

Board of Governors
Sobriety High School
Central Office 4:00-6:30 P.M.
Minutes, February 21, 2007

Members attending: Lee Wignall, Chad Benesh, Peggy Hunter, Charlotte Mardell, Betty Brost, Curt Knutson,
Lyle Taipale, Alan Braun, Bob Doffing, Larry Schmidt, Bryan Pepper, Michele Milan
Staff: Judi Hanson, Craig Swanson, Mary Breitenbucher, Mary Popelka, Kellie Lund, McKenna Beaumaster,
Laura Hoenack, Chet Johnson
Guests: Cathie Hartnett, Kit Friedemann

4:00 Call to Order

Peggy Hunter

Approvals

- Agenda
- Minutes, January 17, 2007 Board Meeting
 - Resolution to approve the SOD plan needs to be added to the minutes.

Consent Agenda

- MDE approved Sobriety High's SOD plan
- The line of credit was paid down to \$95,000. There is a permanent reduction of \$60,000.
- Alyson Halverson's position has been changed to Science Resource Teacher at half of her regular compensation. Jim Arnold will be continued through 3rd quarter to fill out the position.
- New copier lease agreements have been negotiated. All campuses will receive new machines.

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

ACTION: ADOPTED

Campus Reports

- Alliance *Mary Breitenbucher*
 - Enrollment
 - 54 currently enrolled
 - 24 seniors, 22 juniors, 7 sophomores, 1 freshman
 - 20 students receiving special education services
 - 87 students served thus far this year
 - Changes
 - Several students have left in the last 6 weeks
 - 11 were identified early as high risk and served by River Ridge
 - 6 in treatment
 - New social studies teacher who will be working half time in special education
 - Exploring a relationship with Junior Achievement of the Upper Midwest
 - River Ridge Treatment center relationship still going strong
 - Community cable is going to work with Alliance to offer a class to develop programming on channel 16.
- Arona *Mary Popelka*
 - Enrollment
 - 43 students currently enrolled
 - 17 females, 26 males

- 17 seniors, 18 juniors, 6 sophomores, 2 freshman
 - 6 pending enrollments, Mary is doing a minimum of 4 intakes a week.
- Changes
 - 4 students have left
 - 1 went to treatment and will return
 - 1 pregnant needs to have a shorter day
 - 2 left to go to an evening school
- Chisago Lakes Fairview has been a fantastic resources. Sending referrals, as well as those coming from Anthony Lewis center.
 - Kids are doing the majority of the outreach, and it's working well.
- Student leadership organization still making money
- Have a campus board, with Julie Swokorski as one of the leaders

- North Summit

Kellie Lund

- Enrollment
 - 41 students
 - 26 males 15 females
 - 16 seniors, 13 juniors, 11 sophomores, 0 freshman 1 8th grader
- Changes
 - 15 new students have enrolled since last meeting
 - 7 left
 - 4 returned to using
 - 2 were Phoenix group home
 - 1 went to jail
 - 1 chose to drop out
 - 1 move to Burnsville area
- Outreach
 - 1 enrollment meeting has occurred with enrollment beginning next week
 - 3 other families are beginning the application process
 - Kellie visited Anthony Louis Center & spoke to parents and students
 - St Paul schools superintendent of alternative schools visited campus
 - 13 students spoke at North High School
 - 6 students spoke at Mounds Park Academy
 - Kellie visited Fairview Lakes for a staff meeting of all counselors
- Highlights
 - Student council
 - Held a pizza party to celebrate community accomplishments
 - Held an old-fashioned valentines party with a meal
 - PSA
 - Provided refreshments and recruited during conferences
 - Campus board
 - Clarifying mission, commitments and involvement and recruiting new members
 - 1 new board members to begin for March meeting
 - Field trip was a success to National Geographic Live with Insight Recovery School
 - Angela, Lisa, and Kellie working on conference plans for ARS for July
 - Parent/teacher conferences held 2/15 – very positive atmosphere

- Community attended annual recovery school snow tubing event 2/15
- Basic standards testing went smoothly
- Staff receiving CPR & first aid training

- West

Judi Hanson

- Enrollment
 - 60 students enrolled
 - 30 seniors, 23 juniors, 5 sophomores, 2 freshman
 - Two relapses have occurred
- Student council
 - Bagged groceries at Cub Foods and raised \$650.
 - Winter formal was held on February 18th at the University Club of St Paul. Staff and parents chaperoned, as everyone enjoyed a sit down dinner and dancing
- PTO
 - Parents are planning a social event in March to welcome newcomers and build community.
 - A cleaning day is planned where parents do heavy duty cleaning of the kitchen bathroom and commons, etc.
- Highlights
 - Channel One TV came to follow Sara S at campus. Her story focused on how she had used prescription drugs and how now her life as a recovering adolescent has allowed her to succeed
 - ABC News visited for one day and plans to air a 2 to 3 minute segment on Sobriety High School for the “Nightly News with Charlie Gibson.” They followed Carolyn B. who is a senior and has 3 years and 2 months sobriety.
 - A team of professionals from Jaynesville, WI visited our campus to learn more about starting a recovery school. I am also in contact with a woman from New York City who plans to start a recovery school as well.
 - Joan Madsen, parent of Dave presented Sexual Health, birth control, and STD information to each of the four peer counseling groups. She is an OB-GYN nurse practitioner and donates one day to our students so they have up to date information
 - Electives currently offered are: drama, biology at the movies, community event (band), yoga, physical education, and video production.
 - Several seniors have been accepted to more than one college are excited to visit and narrow their choices.

Superintendent’s Report

- Calendar
 - Board reviewed a tentative calendar. Changes will be made by the management team and brought back to the board.
- \$75,000 short term loan was paid down along with the line of credit reduction. This is a permanent payoff.
- Budget revision process FY07
 - Lyle outlined 07-08 budget assumptions. His presentation is in the archive of these minutes.
- Business office change

- Lyle and Laura met with Sandy Schmidt from School Business Solutions. At first glance, they would be an excellent business office for Sobriety High. Laura will continue to get quotes from other vendors for comparison.

Special Report

Peggy Hunter, Curt Knutson

- Financial Report - Current Status of Charter School
 - Due to a financial crisis that must be addressed before the end of the school year, to ease the raising debt, the Foundation Crisis Task Force is amking the following recommendations to the Sobriety High School Board of Governors:
 - Personnel
 - Eliminate two full-time positions
 - Superintendent
 - Curriculum and Instruction/Wellness irector
 - Eliminate one part-time position
 - Development Director (-.2)
 - Increase one part-time position to full time:
 - General Office Manager (+.55)
 - Hire part-time educational consultant
 - To establish financial systems, sustainable budget, and cash flow projections
 - To participate in strategic planning for personnel, school and program needs
 - To lineup summer school courses
 - Business Management
 - Research other business management firms to find services needed at lower cost
 - Central Office
 - Move the central school office to one of the campuses to eliminate non-reimburseable lease payments
 - Increase Enrollment
 - Foundation development office provide expertise and strategies for promoting Sobriety High and assistance to program directors in promoting their campuses
 - Copy Machines
 - Re-negotiate leases to provide basic service copy machines at each campus
 - Libre
 - Services provided by Sobriety High School personnel will be rendered on a contractual basis.

A motion to approve the recommendations from the task force was made and seconded.

Closed discussion was held.

ACTION: ADOPTED

Policy Review

- Postponed until March meeting

Meeting Dates

- March 21
- April 18
- May 16

Central Office
Location TBD
Location TBD