

Board of Governors – Special Meeting

Sobriety High School

Wednesday, November 25, 2009

3:00 – 5:30 P.M.

Minutes

Members Present: Paul McGlynn, Chet Johnson, Bruce Santerre, Bob Doffing,
Alan Braun, Joe Covert, Dan Ondich, Crystal McAninch, Bruce Santerre
Staff: Barb Wornson, Judi Hanson, Lee Merrick, Sarah May, Hannah Cushing,
Alicia LaMunion, Julie Wettstein
Guests: students and parents from West

**3:00 Call to Order
Introductions**

Bob Doffing
Bob Doffing

Opening Discussion from Parents/Students

- Our current ADM is 145; we need 61 students by December 1 to make it to 185 ADM.
- Parents haven't been asked for money or donations so they didn't know there was a crisis.
- What is the process for closing the campus; notifying the parents and helping students find another school?
- Why weren't parents notified?
- What happens to the kids if we close an area? There is nowhere for the kids in Edina to go.
- We've been experiencing financial problems for over 3 years.
- We need to inform parents of board meetings. Campus board reps should be letting their parents know when there is a board meeting.
- We should contact Marty Davis who does the Sobriety High scholarship and rather than choosing one student to give it to, ask if he'll give it to Sobriety High School as a whole.

Budget Options

- *ADM 165/Stay the same* – is it realistic to reach 165 at the end of the year?
- *ADM 120/Close one campus* – keep current staffing model at every other campus. This budget was created cutting the staff at West only. This option leaves us too far in the negative. Toss this model out.
- *ADM 80/Close Edina and Maplewood* – This option leaves us in the negative as well. Toss this model out.
- *ADM 145/Stay the same* – we would end up in SOD. Toss this model out.
- *ADM 140/Close Edina* – this ADM doesn't seem attainable.

Budget Options Discussion

- What is our benefit if we start making cuts now vs January 15? ADM percent would go way down if we wait and you'd have to get that many more kids.
- We are budgeted to be at 46 kids per campus all year long.
- If we took a 10% cut for all staff for the remainder of the year we would save \$60,000.
- Maplewood is at 80% of budgeted ADM, West is at 65%, Alliance is at 87%, Arona is at 76%.
- Each campus should have a parent meeting to try to increase enrollment and do fundraisers.
- Our procedure and structure have slowed down the ability to be flexible and proactive to adjust staffing.
- The foundation gave us the flexibility because they gave us the \$150,000-\$200,000.
- What are our assumptions right now?
 - We have to find a middle ground between 165 and 145. The increase is unknown. We could find a middle ground to be more realistic and functional. We have to go with our best guess and assume some level of risk.

- We could cut \$50,000 then we would be up to \$67,000 – roughly \$23,000 more to stay out of SOD.
- Go in middle with 155 ADM – right about 5% fund balance and then cut additional funds from salaries across the board. Cut additional \$35,000 or 5% pay cut for all staff.
- We could look at cutting two staff.
- Our new option is 155 ADM and we would also look at making a cut of \$35,000 now. Ask SBS to give us a date where there is no turning back on ADM. Look at ADM at 155 and find the date where we then need to cut \$75,000.

Motion made by Paul to change the budget to 155 ADM with \$35,000 cuts to be made immediately, second by Bruce.

ACTION: ADOPTED

Motion made by Paul to have SBS find our drop dead date when we won't reach 155 ADM, second by Joe.

ACTION: ADOPTED

- Get the annual appeal out to parents. Something needs to be sent from the Executive Director. We don't have a central organization for fundraising efforts. As a donor, list what is needed, what the problem is and how much we need on the letter. What is a reasonable date that the letter can be sent out? December 4th.

Motion made by Dan that central office insures that the letter is sent by December 4th and send to at least current parents, second by Paul.

ACTION: ADOPTED

- If we don't go up in ADM by the next board meeting, we really need to do something and its no choice.

Meeting Dates: All meetings are 4:00-6:30 at the Central Office unless other wise noted.

December 16, January 20, February 17, March 17, April 21, May 19, June 16

Adjournment