

Twin Cities International Elementary School

Minutes of the School Board Meeting held on Saturday, March 13, 2010, at 10:45 am, at the International Education Center, 277 12th Avenue North, Room 120, Minneapolis, MN, 55401.

Board Members Present: Mr. Abdikarim Mohamed, Ms Kristin Kjolsing, Ms Mandee Rickard, Mr. Ibrahim Aden, Mr. Abdirashid Warsame, Ms. Jessica Wrobleski.

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

Ex-Officio Members Present: Authorizer representative Mr. Tom Black of Century College and Dr. Randal Eckart Director of the Minnesota International Elementary School.

Also Present: Board Clerk Ms Tena Pulver, TIES first grade teacher Bethany Forsberg, Mr. Abdullah, and Mr. Ali.

1.0 Open Meeting

Chair opened the meeting at 10:45 am.

Chair noted that item 8 will be moved to just before item 4.

2.0 Approve Agenda

Ms. Rickard moved to approve the agenda with the movement of item 8.

All in favor said "I".

Ms. Kjolsing seconded.

Agenda was approved unanimously.

3.0 Minutes from the previous meeting of February 20, 2010

Time was given to review last month's minutes

Mr. Abdirashid moved to approve the minutes from February 20, 2010 with the changes as noted by Ms. Rickard, Ms. Kjolsing seconded, all in favor said "I" chair carried motion.

4.0 Closed Session for the purpose of evaluating the Director

Closed 11:03

Ms. Wrobleski motioned, Ms. Rickard seconded, motion carried.

Opened 11:15

Abdirashid motioned, Ms. Kjolsing seconded, motion carried.

Summary of Evaluation:

The Board evaluated the Director in 8 areas. The Director received 91% on his evaluation. A contract of 2 years will be renewed.

Ms. Kjolting moved the motion to renew Dr. Eckart's contract, Mr. Abdirashid seconded, Motion carried.

5.0 Financial Report

The Chair welcomed Mr. Mohamed Egeh, business manager, to present the year to date report (and further comments respective to budgetary needs).

5.1 YTD Report, most recent billing statements and accounts information with recommendations as needed.

5.1.0 We are 2/3 of the way through the year

5.1.1 Tracking currently at 67% projected enrollment is at 550.

5.1.2 Should get \$100,000 back at the end of the year from ERATE

5.1.3 Total revenue is at 57%, 10% is holdback

5.1.4 Special Ed. Supplies is at 146% TIES will be reimbursed

5.1.5 Pupil transportation is front loaded due to paying Bus Company 1 month in advance.

5.1.6 Building Lease is front loaded due to paying rent 1 month in advance.

5.1.7 Total expenditures in the general fund are tracking at 63%, well below the benchmark.

Mr. Mohamed Egeh noted that TIES is doing very well according to finances even with holdbacks. Mr. Egeh asked for any questions or concerns about the report and budget.

Chair thanked Mr. Mohamed Egeh and again asked for any questions

Ms. Kjolting moved the motion to accept the year to date financial report, Ms. Rickard seconded, Motion carried.

6.0 New Business

6.1 Authorizer's Report

Charter School Authorizer Remark's:

Mr. Tom Black reported:

6.1.0 MDE authorizer meeting is on March 3rd, 2010.

6.2 Director's Report.

Dr. Eckart reported:

6.2.0 Reading Olympics ended yesterday. First through 4th grade read over 3900 books in one month, about 6.6 per students.

6.2.1 Yellow alerts in Minneapolis last few days. Students have stayed indoors for physical education class and recess as a precaution. TIES has 7 lock down drills per year and 5 fire drills. Last year TIES made it out of the building in roughly 2 minutes 5 seconds during an impromptu fire drill from the fire department.

6.2.2 Hamline University brought student teachers to observe and tour our school.

6.2.3 Success For All (SFA) data shows we have made tremendous gains according to the MCA II reading scale.

6.2.4 Extend school day by 30 minutes:

Board will consider the proposal of extending the day to students arriving at 7:15, class starting at 7:30 and dismissal at 2:45.

This change would also be dependent on the coordination of the Bus Company.

The extended day would provide a intervention block time of 20-30 minutes.

6.2.5 Enrollment is up 601 students. Dispersed unevenly, 3rd grade is at 23/24 students per class. Less student numbers in K-2 and 4th grades.

Chair thanked Dr. Eckart for his report and asked for any questions

7.0 Other Reports and Action Items

7.1 Policy Readings

First reading

7.1.0 Policies 402 and 524

Policy 402- Dr. Eckart was added as the contact

Policy 524- Policy will reflect what is currently stated in the TIES student teacher handbook regarding internet policy.

Ms. Kjolsing moved the motion to accept policies 402 and 524 as first readings with changes noted above, Ms. Rickard seconded. Motion carried.

Second reading

7.1.1 Policies 102, 412, and 514.

Ms. Kjolsing moved to accept policies 102, 412, and 514 as second readings. Mr. Ibrahim seconded. Motion carried.

7.2 Kindergarten Early Entrance – parent pamphlet

Ms. Kjolsing noted that Debbie Kay is from MDE not Minneapolis.

7.3 2010-2011 School Year Calendar

The board found that there was an error in the proposed calendars. The number of student days tallied did not amount to the number posted on the bottom of the calendar.

The chair tabled approving the 2010-2011 school calendars until the errors could be corrected.

7.4 Update Board Goals 2009-2010

Board looked over packet of updated goals.
Ms. Rickard will make noted updates.

7.5 Annual Meeting Notice

May 22nd, 2010 at 5pm.
Board members will bring binders to meeting to update.
Ms. Rickard will meet with Chair to plan announcement to staff and send out email.

7.6 Student Class Size

The board decided to revisit this topic next meeting.
TIES will monitor enrollment over the next 30 days.

7.7 Gifted and Talented

Discussion included:
\$12 per student - \$7000
Enrichment classes for all
Would need to assess and do gifted and talented in a specific area.
Add 1.0 FTE for 2010-2011 space permitting.

Item tabled until next meeting on April 10, 2010.

8.0 Action Items.

No action items at this time.

9.0 Old Business.

No old business at this time.

10.0 Adjournment.

Ms. Rickard moved a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:58 pm.
Ms. Kjolsing seconded. Motion carried.