

Board of Governors
Sobriety High School
Central Office,
June 20, 4:00-6:30

MINUTES

Members attending: Peggy Hunter, Charlotte Mardell, Bryan Peffer, Alan Braun,
Larry Schmidt, Bob Doffing, Lee Wignall, Chad Benesh, Betty Brost, Michele Milan
Staff: Stan Hacker, Mary Popelka, Mary Breitenbucher, Laura Hoenack, Kellie Lund
Guests: Nicolle Roush

Call to Order

Peggy Hunter

Approvals

Peggy Hunter

- Agenda
 - Sobriety High Foundation update will follow the approvals

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

ACTION: ADOPTED

- Minutes: May 31, 2007
 - Add date at the top of the minutes
 - Social studies at Burnsville is 1.0, not .8

A motion to approve the revised minutes was made and seconded.

ACTION: ADOPTED

- Administrative staff letters of appointment
 - All administrative staff signed the letters authorized at the May meeting.

A motion to approve the administrative staff letters of appointment was made and seconded.

ACTION: ADOPTED

SHF Update

Alan Braun

- Revised request from the school for \$100,000 for operations and \$100,000 for debt reduction was adopted with the FY2008 budget.
- Money in the budget was dedicated to marketing materials, including a revised website

Treasurers Report

Curt Knutson

- Update financial status
- Finance committee report
- Handling individual campus fundraising and contributions
 - There remains some confusion regarding the campus discretionary funds, and the legality of using school funds in this way.
 - At the request of the finance committee, Bryan has agreed to look into the issue.

- Outstanding payables
 - The outstanding payable balance is in excess of \$140,000
 - With the most recent payment from MDE, a large portion of this will be paid before the end of the fiscal year.

- Recovery from SOD Resolution

A motion to approve the resolution was made and seconded.

ACTION: ADOPTED

Discussion

Peggy Hunter

Mary Breitenbacher

- Technology Report
 - Meeting with software TSIS
 - A group of staff and board members have been to review a few student management software systems. The choice is currently between Infinite Campus and TSIS, and the final decision will be made within the next week.

A motion was made and seconded to permit this task force to decide which software is best. The task force will consult with the budget committee, and the board will vote on the final decision via email.

ACTION: ADOPTED

- Larry will collaborate with the data gathering task force to determine what data about students is necessary to collect.
- Interim director position description
 - Peggy distributed a draft of the Charter School Director position description
 - The board discussed changes and will forward further edits to Chad Benesh. When the draft is in final form, it will be posted
- Leadership between June 30 and when interim director begins
 - Laura will send a weekly update to Peggy, Bob Doffing, Charlotte Mardell and all program directors.
 - Program directors will work collaboratively to solve campus issues as they arise.

A motion to create an interim task force on leadership consisting of Peggy, Bob, and Charlotte was made and seconded.

ACTION: ADOPTED

- Recruitment and retention of students
 - Sobriety High Foundation will provide Susan's time to work with program directors on retention. Susan will come to management meetings; Mary Popelka will take the responsibility for inviting her to meetings.
- Staffing for required courses: art, PE, health, languages
 - PE, Health, and languages are a local decision
 - Art is a state standard
- Adhering to school calendar
 - In order to avoid problems with state reporting, the board asked that all program directors follow the adopted calendar while scheduling programming for the school year.

Board Calendar

Stan Hacker

- Stan presented a draft of the board calendar. The board will add to the listed tasks as the year progresses.
- Monthly needs:
 - Review of financial reports, including outstanding payables
 - Review of current ADMs
 - Update on SOD plan and progress

Policy Review

Laura Hoenack

- Laura has reviewed all of the currently adopted policies by the board. We are not out of compliance on any that must be reviewed annually. However, there are a number of policies required by the Minnesota School Board Association that Sobriety High does not currently have. Laura will prepare draft copies of those using the MSBA templates, and in September the board will review the Policy Development Policy.

Campus Reports

Alliance

Mary Breitenbucher

- ADM – end of year was 55
- Graduates – 15 total, 12 who walked in the ceremony on June 7th.
- Parent Support Organization
 - Two successful fund raisers
 - Sponsored an early winter potluck dinner for kids/sponsors/parents with a speaker from River Ridge on Adolescent brain development and addiction.
 - Organized a large farewell for the senior class
 - Co-sponsored a trip to the Science Museum with the student council; funded recovery in the park event
 - Funded all of our acknowledgements of kids' sober anniversaries
 - Funded study carrel materials (the carrels themselves built by volunteers including the campus board chairman and our special education teacher over spring break)
 - The parents al-anon group originated from the PSO and is approaching its one-year anniversary.
- Student Council
 - Earned \$1900 running the school store
 - Organized and funded our Christmas party; co-sponsored a trip to the Science Museum with the PSO; funded sober school tubing event; funded prom decorating expenses
- Campus Advisory Board
 - Raised \$1600 in the beginning of the year to cover variable expenses
 - Very active on committee and campus board levels assisting us in finding financial and organizational direction
- Community Relationships
 - River Ridge Treatment Center served 24 kids and families with us
 - Mary B was asked to join the advisory board of Dakota County drug court

- Burnsville City Council invited us to participate in “Cops Cause,” a drug/alcohol awareness event co-sponsored by the council, Burnsville Police and a youth organization called “The Garage.” The city donated the proceeds from that event to Alliance Academy
 - Gill S. represented SHS as a swim team of one. She won third in State in her event.
 - Students testified at the State legislature on behalf of a bill that would require home school districts to enter into cooperative athletic agreements with sober schools. We met Gov. Pawlenty when it was signed into law.
 - Faculty
 - Hard working, fun staff, all new to each other – performed well and turned in an excellent year
 - All but one staff returning next year
 - Summer School
 - Summer session one – enrolled and attending are 32 students
- Arona *Mary Popelka*
 - Enrollment
 - 47 students enrolled at the end of the year
 - 15 females, 32 males
 - 10 seniors, 19 juniors, 14 sophomores, 4 freshman
 - 6 seniors were able to walk at the commencement ceremony, 3 were more than 1 credit behind, and one came in with completed credits from his home school and graduated with them.
 - Changes
 - 3 students left (1 assumed using, 1 returned to treatment, 1 stopped attending school not believed to be using)
 - 22 summer school students
 - People are already calling for next fall. Mary will start doing intakes in August.
 - Outreach
 - Mary plans to send informational letters/packets to all school counselors in District 11, Elk River, and Maple Grove. She will also send information to treatment centers.
 - Highlights
 - Campus Board
 - Met the 3rd Thursday of each month
 - School Store
 - Parents donated food to school store, bring them back into business
 - Senior celebration was amazing! They had poets, a speaker, and musicians perform. They honored graduates by conducting a ceremony like a medallion ceremony. It was amazing to hear what parents, grandparents, siblings, and other family members had to say to each graduate.
 - Received positive feedback from graduates, family members, and former students about this format. Plan to conduct it this way next year. A powerful reminder for staff and students alike for why we all work so hard together!
 - Academics

- Aleida Connell, math teacher, is not returning in the fall
- Looking for a .5 English teacher and a .5 Math teacher. Contact Mary if you know someone who is interested
- Also looking for a .7 administrative assistant
- For summer school, Paul is teaching journals, poetry, and script reading/writing.
- Paul and Mary are both participating in recovery group and group activity
- Teachers worked amazingly hard this year and were endlessly committed! Mary is looking forward to entering next year with the powerful team of Michele Milan (lead teacher), Paul McGlynn (special ed), and Katie Gruchalla (Science).

▪ North Summit

Kellie Lund

- Enrollment
 - 44 students at the end of the year
 - Summer School – 17 enrolled in the current session, 6 are brand new students
- Population Shifts
 - 6 new students planning to enroll for summer school
- Outreach
 - Faxed and called treatment centers with summer school schedule
 - Will be scheduling visits
- PSA and Campus Board
 - Hosted an excellent end of year celebration honoring sponsors, seniors, and volunteers
- Highlights
 - 365 hours given by volunteers this school year
 - Recovery in the Park very successful
 - Prom with PEASE was very successful
 - Senior retreat at St. Croix camp
 - Hazelden intern a very positive addition – more to come
 - 8 graduates
 - A full slate of summer school offerings
 - 2nd Phoenix Group home will send their students to Maplewood next fall

▪ West

Judi Hanson

- Coming in the final minutes!

End of year highlights, low lights, joys, concerns

Next Meeting

- Wednesday, August 8th, 2007 3:00 pm Central Office

Adjourn