

MINNESOTA NORTH STAR ACADEMY

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 15, 2007

Board Members Present: Barb Boelter, Matt Mikulski, Susan Outlaw, Mary Zweber, Alex Zeibot Allan Amis (arrived 6:45)

Board Members Absent: John Lee Clark and Bobbi Cordano

Director: Kim Kause

Notetaker: Barb Boelter, Secretary

Interpreters: Gina Alvarado and Amy Amundson

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Board Vice President Zweber.

The Board reviewed the format and progress of the new North Star web site. Comments and suggestions were given to staff for further design. It was suggested that this may be an opportunity for a web design professional to assist on a pro bono basis. Kause will investigate this possibility.

Consent Agenda

Motion No. 06-78: Mikulski moved to accept the minutes from the meeting of September 17, 2007. Amis seconded. Motion passed.

The Financial Report was deferred until the November meeting.

Policies

Policy 417 Chemical Use and Abuse was discussed. It was determined that a lot of the procedures and requirements in the MSBA policy do not pertain to North Star. Kause will re-edit the policy and bring it back to the November Board meeting in final form for approval.

All policies will be kept in printed form in a District Policy Manual.

General housekeeping edits such as school personnel and titles were discussed for inclusion in all school policies, except for Policy 417, Chemical Use and Abuse, which will be finalized in November.

Motion No. 06-79: Boelter moved to approve all housekeeping edits as proposed for all North Star policies, except policy 417, Chemical Use and Abuse, which will be brought back for review at the November Board meeting. Zweber seconded. Motion passed.

Committee Reports

Director's Report (Kause): Kause summarized the Director's Report for the prior month and discussed some items in more detail. and noted that a new technology teacher has been hired.

Sorenson Communication has donated video relay monitors.

Cheryl Lange will make a presentation to the Board at the November board meeting.

Personnel Committee Report (Outlaw): A new technology teacher has been hired. It was noted that Thompson, school secretary, has received her Interpreter Certification.

Finance Committee Report (Mikulski): The budget was presented and discussed.

Motion No. 06-80: Mikulski moved to accept the budget as presented. Boelter seconded. Motion passed.

The Board complimented Kause, Thorpe and Mikulski for all their effort in putting together the budget and the appeal with the Department of Education.

The Department of Education has approved North Star's appeal for reimbursement of actual costs incurred. They also approved an up front appeal process so that we will not have to expend the funds prior to reimbursement. This will prevent costs incurred with using our Line of Credit.

Facilities Committee Report (Amis): Discussion was held regarding the options for space for next year. Discussions will be proceeding with MDS as to possible collaboration and/or sharing space in the future. Therefore, we will look at how to utilize additional space at Gustavus Adolphus church for next school year, given the increase in student numbers. Kause and Outlaw will develop a proposed layout of classrooms and office space for next year and this will be discussed at the upcoming Board retreat.

A task force will be appointed at the retreat to explore any interest and needs in any possible future collaboration between North Star and MDS.

New Business

Motion No. 06-81: Outlaw moved to accept Cheryl Lange's Accountability Report for 2006-2007. Boelter seconded. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

**The next meeting will be Monday, November 19, 2007,
6:30 to 9:00 p.m.**

Submitted by Barb Boelter - Secretary