

Board of Governors
SOBRIETY HIGH SCHOOL
North Summit Academy 4:00 – 6:00
Minutes, November 15, 2006

Members attending: Peggy Hunter, Lyle Taipale, Betty Brost, Larry Schmidt, Chad Benesh,
Kit Friedemann, Lee Wignall, Michele Milan, Alan Braun, Bob Doffing, Curt Knutson
Staff: Gregg White, Susan Raffo, Kellie Lund, Craig Swanson,
Mary Breitenbucher, Laura Hoenack, Judi Hanson, Mary Popelka
Guests: Bob Blevins, Marge Romero, Bob Owens

4:00 Call to Order

Peggy Hunter

Approvals

- Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda was made and seconded.

ACTION: ADOPTED

- Minutes 10/4/06

A motion to approve the minutes was made and seconded.

ACTION: ADOPTED

Consent Agenda

Curt Knutson

- Treasurer's report
 - *Summary*
 - *Electronic Funds Transfers, Check registers, review of transactions and receipts*
- Finance committee
 - Curt reported on the most recent meeting of the finance committee. He noted that the committee is still not receiving enough information to assist with analysis of financial management.
 - He plans to develop a list of reports that he feels would be helpful to the committee.
- Personnel Actions
 - Nicholas Morales, Mathematics teacher, Alliance Academy
- Policy review:
 - Policy 208: Policy Development (2nd review)

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

ACTION: ADOPTED

Reports

Chair

Peggy Hunter

- Continuation Request Signature Sheet Certification
 - Board members signatures required for Charter School Implementation Grant
- Report of training session for members of governance
- Review of SHS bylaws and organizational chart
 - Kit Friedemann has revised the bylaws from the last official draft. These will be posted to www.sobrietyhigh.org for board members to download and read. The

organizational chart will be posted as well. Approval of these bylaws will be necessary at the next meeting.

- Technology intern potential (Laura)
 - Laura reported that two volunteers are helping her to draft a position description for a technology intern.
 - It was suggested that the interns also provide some training for staff in order to assure ongoing technology capabilities.

Campus Reports

- North Summit

Kellie Lund

- Enrollment
 - 37 students currently enrolled
 - 15 females, 22 males
 - 17 seniors, 10 juniors, 10 sophomores, 0 freshman
- Changes
 - 20 new enrollments have taken place since the last Board of Governors meeting
 - 17 new students have enrolled
 - 13 have left:
 - 1 due to transportation
 - 2 entered halfway houses & went to closer recovery schools (1 is at Edina)
 - 2 due to romantic relationship issues (1 due to a breakup with a student here, 1 to follow her boyfriend to a different recovery school – he left due to transportation)
 - 1 moved out of state to a different foster home
 - 1 re-entered treatment
 - 6 returned to using with no motivation to be sober at the time
 - 1 just recently entered treatment and plans to return
- Outreach
 - Kellie spoke at Anthony Lewis Center in Blaine on October 12th
 - Kellie had a table at a Washington County transition fair
 - Kellie spoke to the 6 Washington County school chemical health counselors
 - Kellie had lunch with the 2 local school district chemical health counselors
 - Kellie marketed at the annual statewide CD counselor's conference
 - Lyle and Kellie met with 6 St. Paul school district chemical health counselors
 - Kellie provided packets and spoke with staff at Fairview Maplewood
- Highlights
 - Student council
 - School store is earning money
 - Held luau and bonfire parties that were well attended
 - Had fall festival on 10/31
 - Very active with new ideas and plans yet to be brought to fruition
 - PTO
 - Now called PSA, have a wonderful volunteer coordinator heading up many initiatives to enhance the school
 - Much more parent involvement this year
 - Campus board

- Clarifying mission, commitments, and involvement and recruiting new members
- 2 new board members to begin for December meeting

- Academics

- Students very enthusiastic about creative writing & school newspaper
- Students excited about animal behavior class with live rats and Skinner boxes
- Students pleased with math curriculum & social studies curriculum

- West

Judi Hanson

- Enrollment

- 55 students currently enrolled
 - 28 seniors, 19 juniors, 8 sophomores, 0 freshmen

- Outreach

- Four students were asked by the District Chemical health Coordinator to speak at Edina High School
- Judi and two seniors spoke at House of Hope Presbyterian Church on Sunday to the Youth and Parents as part of their recovery education week

- Highlights

- Student council
 - The students are busy with their first fundraiser of the year. They are selling cookie dough and hope to offset costs for a bus and admission for a field trip
 - Most students agree that being all together on a bus is a great way to bring the community together
- PTO
 - Parents held the first meeting of the All Night Party committee to begin selecting a theme. Lots of ideas resulted in a possible final theme
 - On November 18th, the parents are hosting a parent, student, and staff game night. They are charging a fee for the event, which also includes a pot lock dinner. Choices of activities are volleyball, basketball, chess, ping-pong and board games.
 - Plans are underway for another cleaning night by parents and a future carpet cleaning is also planned.
- The West Campus Band (currently known as “covert opps” played last Friday night at Betsy’s Back Porch. It was a standing room only crowd and the performance was non-stop featuring 30+ songs done by 10 amazing students and Joe Covert!
- Elective classes currently offered are Drama, Community Event, Yoga, Latino dancing and Physical Education
- Larry is busy with his digital media team and they are producing a video about nutrition, with live cooking demonstrations and the guidance of a General Mills nutritionist. The first peek is a winner!
- Board
 - The board held a pancake breakfast at Applebee’s restaurant and it was a positive experience with great attendance. This was a first fundraiser for our board with many to come in the future.

- Alliance

Mary Breitenbucher

- Enrollment

- 53 currently enrolled
 - 2 kids are PSEO (total kids for whom we can bill = 52)
 - Changes
 - Since the beginning of the year, we have lost 5 kids
 - 1 referred to inpatient treatment
 - 1 returned to home school (additional treatment recommended and refused)
 - 1 turned loose by the courts
 - 1 returned to Scott County adult corrections to serve some time
 - 1 is using/not in school/not employed
 - Outreach
 - Wrote 2 grants: 1 for transportation, the other for science equipment
 - Lyle and Mary spoke to the Dakota County commissioners
 - Dakota County CD counselors met at school, asked Mary to present to them
 - Students participated in a focus group run by Dakota County health department – seeking opinions on appropriate advertisements and educational material related to smoke cessation
 - Two presentations to Anthony Lewis Center
 - Highlights
 - Student newspaper beginning this term
 - Student council has earned \$900
 - Our swimmer is going to state
 - Three other athletes – baseball, girl’s hockey, wrestling; made a decision to do sports agreement through Burnsville
 - PTO
 - Alanon group active and gaining attendance
 - Net \$800 from cookie dough sales
 - Planning an event December 7 (combination potluck/sponsor recognition for kids/speaker from River Ridge for parents)
 - Good outreach to new parents and potential parents
- Arona *Mary Popelka*
- Enrollment
 - 30 students currently enrolled
 - 14 females, 16 males
 - 16 seniors, 9 juniors, 5 sophomores, 0 freshman
 - Changes
 - 7 pending enrollments
 - 1 student working on self directed learning from home
 - Outreach
 - Guest speakers have been coming in to speak for the reproductive health class
 - Highlights
 - Student leadership organization
 - Opened a school store, lots of kids are involved
 - Parent student organization
 - Last meeting had a poetry reading and the guitar class performed
 - Parents have started cleaning the school once a month

- Board
 - In the process of assembling the campus board. Should be in place soon
- Academics
 - Katie Gruchalla has come on board between Arona and Maplewood. She is fitting in well into the community and the kids like her.

Discussion items

Peggy Hunter

- Case Statement (SHS and SHF)
 - The vision, mission, and goal statements were reviewed and discussed. They will be revised and redistributed.
- Grading
 - The group designated to determine the grading policy had come to a stand still. Peggy volunteered to facilitate a new group of staff and board members to finalize the policy
 - The group will initially take inventory of the work already completed.
- Termination of faculty
 - The board asked that the management team draft a procedure that can be reviewed at the January meeting.

Superintendent

Lyle Taipale

- Review of enrollment and revenue
 - ADM comparison 06 to 07
 - Lyle distributed documents comparing the current enrollment to 05-06. The board to review this data in advance of the budget decisions at our December meeting.
 - Current approved Preliminary Budget (to be revised at the December meeting).
- Policy review, FY07
 - Distribution of policies
 - Lyle requested that each board member take one or two policies, read them, and present them during the year for review. The policies will be distributed at the next meeting.

Development Office Report

Gregg White

- Executive Directors, Sobriety High Foundation
 - Introduction of Susan Raffo. She and Beth Zemsy will work as a team with a primary goal to increase foundation contributions.
 - SHF has received the 501(c)3 tax determination, enabling the application process for grants and other funds
- Events status
 - There will not be a SHS gala in this fiscal year.
 - The Amethyst luncheon will be held in mid February, likely again at the Minneapolis Club.
 - Sobriety Swings has been moved to the spring. Either 2nd or the 3rd Monday in May.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40