



**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*

*\$60.00 Andersen Windows*

*- 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**

Approved on March 14, 2023

*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.*

**Next Meetings**

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