



NEW HEIGHTS SCHOOLS, INC.
614 W. MULBERRY STREET, STILLWATER, MN 55082

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Board of Directors Meeting

Tuesday, February 21, 2023

**NHS - Room 205
4:00p.m. - 5:30 p.m.**

MINUTES

I. Opening of Meeting and Call to Order

Board Chair Sam Taylor called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m.

a. Attendance:

Board of Directors

Stephanie Bagwell P

Gidget Bell A

Christie Hogan P

Katy Johnson P

Sam Taylor P

Jennifer VanDyke P

Ex-Officio

Tom Kearney (Principal/Superintendent)

Lindsay Berberich (Bookkeeper)

Visitors

(no visitors)

b. Welcome Members/Guests/Visitors

Board Chair Sam Taylor welcomed all those present.

II. Review of Agenda & Minutes

a. Review Agenda & Conflict of Interest

The agenda was reviewed with no changes recommended. A roll call was completed to see if anyone had a conflict of interest with the Agenda items. Votes are as follows: Christie – no, Jen - no, Katy - no, Steph- no, Sam- no, Gidget– absent.

b. Approval of the January 10, 2023 Meeting Minutes (action)

On motion by Sam seconded by Christie with all present voting yes, motion passed to approve the Board of Directors minutes of January 10, 2023 as presented.

III. Financial Report

a. Financial Review (Action)

Lindsay presented and answered questions on the January 2023 Check Register report (available on the Board of Directors Shared Drive).

On motion by Sam seconded by Jennifer with all present voting yes, motion passed to approve the January 2023 Check Register as presented.

IV. Old Business

a. Board Goals 2022-23

- i. Continue to closely monitor, assess and maintain a record of the school's progress (monthly) towards meeting each of the authorizer contract goals.
 1. Accountability Goal 1 (FastBridge Reading)
 - *FAST update: Winter Test has been given.*
 2. Accountability Goal 2 (MCA Reading)
 - *We will reassess in the Spring after testing has been completed.*
 3. Accountability Goal 3 (MCA Math)
 - *We will reassess in the Spring after MCA testing has been completed.*
 4. Accountability Goal 4 (Graduation Rate)
 - *We will reassess this goal in the Spring after the end of the year.*
 - *We are on track.*
 5. Accountability Goal 5 (Attendance)
 - *Our current attendance rate is 89.05%.*
 6. Accountability Goal 6 (Parent/Student Surveys)
 - *Students have been given a mid-year survey.*
 - *Follow-up with Annah*
 7. Accountability Goal 7 (Post-high school plan)
 - *Annah works with students throughout the school year.*
 - *Senior Interviews*

Accountability Goals

- ii. Develop a draft for a five-year strategic plan by May of 2023.
- iii. Develop a plan to increase school enrollment by 10 students each year over the course of the next 5 years from 115 in the fall of 2022 to 165 in the spring of 2027 by May of 2023.
 - *Christie will send out a draft to be discussed at the next meeting.*
- iv. Explore and initiate the steps for the NHS building and grounds affiliated building company to acquire the property from CSDC by July 1 of 2025.
 - *No update currently.*

b. Discuss five-year strategic plan progress

V. New Business

a. School Calendar 2023-2024

Tom discussed the ISD 834 School Calendar for 2023-2024. He discussed changes to their calendar.

This was tabled to be voted on during the next board meeting.

VI. Policy Review (action)

a. Policy Revisions for Approval

- i. #616- School District System Accountability (Sam)

Sam led a discussion reviewing this document and recommended changes.

This policy was tabled for the next meeting to be updated to reflect New Heights' ideas.

- ii. #214- Out-of-State Travel by School Board Members (Katy)

Katy led a discussion reviewing this document and recommended changes.

On motion by Katy seconded by Christie with all present voting yes, motion passed to adopt the Policy #214- Out-of-State Travel by School Board Members as presented.

iii. #413 - Harassment and Violence (Jen)

Jennifer led a discussion reviewing this document and recommended changes.

On motion by Jennifer seconded by Sam with all present voting yes, motion passed to adopt the Policy #413 - Harassment and Violence as presented.

b. Policies for March

i. #507- Corporal Punishment

Christie led a discussion on this policy. Jen agreed to review this policy.

ii. #509.1-509A - Application and Enrollment Policy

Christie led a discussion on this policy. Christie agreed to review this policy.

iii. #514 - Bullying Prohibition

Christie led a discussion on this policy. Steph agreed to review this policy.

VII. Administrator's Report

Tom Kearney gave a report on the state of the school including the following:

- **Student Statistics:** ADM goal 116, current ADM is 109.22. Rate of attendance currently 89.05%. This year there have been 26 additions and 25 drops (5 returned - net 1) for various reasons throughout the year so far.

VIII. Receive Donations

\$190.90 Bell family to the playground fund

- Board Chair Sam Taylor thanked all participants for donations.

IX. Other (not to exceed 5 minutes)

X. Set Agenda for Next Meeting

a. Date & Time (March 14, 4:00pm NHS - Room 205)

b. Agenda/Responsibilities

- i.** Financial Review (Lindsay)
- ii.** Board Goals (enrollment committee)
- iii.** School Calendar 2023-2024
- iv.** June 2023 Board Vacancies
- v.** Present/Review #507- Corporal Punishment (Jen)
- vi.** Present/Review #509.1-509A - Application and Enrollment Policy (Christie)
- vii.** Present/Review #514 - Bullying Prohibition (Steph)
- viii.** Present/Review #616- School District System Accountability (Sam)
- ix.** Assign April Policies: #206- Public Participation & Complaints in Board Meetings, #410- Family and Medical Leave (& 410.1) and #609- Religion
- x.** Administrators Report (Tom)
- xi.** Receive Donations

XI. Adjournment

On the motion by Christie seconded by Katy with all present voting yes, motion passed to adjourn the Board of Directors Meeting at 4:56 pm.

Approved on March 14, 2023

Next Meetings

The next Board of Directors meeting will be on Tuesday, March 14 at 4:00 pm at New Heights in Room 205.