

MINNESOTA NORTH STAR ACADEMY
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
March 19, 2008

Board Members Present: Allan Amis, Barb Boelter, Kristin Cuta, Matt Mikulski, Mary Zweber

Absent: Bobbi Cordano, Susan Outlaw, Alex Zeibot

Director: Kim Kause

Business Manager: Esther Thorpe

Auditor: Bill Lauer

Interpreters: Amy Amundsen, Gina Alvarado

Note taker: Barb Boelter, Secretary

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m. by Board Vice President, Mary Zweber.

Audit Report

Bill Lauer presented the Auditor's report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2007. He reviewed and discussed the results and the management report. Highlights of the report were discussed including North Star's ongoing commitment to strict financial controls and segregation of duties.

Lauer and Thorpe left the meeting.

Consent Agenda

The February 20, 2008, meeting minutes were reviewed and discussed.

Motion No. 06-97: Mikulski moved to approve the February 20, 2008, minutes as with corrections. Amis seconded. Motion passed., with Miller, Piemeisl and Ernst abstaining.

Director's Report (Kause)

The Director's Report was reviewed and discussed. Additions were a discussion regarding new position postings for next year, including a position for a Social Worker/Transition Coordinator.

North Star will be setting up a self-defense course for students. Speakers will be brought in to have group discussions with students regarding self awareness and safety issues.

Zweber complimented Kause and Cuta on the results from North Star student participation in the Rochester Institute of Technology (RIT) National Science Fair and also the National Academic Bowl Results.

Kause reviewed the proposed school calendar for the school year 2008-2009.

Motion No. 06-98: Cuta moved to approve the North Star school calendar for school year 2008-2009. Mikulski seconded. Motion passed

Policies

Policy No. 214, Out-of-State Travel by School Board Members, was reviewed and discussed.

Motion No. 06-99: Mikulski moved to approve Policy No. 214, Out-of-State Travel by School Board Members. Zweber seconded. Motion passed.

Policy No. 503, Student Attendance, Policy No. 522, Student Sex Nondiscrimination, Policy No. 524, Internet Acceptable Use and Safety, Policy No. 414, Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse, and Policy No. 415, Mandatory Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults, were reviewed and discussed.

Motion No. 06-100: Boelter moved to approve Policy No. 503, Student Attendance, Policy No. 522, Student Sex Nondiscrimination, and Policy No. 524, Internet Acceptable Use and Safety. Mikulski seconded. Motion passed.

Kause was directed to investigate Policy No. 414, Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Sexual Abuse, and Policy No. 415, Mandatory Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults in more detail. These policies were tabled for later discussion.

Committee Reports

Personnel Committee: The committee is investigating health care options for next year. The salary schedule was reviewed. Performance appraisals are being conducted of all staff. Cordano is to complete a formal mid-year performance appraisal for Kause.

Finance Committee: (Mikulski): The committee report was reviewed and discussed. A letter has been drafted in response to the audit issues raised in the auditor's management letter. The Finance Committee will review the letter and forward it to all Board members for review. This should be sent to the State by the end of next week.

Board Elections

It was discussed and decided that Board elections will be held on the third Tuesday in May to coincide with the PTG meeting.

The meeting was closed at 8:15 to discuss student issues.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.

The next meeting will be Monday, April 21, 2008.

Attachments to Minutes: Red-lined copy of approved By-Law amendments and Resolution of the Board requesting Waiver from the teacher majority requirement for directors.

