

**MINNESOTA NORTH STAR ACADEMY**  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
August 18, 2008

**Board Members Present:** Barb Boelter, Bobbi Cordano, June Damrow, Matt Mikulski, Susan Outlaw (arrived 7:00)

**Absent:** Allan Amis, Kristin Cuta, Alex Ziebot, and Mary Zweber

**Director:** Kim Kause

**Interpreters:** Amy Amundsen, Gina Alvarado

**Note taker:** Barb Boelter, Secretary

<b>Call to Order</b>
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The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Board President, Bobbi Cordano.

<b>Director Contract</b>
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Discussion was held regarding the Personnel Committee's recommendation concerning the Executive Director's contract and salary for the year ended August, 2009. (Kim Kause left the room.) The salary and benefits survey from all Minnesota Charter Schools was reviewed.

**Motion No. 114:** Mikulski moved to approve the Employee Contract for Kause for the upcoming year, based on the Board's review of the Personnel Committee's recommendation. The contract effective dates will be changed to coincide with MNSA's fiscal year. Damrow seconded. Motion passed

Mikulski will talk to the Business Manager about the effects of moving the contract term to the fiscal year. (Kause returned at 8:10.)

<b>Consent Agenda</b>
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**Motion No. 06-115:** Damrow moved to approve the minutes from the Board meeting of June 18, 2008, as amended. Mikulski seconded. Motion passed, with Outlaw abstaining.

## Director's Report (Kause)

The Director's Report was reviewed and discussed.

Kause detailed the background and experience of the new Language Arts teacher.

Level 1, Bi-Lingual training will be held with 6 staff attending from MNSA and 1 from MDS.

Discussion was held regarding switching MNSA's Special Education Director from Innovative Special Education Services of Minnesota (ISES) to Cori Wahl. The person at ISES that had served MNSA has left and it was felt that, given the pending merger between MNSA and MDS, the two schools should have the same Special Education Director.

Kause will meet with Cori Wahl and make a recommendation at the next board meeting.

## Task Force (Kause)

The leadership team consisting of Kause, Sherwood, Zweber and Queen has been established and will meet and make recommendations to the Task Force.

The Common Understandings and Making the Case for the merger were reviewed and discussed

**Motion No. 116:** Outlaw moved that MNSA approve the Common Understandings. Mikulski seconded. Motion passed.

**Motion No. 117:** Boelter moved that MNSA approve the Making the Case document. Outlaw seconded. Motion passed

## Committee Reports

**Finance Committee:** (Mikulski): The committee report was reviewed and discussed. We are waiting for revenue information before finalizing the budget for 2008-2009. The Department of Education has not as yet accepted our response to the audit findings.

**Personnel Committee:** (Cordano) Bids have been requested for staff health insurance. MNSA may decide to opt out of the insurance Coop.

The committee is investigating the impact of the pending merger on the MNSA employees.

### **New Business**

The upcoming Pot Luck/Social between the MNSA and MDS boards was discussed.

The upcoming MNSA board retreat agenda was discussed. Kause and Amis will discuss topics for the agenda.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm.

The next meeting will be Monday, September 15, 2008.