

**MINNESOTA NORTH STAR ACADEMY**

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

August 20, 2007

**Board Members Present:** Allan Amis, Barb Boelter, Bobbi Cordano, Matt Mikulski, Susan Outlaw, Mary Zweber, Alex Zeibot

**Board Members Absent:** John Lee Clark,

**Director:** Kim Kause

**Notetaker:** Barb Boelter

**Guests:** Esther Thorpe – Business Manager

**Interpreters:** Ginger Thompson and Brenda Bebeau

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Board President Cordano.

Cordano welcomed Kause, the new Executive Director and Alex Ziebot, a new board member, to their first meeting.

**Consent Agenda**

**Motion No. 06-70:** Outlaw moved to accept the minutes from the meeting of May 24, 2007. Boelter seconded. Motion passed with Ziebot abstaining.

**Motion No. 06-71:** Mikulski moved to accept the minutes from the meeting of June 18, 2007, as amended. Boelter seconded. Motion passed with Amis, Outlaw and Ziebot abstaining.

**Officers**

**Motion No. 06-72:** Boelter moved to approve the current slate of officers. Zweber seconded. Motion passed. The election of officers will take place in October.

**Committee Reports**

Director's Report (Kause): Kause summarized the Director's Report for April and noted that the renewal of the contract with Volunteers of America is due by August 30, 2007. The accountability plan from Cheryl Lange will be inserted in the report and the contract will be sent to board members via email. Board members must fax their vote to approve the contract.

Personnel Committee Report (Cordano): The committee discussed how to meet students' needs should a Special Education teacher not be found.

The Board discussed enhancing the Employee Benefits Plan by adding features with minimal cost to the school.

**Motion No. 06-73:** Mikulski moved to enhance the Employee Benefit Plan by adding a Flex Spending Account, 403B investment plan and Aflac. Zweber seconded. Motion passed.

The Personnel Committee will review North Star's salary schedule this year. Due to the requirements that the staff be very highly qualified, it is possible that the salary schedule will not exactly follow the schedule of Metro Deaf School, as it has in the past.

Finance Committee Report (Mikulski): Mikulski summarized the Finance Committee Report. The need for a central pick-up/drop-off point for student transportation was discussed.

**Motion No 06-74:** Mikulski moved that North Star provide a student transportation pilot program from/to a centralized location for 1 pick and 1 drop off each day for the 2007-2008 school year. Outlaw seconded. Motion passed with Cordano abstaining.

General transportation issues will be investigated during this school year.

The Finance Committee will begin researching the potential for changing insurance carriers.

The Finance Committee will begin investigating avenues for recouping interpreter costs for the Board meetings.

Facilities Committee (Amis): No report.

Recruiting Committee: No report.

Governance Committee (Zweber): The committee will be reviewing the By-Laws for Compliance. This committee's report will be included at future Board meetings.

## **Policies**

Policy 806 Crisis Management Policy was discussed and revisions were made.

Policy 526 Hazing Prohibition was discussed.

**Motion No. 06-75:** Zweber moved to accept the Policy 806 Crisis Management Policy as amended and Policy 526 Hazing Prohibition as submitted. Mikulski seconded. Motion passed.

## **Board Retreat**

Agenda items were discussed for the upcoming Board Retreat(s).

Board members would prefer 2 – one half day retreats in September/October.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

**The next meeting will be Monday, September 17, 2007,  
6:30 to 9:00 p.m.**

Submitted by Barb Boelter - Secretary