

HAMMOND URBAN ACADEMY, INC.
School Board Meeting Minutes Noted

October 21, 2021

In Attendance:

Board Members:

Kris Sakelaris (Board President)
Marty Weilgos
Steve Grimm (Teacher Board Member)
Jackie Perez (Parent Board Member)
Jessica Moreno (Student Board Member)
Monica Rubio
Dave Ryan
Owana Miller
Heather Garay
Nicole Bazan (Parent Board Member)
Kevin Smith (Attorney)

School Representatives

Dr. Sean Egan (School Leader)
Mira Projovic (Minutes Secretary)

Not in Attendance:

Janet Venecz
Africa Tarver
Anne Herbert

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

Motions Approved by School Board

- *Motion to approve September 2021 meeting minutes* — Monica Rubio motioned; seconded by Dave Ryan. All in favor motion approved 10-0.
- *Motion to approve September 2021 Financial Reports* — Dave Ryan motioned; seconded by Jackie Perez. All in favor motion approved 10-0.
- *Motion to approve Paid Time Off (PTO) Policy* — Heather Garay motioned; seconded by Marty Weilgos. All in favor motion approved 10-0.
- *Motion to approve removing Dennis Small from all Banking Accounts & adding Heather Garay, Dave Ryan, Marty Weilgos & Monica Rubio as signers to all Banking Accounts—* Monica Rubio motioned; seconded by Owana Miller. All in favor motion approved 10-0.
- *Motion to approve employee contract for Bill Olsen (10th Grade Science) & Deborah Czmil (Business Manager)—* Africa Tarver motioned; seconded by Marty Weilgos. All in favor motion approved 10-0.
- *Motion to approve making the Mon, Tues & Wed after Thanksgiving Holiday virtual teaching days—* Steve Grimm motioned; seconded by Jessica Moreno. All in favor motion approved 10-0.
- *Motion to adjourn* —Marty Weilgos motioned; seconded by Monica Rubio. All in favor approved 10-0.

New Correspondence

- No correspondence

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School Leader Report

Committee Reports

- **Finance Committee-** Committee sent board members copies of the new FMLA Policy & PTO Policy.
 - At last week's finance meeting, a new PTO policy was approved. Under the new policy, teachers that have been at HAST for 3+ years will be paid their remaining PTO days when they leave. The policy is retroactive to last year so teachers that left/retired during the discussions of the change will still benefit. School board voted on the PTO policy.
 - However, there have been new revisions to the FMLA Policy. Heather Garay will send out the revised version soon & a vote will be taken at the next meeting. School board voted on the PTO Policy.
 - Heather Garay, as head of the finance committee, met with Deborah Czmil for her 2nd interview & thinks she will be a wonderful addition to the school as the new Business Manager.
- **Personnel Committee-** Committee did not meet.
- **Fundraising Committee-** Committee on hold until further notice.
- **COVID Task Force Committee-** Committee did not meet however Dr. Egan connected with someone from North Shore Health & discussed a possible Covid testing center at HAST along with other event ideas in the future. Owana Miller mentioned North Shore Health recently acquired a mobile testing van & will be doing outreach programs in the community soon.

Discussion Notes

- Arthur Young, HAST Dean of Discipline, presented to the board. He gave a brief description of his background & all that he does in a day. He has 22 years experience working with students. His daily activities include working with students on discipline issues. This year, his biggest issues are in the middle school & they take up most of his time. Particularly, disrespect towards teachers & other students.
- Heather Garay mentioned the Federal government has made changes to the current Teacher Loan Forgiveness programs currently offered. These changes can be beneficial to teachers w/ existing loans & she encouraged Dr. Egan to let staff know.
- Today, the Lakeshore Chamber of Commerce held a Ladies in the Law luncheon in which several HAST female law students attended. Monica Rubio asked Jessica Moreno, one of the guests, to give her opinion. Jessica said she enjoyed hearing the 4 female judges answer questions & would love to see members in other fields hold similar luncheons.

Board Financial Inquiries

New Business

Public Comment

- Leslie Otero, Office assistant, inquired how she could establish a compensation committee for support staff.

Meeting Adjourned at 5:14 p.m.