otero (Executive Assistant)

Not in attendance: Kris Sakelaris, Dave Ryan and Kim Poland

Board meeting was called to order at 4:11 p.m. by Board Member Tom Dabertin

Motions Approved:

1. *Approval of January 17, 2013 meeting minutes* – Sheldon Cutler motioned; seconded by Owana Miller. All in favor motion approved 7-0
2. *Approval of new secondary math instructor* – Dr. Egan's proposal in place of Will Sharpp to hire Doug Kaman as math educator. Jerry Gomez motioned; seconded by Sheldon Cutler. All in favor motion approved 7-0
3. *Approval of finance report and payments* – Jerry Gomez motioned; seconded by Sheldon Cutler. All in favor motion approved 7-0

No new correspondence

Discussion Notes:

- Dr. Egan's school monthly progress report (Please see attachment)
 - i. Human Capital Management
 - ii. Instructional Leadership
 - iii. Personal Behavior
 - iv. Building Relationships
 - v. Culture of Achievement
 - vi. Organizational, Operational and Resource Management
 - vii. Counselor update
 - viii. Discipline update
 - ix. Enrollment

- HAST Lockdown safety drill for the entire building involved Hammond Police Department and commander of swat activities. Sergeant Jones expressed the observation and stated it was positive mostly because everyone was proactive
- HAST has purchased software programs for the students for grade intervention for middle school ISTEP and High School ECA's.
- Potential student/staff exchange program that is exploring HAST as a future educator will be meeting with Sister City Delegation from Shahe, China. Board will discuss the legalities with Ball State in order to determine housing, student audit and charter lottery rule.
- School board is requesting additional NWEA reading data
- Under the organizational operation resource management the school has implemented a strategic planning process which is an internal committee of 25 staff members that will meet every 3rd Friday of each month from 1 to 3 p.m. beginning January ending in May. This week's goal is to review, revise and refine the mission and vision statements of the school as well as organizing the primary committees and goals. Dr. Egan is encouraging board members to participate.
- Board proposed that HAST seek Nipsco budget plan in order to anticipate monthly expense

Board Financial inquires

- Tri-electronics for \$5,057 is to support external cameras
- Tech services for \$2,240 to be discussed at next board meeting
- NCS Pearson subscription for \$8,379 is student testing preparation software

New Business

- Congressman Visclosky was introduced by HAST student at Town Hall meeting for the 2nd year in a row.
- Senator Donnelly visited HAST and conversed with many students. The senator was pleased with student questions.
- Tracy Mis will be honored as best teacher at the Lakeshore Chamber Annual event
- Dr. Egan would like for HAST to host St. Baldrick's event in March in order to raise funds for youth cancer. *Board has approved event.*

Public comment

Arlinda Hines currently has 2 high school students attending HAST. Ms. Hines would like to state her concern as to why she is required to submit medical documents in order for her daughters to make up missing assignments. Ms. Hines has acknowledged the attendance issue for both her daughters, but was due to family emergencies. At this point Ms. Hines feels that medical proof should not be required of her and if needed Ms. Hines will file a formal complaint with Ball State.

Ms. Kitten Gray would like to share/state the following:

1. Ms. Gray is offering her African American museum, if so she would like to dismantle it herself.
2. Ms. Gray would like the school to educate black history month collectively as a school versus certain classes
3. Ms. Gray feels it's unfair that all students were guaranteed a Macbook after 4 years. Ms. Gray doesn't think it's fair because many students cannot afford a laptop and will really rely on the Macbook once they graduate.
4. Ms. Gray stated that when visiting after school hours it's for after school activity business only. Video surveillance is unwarranted and unnecessary, as Ms. Gray and her daughter love HAST and would never do anything to offend or disgrace the school. Her daughter has stated she will be traveling to Washington D.C. and is a self-proclaimed ambassador of HAST.

Motion to Adjourn 4:4 p.m.

Sheldon Cutler motioned; seconded by Dana McCue all in favor motion carried 7-0