



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Wednesday, February 12, 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 __X__

Ex-Officio

Tom Kearney (Principal/Superintendent)

Lindsay Berberich (Bookkeeper)

Visitors:

Philip Ragan

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, Sofie- no, Rikk- no, Angie- no, Jennifer- no.

B. Approval of the [January 15, 2025 Minutes](#)

On a motion by Steph, seconded by Jen, with no discussion and all present voting yes, motion passed to approve the Board of Directors minutes from January 15, 2025.

III. Teacher Presentation

Philip Ragan presented on classes he teaches- Art and Science.

Philosophy: "Encourage curiosity and foster growth in every student." Get curious, stay curious. A little better every day.

Mistakes are ok and encouraged. Work through problems as a group. "Safety Nets and Launch Pads" to address the needs of lower and higher learners.

Find relatable experiences!

IV. Financial Report (action)

A. Financial Review

Lindsay presented and answered questions on the January 2025 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.

V. 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. Monitoring redlines and implementing changes as needed. Making other changes based on model policies.

Goal 3- School spirit week has been going well! Parents going on elementary field trip on Friday. Staff talked about sending home positive notes.

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. Phil presented today. Possible teachers to present- Nate, Claire, Sofie, Nicole. Steph to talk to Nicole about presenting (or Sofie).

B. Authorizer Goal Update

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

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

VI. New Business (action and information)

A. Approve School year 25-26/Fiscal Year 26 Calendar

Reviewed the updated calendar.

Student school day 7:55am - 2:25pm.

On a motion by Angie, seconded to Rikk, with no discussion and all present voting yes, motion passed to approve the 25-26 calendar.

B. Posting for Board Member Vacancies

Position of Board Chair is going to be vacant/up for renewal. Steph plans to run again. No other staff have expressed interest.

C. Bylaws Amendment

Mr. Kearney presented an amended version of the bylaws necessary due to legislative changes.

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

VII. Policy Review (action)

A. Policy Revisions for Approval

1. [#413- Harassment and Violence](#) (has redlines) - Jen

Jen led a discussion on this document and recommended changes, including changing review to annual.

On a motion by Jen seconded by Rikk, with no discussion and all present voting yes, motion passed to approve policy #413- Harassment and Violence as presented.

2. [#418- Drug-Free Workplace and School](#) (has redlines) - Angie

Angie led a discussion on this document and recommended changes.

On a motion by Angie seconded by Jen, with no discussion and all present voting yes, motion passed to approve policy #418- Drug-Free Workplace and School as presented.

3. [#526- Hazing Prohibition](#) - Sofie

Sofie led a discussion on this document and recommended changes.

On motion by Sofie seconded by Angie, with no discussion and all present voting yes, motion passed to approve policy #526- Hazing Prohibition as presented.

4. [#603- Curriculum Development](#) (has redlines) - Steph

Tabled until March.

B. Assign Policies for March

1. [#514- Bullying Prohibition](#) (has redlines) - Rikk

2. [#412- Expense Reimbursement](#) - Angie

3. [#521- Student Disability Nondiscrimination](#) (has redlines) - Jen

4. [#603- Curriculum Development](#) -Steph

VIII. Administrator's Report

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

- *Enrollment: Stable. Lots of inquiries. Attendance at 92%*
- *New hot water heater being installed. Plumbing issues continue to be a problem, along with other building problems.*
- *Staffing: Short a special education teacher, job is posted. Long-term maternity sub Mr. Junker is doing well!*

IX. Receive Donations

None

X. Other

None

XI. Set Agenda for Next Meeting

- *Financial Review*
- *Teacher presentation*
- *Board Goals*
- *Authorizer Goal Update*
- *Discuss Annual Meeting*
- *Present/Review Policies: #514- Bully Prohibition, #412- Expense Reimbursement, #521- Student Disability Nondiscrimination, #603- Curriculum Development*
- *Assign April Policies: #404- Employment Background Checks, #410- Family and Medical Leave, #410.1- Employee Leave Accrual Accumulation and Use, #417- Chemical Use Abuse*
- *Administrator's Report*
- *Receive Donations*
- *Other*
- *Set Agenda for next meeting*

XII. Adjournment

On a motion by Angie, seconded by Rikk, the meeting was adjourned at 5:04pm.

Next Meeting:

The next Board of Directors Meeting will be on Wednesday, March 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