

THE HOPE ACADEMY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

August 24, 2016

MINUTES

A meeting of the Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, August 24, 2016. An agenda was distributed to all present (and made a part of these minutes by reference). Directors in attendance included Michael Deragon, Matthew Harvey, John Kelly, Amanda McMullen, David Sluter, and Deana Tineo. Staff in attendance included Margaret Knowlton, Raphael Diaz, Tom Conlon and Deborah Malachowski.

Call to Order – In the absence of Chairman Lombardi and Vice Chair Mr. David Ortiz, Mr. John Kelly called the meeting to order at 8:43 a.m. and welcomed the group.

Consent Agenda- Mr. Kelly asked if there were any questions regarding the minutes of the April, 26, 2016 Board meeting which were previously sent out to the Board members. Hearing none, Mr. Kelly then asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Ratification of Transportation - Mr. Kelly asked Mr. Harvey to explain the Finance Committee's decision to contract with First Student Bus Company rather than purchase a bus. Mr. Harvey

outlined the budgetary considerations that impacted the choice. Ms. Knowlton explained the transportation plan for the school year including information pertaining to routing.

Mr. Harvey made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented, Ms. Tineo seconded the same, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Financial Update - Mr. Conlon reviewed the budget providing an in-depth total summary of revenue, expenditures and projections. He detailed the operating surplus as well the changes in purchased services and new personnel positions as the school population increases. Mr. Conlon also explained how the Consolidated Resource Plan (CRP) federal funds will be allocated according to the plan for The Hope Academy to operate a schoolwide program this year. He then reviewed each line item individually. A brief discussion ensued as members asked for clarification to some of the details in the budget.

Personnel Report – Margaret Knowlton requested that item 9 (Personnel Report) be moved forward for discussion as some members were limited for time. Ms. Knowlton updated the Board on new staff personnel as well as some of the additional positions and described the support they will be providing to the students.

Opening of School Report – Mr. Diaz updated the group on the

success of the kindergarten orientation, as well as noting that the (Hope Academy Parent Association (HAPA) assisted parents in ordering uniforms. Mr. Harvey and Ms. Tineo suggested that upper grade student's orientation be on a different timeline with some additional structure.

At this time Mr. Deragon and Ms. Tineo recused themselves from the remainder of the meeting and were no longer participants.

Assessment Data Presentation – Mr. Diaz shared information regarding assessment data. He answered questions from the Board regarding the administration and results of the benchmark and state assessments. Members voiced concern over the lack of a summer program citing learning loss. Ms. Knowlton assured the Board that the implementation of a summer program will be in place for next summer. She also explained that all students were encouraged to participate in a summer reading challenge. Members requested further updates on the assessment data throughout the year.

Due to time constraints items 7 (School Board Trainings) and 8 (School Improvement Team/School Improvement Plan) on the Agenda were tabled.

At this time Mr. Harvey recused himself from the remainder of the meeting and was no longer a participant.

Adjournment –Mr. Kelly asked if there were any further questions and upon there being none, thanked the group and asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. Sluter made a motion to adjourn and the motion was unanimously approved. The Board adjourned at 10:15 a.m.