

Regular Meeting of the Yinghua Academy School Board

1616 Buchanan Street NE, Minneapolis, MN, Cafeteria

Monday, August 12, 2013, 6:00 PM

FINAL

Board Members in Attendance: Lou Bender (arrived at 6:25 p.m.), Denny Grubish (Treasurer), Walt Graff, Ruth Hansen, Scott Jax, Rosemary Lawrence, Karen Lu (Secretary), Suzanne Reider, Jen Shadowens (Chair), Seth Werner

Board Members not in Attendance: Sarah Whiting

Executive Director in Attendance: Mrs. Sue Berg

YACA Chair in Attendance: Dina Nash

Public in Attendance: Maura Trout, Cindy Moeller

I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Shadowens called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

II. APPROVALS

a. 8/12/13 Agenda

The MOTION by Mr. Jax to approve the agenda was seconded and passed.

b. 7/8/13 Minutes

Mr. Werner made a minor edit.

The MOTION by Mr. Grubish to approve the minutes as amended was seconded and passed.

c. 2013-14 Board Meeting Calendar

The MOTION by Mr. Grubish to approve the 2013-14 Board Meeting Calendar was seconded and passed.

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

IV. FACILITIES COMMITTEE UPDATE

Mr. Jax provided an update on expansion progress. Mr. Jax noted that updates are being posted on the website, sent to the Yinghua community, and sent to the North East Park Neighborhood Association (NEPNA) to keep neighbors informed. A construction update list has also been created for those interested in receiving regular communications via email. Black Dew is currently waiting for

the footing and foundations permit and will begin parking lot work shortly. Black Dew is also working on pricing. The board discussed possible ramifications to programming resulting from delays in schedule.

V. 2013-14 SCHOOL YEAR OVERVIEW

Mrs. Berg presented an overview of the 2013-2014 School Year which included the following: enrollment, waitlist, staff retention, new staff interviews and training, and curriculum refinement (see Board Packet for details). Mrs. Berg also noted that the administration and board are working to address spring parent and staff survey results. Questions and discussion followed. The Finance Committee will continue the enrollment discussion with respect to projections.

VI. SPRING PARENT AND STAFF SURVEY RECAP

Mr. Werner presented an analysis and summary of the Spring 2013 Parent and Staff Surveys which included excerpts of open-ended responses, comparisons between Spring 2013 and Spring 2012 results, as well as annual survey data from 2009-2013 (see Board Packet for details). Ms. Bender noted that sixty-five different schools were mentioned in response to the question of desired high schools partnerships. Questions and discussion followed. Mr. Werner also presented a report from the Surveys Task Force with recommendations for actions which involve students in the feedback process. The Surveys Task Force emphasized the need for soliciting feedback from parents, staff, and students year-round. Discussion followed.

VII. ANNUAL GOALS FINAL REVIEW

Ms. Hansen resigned from the board effective August 18th, 2013. Ms. Lu thanked Ms. Hansen for her work on the board. To fill Ms. Hansen's vacated seat, Ms. Lu, along with Ms. Shadowens and Mrs. Berg, recommended Ms. Kleinman be appointed to the Yinghua Academy School Board with a term beginning August 19th and ending June 30th, 2014.

The MOTION by Ms. Lu to approve Ms. Kleinman's appointment to the board with the term as recommended was seconded and passed.

Ms. Lu presented changes made to the Annual Goals since the last board meeting (see Board Packet for details). The following Academics Annual Goal was added by the Governance Committee: "Further develop alternative assessments such as presentations and portfolios to give a holistic picture of a student's abilities." Ms. Shadowens noted that the final document will be forwarded to Friends on August 16.

The MOTION by Ms. Bender to approve the 2013-14 Annual Goals was seconded and passed.

VIII. DISCUSSION OF NEXT STEPS

For those providing assistance, Ms. Shadowens noted that the Charter Contract renewal and Annual Report are both due September 1st. Board Members were asked to sign up for YACA meeting dates and board tour dates of the school.

IX. ADJOURN

The MOTION made by Mr. Jax to adjourn at 7:53 p.m. was seconded and passed.

Minutes drafted by Karen Lu, Secretary.

Approved by vote of Board on: September 16th, 2013