

Board of Governors
SOBRIETY HIGH SCHOOL
Central office 4:00 – 6:00
Minutes, October 4th, 2006

Members attending: Peggy Hunter, Alan Braun, Larry Schmidt, Lee Wignall, Michele Milan, Chad Benesh,
Betty Brost, Curt Knutson, Lyle Taipale
Guests: Judi Hanson, Laura Hoenack, Lyle Taipale, Mary Popelka, Gregg White, Kellie Lund, Craig Swanson

4:00 Call to Order

Peggy Hunter

Approvals

- Agenda
 - Additions
 - Add a summary of outstanding APs to the treasurer's report
 - Update on Sobriety High Foundation Executive Director position
 - Update on facilities grant.

A motion to approve the agenda with these changes was made and seconded.

ACTION: Adopted

- Minutes 8/2/06

A motion to approve the minutes with no changes was made and seconded.

ACTION: Adopted

Consent Agenda

Curt Knutson

- Treasurer's report
 - *Summary*
 - The finance committee met on October 2nd with 9 attendees. Reviewed the year to date UFARS report of revenue and expense, the accounts payable aging.
 - To date, Sobriety High Foundation has not made any payments toward the budgeted amount of \$165,000. The line of credit for the school is still \$160,000; along with short-term loan of \$75,000 to cover grant expenditures. This will be paid back imminently as the next batch of funding is released.
 - The next meeting will include reports for SHF expenditures and revenue.
 - The next meeting is scheduled for November 13th,
 - *Electronic Funds Transfers, Check registers, review of transactions and receipts*
- Nursing services contract with ISD 917
 - Continuing contract for NS, Alliance, and Arona. West campus nursing services are provided gratis by Edina public schools.
- Personnel Actions
 - Cyrstal Mielke, full time life science at Alliance
 - Amy Moore, full time social studies at Alliance
 - Brad Krausaar on medical leave effective September 5th, Mary Popelka promoted to interim director
 - James Evanoff hired to replace Mary's assistant director position at Arona. First month of his position will be devoted to submitting the facilities renovation grant.
 - Nada Marusic voluntarily reduced position to a .6

- Katie Gruchalla, transitioning to .8 science at Arona
- Allie Halverson will be taking a maternity leave during the 2nd quarter. Jim Arnold will take over as a substitute during her absence.
- Applying for a variance for Suzanne Riou on her EBD license.
- Policy review:
 - Policy 208: Policy Development

A motion to approve the consent agenda was made and seconded.

ACTION: ADOPTED

Reports

Chair

Peggy Hunter

- Review of SHS bylaws and organizational chart
 - Peggy distributed a copy of the bylaws and noted a few major changes
 - 9 voting members
 - 5 teachers
 - 3 at large members
 - 1 designee from SHF Trustees
 - A nominating committee made up of 3 board members will look at term lengths and determine candidates for the at large positions.
 - Mary Breitenbucher, Chad Benesh and Mary Hoelscher will be on this committee.
- Betty requested documentation of the law regarding nonprofit and tax deductible donation requirements.
- A training session for members of governance (board of governors, campus advisory board members and trustees of Sobriety High Foundation) will be held on October 24th, from 5-8 pm at the Burnsville campus.

Superintendent

Lyle Taipale

- Review of Summer Session 2006
 - For the second year in a row, the summer session was a tremendous success both in enrollment and financially.
 - The final revenue calculations are expected in the next month from ISD 917.
 - Enrollment/revenue
 - Expenses
 - Refer to treasurer's report for information on the accounts payable
 - The school's budget was designed to use public funding for fixed operating expenses and personnel. Contributed revenue is used for half of business contracts and all variable expenses
 - Because SHF has been unable to fund the variable expense budget, Lyle appealed to the campus boards to contribute funds directly to the petty cash fund on each campus. Walk for Justice money from SHF has also gone into that account.
- Policy review procedures, FY07
 - Policy 208: Policy Development
 - Policy review schedule and board assignment
 - Policy distribution and access procedures
 - Lyle plans to have a policy book available at the next meeting.
 - He would like each board member to choose a policy to review and revise as needed.
- Research project in development

- Lyle and Lew Moran have been in discussion with the Harvard Medical School Mind Body Institute, which is very interested in pursuing a research project with Sobriety High.

Development Office Report

Gregg White

- Revenue Report
- Events status
 - Walk for Justice information
 - Sobriety Swings recap

Director of curriculum & instruction

Craig Swanson

- Facilities grant
- Peak Curriculum
 - These discussions tabled until the November meeting.

Campus Reports

• North Summit

Kellie Lund

- Enrollment
 - 32 students currently enrolled
 - 18 females, 14 males
 - 14 seniors, 10 juniors, 7 sophomores, 1 freshman
- Changes
 - 22 new enrollment meetings have taken place since the end of the last school year
 - 17 new students have enrolled
 - 2 students have reentered treatment with plans to return after completion, 2 students are considering Burnsville due to moving out of the area, 1 student's family is pressuring her to go to a "real" school, so she may be leaving, 1 possibly entering TLC next month, and would be at west
- Outreach
 - Kellie spoke at Anthony Louis Center in Blaine in August and will again next week
 - 3 students will speak at Forest Lake next Friday
 - 1 enrollment meeting schedule for this week
 - 3 other families have begun the application process
 - Phoenix House will now be sending students to Maplewood campus – bi-lingual issues will need to be addressed
 - Scheduling in process for speaking to Washington county parents and Washington county school chemical health counselors at 2 separate events
- Highlights
 - Student council
 - School store is earning money
 - Very active in organizing as a group, with one strong student leader
 - Parent organization
 - Now called the PSA, with a wonderful volunteer coordinator heading up many initiatives to enhance the school
 - Much more parent involvement this year
 - Campus board
 - Clarifying the mission, commitments and involvement and recruiting new members
 - Meetings on hold until reorganized

- Academics
 - Students very enthusiastic about creative writing & school newspaper
 - Students very excited about animal behavior class with live rats and Sinner boxes
 - Students pleased with math curriculum & social studies curriculum
 - All teachers are receiving praise and appreciation from students
 - Restorative justice process has had a positive impact with school theft resolution
- National Recovery month Twins celebration was well attended
- Campus raised a great deal of money through the walk for justice, and happenings book sales
Judi Hanson
- West
 - Enrollment
 - Enrollment is over 50 students
 - Began the year strong and will continue to keep students enrolling
- Alliance
Mary Breitenbacher
 - Enrollment
 - Student population is steadily increasing from the beginning of the school year
 - Highlights
 - Student council
 - The school store has seen some rivalry from another group of students who would like to open a competing store. Mary is considering this an opportunity to education the kids about free market competition.
 - Parent organization
 - Beginning to get organized. Have a few great leaders who have been helping out
 - Campus board
 - Leadership transition with the board. Bryan Peffer is now serving as the chair. Many members are continuing to offer great support at the campus level.
- Arona
Mary Popelka
 - Enrollment
 - 26 students currently enrolled
 - 1 intake coming up
 - 1 former student pending
 - Highlights
 - Parent conferences October 12
 - Parent/student community meeting on October 12th also
 - Poetry reading and guitar class performance on November 8th
 - English class is doing “slam poetry” with other classes
 - Students are organizing a school store
 - Students are inviting speakers to speak to the whole school
 - Treatment counselor
 - Relationship abuse speaker
 - Outreach worker from OffStreets
 - One student is doing an internship with a large and small animal vet as a career path exploration

Other Business