

**School Board Minutes:
December 16th, 2009**

Submitted by Jodie Hardenbrook, Secretary

Attending: Mike Auld, Lisa Larson, Kris Lawrence-Anderson, Alicen Thorstad,
Roshelle Amundson, Jim Rosengren, Heather Wincek, Jodie Hardenbrook

Absent: Jess Driscoll

Heather made motion to approve agenda, Jodie seconded the motion.

Minutes from the November Meeting will be approved next meeting. Note taker was absent.

No community comments

Audit Report given by MMKR Certified Public Accountants

Items to consider for next year:

- Student enrollment was much higher than 2008.
- 27% may not be paid to schools by State unless legislature approves money.
- We may need to be prepared for additional auditing and financial assistance for receiving Federal Recovery Aid Money due to increased requirements for audits and financial reporting expected next year.

New Buisness:

John presented Rise to the Top Program initiative which the State of Minnesota is trying to become a grant recipient of this money. Time is very critical. The state needs to know if we will be apart of the program by January 13, 2010.

Before a motion could be voted upon by the board as to join the State in its efforts to be chosen for the program John is going to provide the following to the board:

- What would Odyssey have to do specifically to be part of the program
- What are expectations of schools joining the initiative
- What costs would Odyssey incur to join the program
- The program will also be presented to staff for comments on January 6, 2010.
Comments will be brought back to the board.

The board members will look at the Federal "Race to the Top" website.

Committee Reports were given by board members:

CAC Board Representatives: Mike and Lisa
Health & Wellness Board Representative: Alicen
Finance Committee Representatives: Jim and Mike
School Improvement Representative: Roshelle
Technology Committee Representatives: Jim & Jodie
Marketing Representatives: Jess & Kris
Finance Committee: Mike, Jim and Heather
Facility/OSBO Committee: Mike and Jess

OSBO: Building purchase continues to move forward. Osseo has agreed to purchase price for Building. HighMark will next be sending in inspector for the building.

Financial Committee Note: We changed our budget based on 265 students down from 305 to keep budget more accurate.

John's side notes in regards to Board Standing Committees:

- The School Board should be giving feedback to committees and recommendations of items to research and discuss.
- All committee decisions must be approved by the Board.

Kris made the motion to make a template letter to attach to our school newsletter for parents to ask legislators to support and fund education and to approve the 27% of school funding which is being held right now. This 27% is critical for budgets of Minnesota Schools. Heather seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Director's report:

243 currently enrolled students.

John attending a Brooklyn Center Collaborative Meeting tomorrow (December 17th, 2009)

- Walk thru building
- Joint Choir and Bands
- Sharing Busing
- Shared after-school sports possibility

H1N1: no documented cases so far.

Roshelle made a motion to pay bills. Alicen seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Mike made motion to accept with thanks a donation of \$750.00 by Wells Fargo though SEED (See Enable & Encourage Diversity through Volunteerism). Awarded to Greg Gredvig on behalf of Odyssey Academy. Jodie Hardenbrook seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Old Business:

Board Training: Mike is working on Scheduling training for February.

January Board Meeting is rescheduled for Monday, January 11th at 5:00 p.m. so that a decision will be made to join the State's Rise to the Top Initiative which must be done by January 13, 2010.

Reviewed benchmarks for Director.

Question was asked if the leadership team makes decisions in John's absence?

No. See director's backup plan listed on benchmarks for director.

Retention and Promotion Policy was approved with changes to the Promotion part of the Policy. Approved wording was:

Promotion: In order for a student to be considered for promotion all of the following must take place and at the applicant's expense:

1. A parent/guardian must make a request for promotion in writing to the Executive Director; and
2. The request must include a letter of support from the student's core teacher the previous year; and
3. NWEA and MCA test scores will be reviewed by SAT; and
4. The SAT may require relevant assessment information to be sought that may be germane to the decision; and
5. Previous year grade reports will be reviewed.

Discussion included concerns about how do you assess social and emotional readiness particularly in regards to promotion.

Jim made the Motion to approve with changes. Heather seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Heather made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Lisa seconded the motion. Motion approved.