

Twin Cities International Elementary School

Minutes of the School Board Meeting held on Saturday, February 5, 2011, at 10:40 am, at the International Education Center, 277 12th Avenue North, Room 120, Minneapolis, MN, 55401.

Board Members Present: Mr. Abdikarim Mohamed, Ms. Kristin Kjolsing, Mr. Abdirashid Warsame, Ms. Jessica Wroblewski, Ms. Christena Pulver, Mr. Ibrahim Aden and Mr. Osman Mohamed.

Absent: Mr. Abdisamad Ibrahim and Ms. Wesam Shaker.

Ex-Officio Members Present: Dr. Randal Eckart, Director of Twin Cities International Elementary School. Mr. Tom Black, Authorizer Representative of Century College.

Ex-Officio Members Absent: Authorizer Representative, Dr. Jim Gross. Mohamed Egeh, Business Manager for Twin Cities International Elementary School.

Also Present: Board Clerk Ms. Bethany Forsberg and Mr. Ali Muse.

1.0 Open Meeting

Chair opened the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Chair acknowledged those present and thanked them for attending the meeting.

2.0 Approve Agenda

Time was given to review the agenda for the meeting.
One correction was noted.

Ms. Kristin Kjolsing made a motion to approve the agenda with the correction of policy number 531 under 6.b tabled.

Ms. Jessica Wroblewski seconded.

Motion Carried.

3.0 Minutes from the previous meeting of January 8, 2011

Time was given to review the minutes from the previous meeting.

Ms. Jessica Wroblewski made a motion to accept the minutes from the previous meeting.

Ms. Kristin Kjolsing seconded.

Motion carried.

4.0 Treasurer's Report

4.1 January 2011 Year to Date Report

Chair noted that there is not a representative from the business department present at the meeting today.

Dr. Eckart remarked that Mohamed Aden will begin working alongside Mohamed Egeh in the business department for the remainder of the 2010-2011 school year.

A business representative will be in attendance at the next board meeting held in March 2011 to present the year to date financial report.

5.0 New Business

5.1 Charter School Authorizer Remarks

Tom Black noted that he is looking forward to attending the 10 Year Anniversary Celebration being held next Saturday on February 12th, 2011. He noted that although Dr. Jim Gross will not be able to attend, President Litecky will be there as a representative and guest speaker for Century College.

Tom Black reported that Century College was accepted as the only school in Minnesota to be a part of Excel Education's program called Achieving the Dream. This program focuses on student success with regard to student retention and degree completion.

Due to a small increase of 1% in enrollment during the spring semester at Century College, the campus extension project has been put on hold. The college had hoped to build classrooms in Woodbury, MN to accommodate a growing student body. However, due to increases in tuition as a result of the \$185 million in cuts by legislation and a declining job market, student enrollment is currently at a standstill. The college is waiting until they have received all information regarding financial projections in June 2011 to make any final decisions.

Chair thanked Mr. Tom Black for his remarks.

5.2 Director's Report

Dr. Eckart reported:

5.2.0 After School Program

The after school program resumed this week after being postponed due to bad weather conditions and busing issues. Attendance is currently down by 111 students after continued problems with busing and drivers being unable to drive down crowded and snowy streets.

Dr. Eckart noted that during the last board meeting, he and Mr. Abdirashid began discussions on lengthening the school day in order to provide services to meet every student's specific needs and to alleviate the need for extra busing.

Mr. Tom Black remarked that he agreed with extending the school day by 1 hour for the upcoming 2011-2012 school year because it will have a positive impact on our school's AYP (adequate yearly progress).

Administrators from TIES and MIMS met with the busing company to discuss a possible lengthened school day but so far no decisions have been made.

Dr. Eckart and Mr. Abdirashid will update the board when the preliminary budgets are created for the 2011-2012 school year or as information becomes available.

5.2.1 Proposal for New Authorizer

Administration from all three schools including TIES, MIMS, and Ubah Medical Academy met with St. Thomas two weeks ago to discuss the process of applying for sponsorship/authorizership. St. Thomas met with all three schools as a whole and separately since each school needs to apply on an individual basis.

The deadline for charter schools to send St. Thomas a letter of intent was on February 4th, 2011. From that date, St. Thomas has 20 days to respond to schools informing them of whether or not the application process will begin.

5.2.2 I Love to Read Month

Ms. Kristin Kjolsing noted that February is I Love to Read Month. TIES is celebrating this by creating a whole school reading tree. Students have goals based on their current reading level with regard to how many books they need to read and the number of pages each book must contain. When they have read a book and filled out a graphic organizer retelling their story, they are able to write their name, room number, book title and author on a leaf which will then be displayed on the reading tree in the cafeteria. There are competitions between the grade levels and within grade levels to see which classroom can read the most books!

6.0 Discussion

6.1 Update Board Goals

Ms. Christena Pulver noted that changes have been made to the current board goals regarding school board training, communication, and the adoption of policies.

6.1.0 School Board Training:

Osman Mohamed has been added to receive future school board training when sessions become available.

6.1.1 Communication:

Website profiles need to be made for Osman Mohamed, Mohamed Aden, and Randal Eckart.

6.1.2 Adoption of Policies:

Mandated policies as indicated by Kristin Kjolsing and Jessica Wroblewski will

continue to be adopted after they are reviewed by the board for a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd reading.

Christena Pulver will work with Lucas Bogle to set up a school email account for Osman Mohamed so he can receive information regarding the school board.

6.2 Policy Committee

Ms. Kristin Kjolsing noted that there are 33 mandated policies that need to be reviewed by the board for approval during the 2010-2011 school year. There are 9 policies up for review today.

These policies include:

- 906-Community Notification of Predatory Offenders (1st reading)
- 505-Distribution of Nonschool-Sponsored materials on School Premises by Students and Employees (1st reading)
- 205-Open Meetings and Closed Meetings (1st reading)
- 416-Drug and Alcohol Testing (1st reading)
- 413-Harrassment and Violence Policy (2nd reading)
- 532-Use of peace officers and crisis teams to remove students with IEPs from school grounds. (2nd reading)
- 406-Public and Private Personnel Data (3rd reading)
- 410-Family and Medical Leave Policy (3rd reading)
- 502-Search of Student Lockers, Desks, Personal Possessions, and Student's Person (3rd reading)

Ms. Kjolsing stated that most of the changes to policies will occur between the 1st and 2nd reading. The 1st reading will give board members a chance to review the model policy. The 2nd reading will allow board members to make necessary changes to the model policy so it fits the needs of our school. The 3rd reading will allow board members to see the changes in the policy and to do a final review before it is adopted.

Ms. Kjolsing noted that no additional changes have been made to policies 406, 410 or 502.

Policies 413 and 532 will be addressed at the next board meeting held in March 2011 for their final reading.

Ms. Jessica Wroblewski noted that the board can see the changes already made to policies 413 and 532 today and are able to review them and bring final comments and/or questions to the next board meeting.

The board discussed the importance of policy 410 (Family and Medical Leave) and decided that a copy of it will be posted in the staff lounge by Monday, February 7th, 2011 for employees to read and review. Staff will also receive a copy of the policy in their mailboxes to put into their staff handbooks.

7.0 Action Items

7.1 Adoption of Policies

Mr. Abdikarim made a motion to adopt policies 406, 410 and 502.

Mr. Osman seconded.

Motion carried.

Ms. Christena Pulver made a motion to acknowledge polices 906, 505, 205, and 416 as second readings and policies 413 and 532 as third readings for the next board meeting held in March 2011.

Mr. Abdikarim seconded.

Motion carried.

8.0 Old Business.

There is no old business at this time.

9.0 Adjournment.

Ms. Kjolsing moved a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:23 pm.

Ms. Christena Pulver seconded.

Motion carried.