



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Wednesday, January 15, 2025
New Heights School Room 205
4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

MINUTES

I. Opening of Meeting/Call to Order

Board Chair Stephanie Bagwell called the meeting to order at 4:05pm.

A. Attendance

Board of Directors:

Stephanie Bagwell __X__

Angie Bohnert __X__

Sofie Engebretson __X__

Jennifer Van Dyke __X__

Rikk Sorenson __A__

Ex-Officio

Tom Kearney (Principal/Superintendent)

Lindsay Berberich (Bookkeeper)

Visitors:

None

B. Welcome Guests/Visitors

Board Chair Stephanie Bagwell welcomed those present.

II. Review of Agenda and Minutes (action)

A. Review Agenda and 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: Stephanie- no, Katy- no, Rikk- absent, Angie- no, Jennifer- no.

B. Approval of the [December 11, 2024 Minutes](#)

On a motion by Jen, seconded by Steph, with no discussion and all present voting yes, motion passed to approve the Board of Directors minutes from December 11, 2024.

III. Financial Report (action)

A. Financial Review

Lindsay presented and answered questions on the December 2024 Check Register Report (available on the Board of Directors shared drive)

On a motion by Steph, seconded by Jen, with no discussion and all present voting yes, motion passed to approve the Check Register as presented.

IV. Old Business (action)

A. Board Goals 2024-25

1. The Board of Directors will continue to monitor, assess, and maintain a monthly record of the school's progress towards meeting each of the authorizer contract goals, in part, to work to obtain a new contract with the Guild by June 30th, 2025. Updates will be given at Board of Directors meetings and minutes will be used as record.
2. The Board of Directors will continue to adopt new policies as needed, continue the current review process, and reorganize the school's policy manual to ensure that the school is up to date and compliant regarding all policy mandates by May of 2025.
3. The Board of Directors will explore and develop a mechanism to determine current family engagement to establish 5-7 opportunities for families to engage with the school, including open houses, conferences, and surveys.
4. The Board of Directors will explore, develop, and implement a school cell phone policy by December 11, 2024.
5. The Board of Directors will increase board members' level of awareness of the school's programming by inviting teachers to present at monthly board meetings and involving board members in school activities, including the first day, lesson observations, lunch duty, and morning/afternoon drop-off.

Discussion: Goal 1- Based on the information the authorizer has obtained so far, it is looking positive for a 5-year renewal.

Goal 2- In progress. 4 policies added last month. Monitoring redlines and implementing changes as needed.

Goal 3- Lot of parents went on elementary field trip. School choice week 1/26-2/1: communication home?

Goal 4- Goal met! Policy approved, implemented, and is going well!

Goal 5- Jen is willing to help with anything- has skills in filing, organizing, etc. Teachers to present- Nate, Claire, Sofie, Nicole, Phil (have him go first). Steph edited the presentation outline that's on the drive. Steph to invite Phil to present at February meeting.

B. Authorizer Goal Update

Accountability Goals 1-4: Based on Test Scores and Graduation. Fall baseline testing completed. Secondary FastBridge testing in progress.

Goal 5: Attendance currently 92.45%, on-track for graduation 100%.

Goal 6: Parent survey to be sent later (spring). Student surveys already completed.

Goal 7: Post-secondary plans/Graduation- In process

V. New Business (information)

A. Board Member Oath

Sofie Engebretson read and signed the Board Member Oath.

B. School year 25-26/Fiscal Year 26 Draft Calendar

Tom and Lindsay presented the draft calendar. Discussion was had surrounding days on and off. To be approved next month.

VI. Policy Review (action)

A. Policy Revisions for Approval

1. [#601- School District Curriculum and Instructional Goals](#) (has redlines) - Steph
Steph lead a discussion on this document and recommended changes.

On motion by Steph seconded by Angie, with no discussion and all present voting yes, motion passed to approve the policy #601- School District Curriculum and Instructional Goals as presented.

2. [#603- Curriculum Development](#) (has redlines) - Jen
Tabled until February- Steph to review.

B. Assign Policies for February

1. [#413- Harassment and Violence](#) (has redlines) - Jen
2. [#418- Drug-Free Workplace and School](#) (has redlines) - Angie
3. [#526- Hazing Prohibition](#) - Sofie
4. [#603- Curriculum Development](#) (Steph)

VII. Administrator's Report

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

- *Enrollment: 114- 60 boys, 54 girls. Attendance at 92.45%*
- *64 Referrals- 8th grade with 19, 7th grade with 14, 6th grade with 12. Middle school has 88% of total referrals, tenth grade is next highest. Two students have 11 referrals, one has 5, four students have 4. Big categories: 15 are language, 12 are disruption, 11 are disrespect. Most common follow-up action is conference with the student.*
- *New hot water heater being installed Monday. Plumbing issues addressed in bathrooms.*
- *Staffing: Short a special education teacher, job is posted. Long-term maternity sub Mr. Junker is doing well!*
- *MN Vikings interested in supporting playground efforts!*

VIII. Receive Donations

None

IX. Other

X. Set Agenda for Next Meeting

- *Financial Review*
- *Board Goals*
- *Authorizer Goal Update*
- *Approve 25-26 Calendar*
- *Present/Review Policies: #413 - Harassment and Violence, #418 - Drug Free Workplace and School, #526 - Hazing, #603- Curriculum Development.*
- *Assign March Policies: #514- Bullying Prohibition, #412- Expense Reimbursement, #521 Student Disability Nondiscrimination*
- *Teacher presentation*
- *Administrator's Report*
- *Receive Donations*
- *Other*
- *Set Agenda for next meeting*

XI. Adjournment

On a motion by Angie, seconded by Steph, the meeting was adjourned at 5:01pm.

Next Meeting:

The next Board of Directors Meeting will be on Wednesday, February 12 at 4:00pm in Room 205.

Mission: To inspire and challenge each individual to reach his or her full potential.

If you cannot attend the meeting please call Angie Bohnert, (651) 439-1962 abohnert@newheightsschool.org