

HOPE Community Academy  
Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting  
March 31, 2011  
720 Payne Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55130 – Conference Room of HOPE

<b>Members present</b>	<b>Absent</b>	<b>Staff Present</b>	<b>Also Present</b>
Ania Wrase	Dale Anderson	Maychy Vu	
Warren Hegge		Stacey Avila	
Barb Bates		Zoua Lee	
Kim Schmidt			
Danielle Zdon			

**Call to Order:** Warren called the meeting to order at 5:05 p.m. A quorum was present.

**Approval of Agenda:** Agenda was approved as amended with additions being made to New Business to discuss Lee Thao's resignation and Kim Schmidt replacing her as Interim Treasurer.

**Approval of February 24, 2011 Minutes:** Minutes were approved as written.

**Community Comments:** There were no community comments.

**Presentation:** Zoua Lee, Parent Liaison presented on parent involvement. She shared that it seems during the winter months parent attendance at events drops and that parents are looking for better topics for Parent Academy Nights. Parents with students in primary grade levels attend events more frequently than middle school parents. Zoua will be looking to put together a committee to find a better way to schedule programs and events because some parents feel that two nights per month (one Parent Academy Night and one Family Night) is too much.

**Consent Agenda:**

- a. **Hired/ Rented & Non-owned Vehicles Policy-** HOPE from time to time has individuals use their vehicles for school purposes. This policy is to protect HOPE in the event that one of the vehicles is being used is in an accident because the policy states that the vehicle owner's insurance will cover any losses first. There are only a few employees that use their own vehicles for HOPE purposes including administration to take students home from time to time, parent liaison and social worker to go on home visits, and office manager to purchase materials for HOPE.
- b. **Student Dress Code -** The dress code policy will be to help enforce policies that we already have in the student's handbooks. This policy will clarify to parents what specific colors are not appropriate in order to hopefully avoid students from wearing gang affiliated colors.
- c. **Enrollment Policy –** Per the law HOPE is required to have an enrollment policy in place that proves that the enrollment process is non-biased process and that they will treat all potential families equally. In the event that there is a waiting list for a grade or grades ever in the future the Enrollment Policy outlines the deadlines for enrollment and the lottery process that would take place if a spot were to open for which more than one family is waiting.
- d. **Annual Charter Agreement- Northern Star Council –** Boy Scout Troop 360 has worked with HOPE the past few years and uses HOPE's facilities for their meetings. The troop opens up to HOPE students and HOPE's contribution to the sponsorship is to let them use the facility free of charge once a week for their meetings during the school year.

## **Committee Reports**

### Policy Committee

The Policy Committee brought the Hired/ Rented & Non-owned vehicles Policy to the Board for approval along with the Student Dress Code and Enrollment Policies.

### Finance Committee

Revenues exceed expenditures by \$281,451. The “holdback” is holding back close to one million of HOPE’s revenue. The finance committee will be checking on the effects of the grandfather clause for HOPE in regards to lease aid.

### Executive

Board Training Requirement- Dale Anderson has not completed the required board training and therefore will be removed from the board until those requirements are met and he is re-nominated.

The Board will be conducting a staff survey regarding Maychy’s performance and will have her review completed by April 15, 2011.

Barb moved to approve Committee Reports. Ania seconded. Approved.

## **New Business**

### Director’s Report – Report Attached

- UST will be out to conduct the site review with 5 members, 3 of the members are returning members and have been to HOPE before and 2 are consultants that UST contracted to assist. Three to four weeks following the site visit HOPE will receive a written notice from UST regarding the authorizer renewal.
- Cafeteria windows were broken on the evening of March 15, 2011 by three unknown individuals. Police were notified and service for repair was contacted immediately.
- There is a parent situation with an upset parent that has been going on since conferences in mid-March. The parent apparently contacted the Minnesota Department of Education and UST. However, slightly before the March board meeting the parent called HOPE to apologize for the confusion because he recently caught his child in a lie and believes that this was the reason for all of the other issues.
- It has been suggested to change the June board meeting to June 15, 2011 and that way the teacher board members are still in school and would not need to return for a special meeting. This decision will be made at the April meeting.

### Board Resignation

- The Board accepted Lee Thao’s (Parent member) resignation from the board. Lee was the treasurer so a replacement is needed.
- Kim Schmidt was nominated to fill the position of treasurer.

Danielle moved to approve Committee Reports. Ania seconded. Approved.

Meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

**Next meeting on April 28, 2011**