



FirstLine Schools Board Meeting Minutes
September 27, 2011
4:00 – 6:00 pm
Langston Hughes Academy

In Attendance: Dana Peterson, Stephen Rosenthal, Lawrence Kullman, Alison Hartman, Brian Egana, Gregory St. Etienne, and Catherine Pierson.

Staff in Attendance: Jay Altman, Brett Hunt, Adrian Morgan, Rebekah Cain, Jenny Gondor, Mark Martin, and David Durand

Public in Attendance: Tracie Washington, Dee Shedrick, and Dr. Monique Cola.

Absent: Charleen Blache and Darleene Peters

Dana Peterson called the meeting to order at 4:04pm.

- 1) Approval of Minutes from August 23, 2011 Board of Directors Meeting
 - (a) Gregory St. Etienne moved to approve the minutes. Larry Kullman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- 2) Stephen Rosenthal presented the Finance Report, including the budget variance report.
 - (a) Led discussion of how the special education revenue and costs were calculated.
 - (b) Stephen recommended that additional future revenue, excluding SpEd revenue, be allowed to go into the budget surplus for each school.
 - (c) Larry Kullman moved to approve the Finance Report. Catherine Pierson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
 - (d) Gregory St. Etienne moved to increase special education staffing at all of the schools for the necessary special education needs at the schools. These additional expenses are all covered by increased special education revenues. Larry Kullman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
 - (e) Gregory St. Etienne motioned to approve the budget variances, as outlined and discussed. Larry Kullman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- 3) Larry Kullman presented the Governance Committee Report
 - (a) Larry Kullman will present suggested amendments to bylaws and the articles of incorporation at the October board meeting.

- (b) Stephen Rosenthal motioned to amend the agenda to elect officers. Gregory St. Etienne seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- (c) Brian Egana moved to nominate Dana Peterson as President, seconded by Alison Hartman. The motion passed unanimously.
- (d) Brian Egana moved Gregory St. Etienne as Vice President, Stephen Rosenthal seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- (e) Brian Egana moved Alison Hartman to serve as Secretary, Catherine Pierson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- (f) Brian Egana moved to nominate Stephen Rosenthal as Treasurer, Gregory St. Etienne seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4) Brian Egana presented the Facilities Committee Report

- (a) Brian led a discussion of authorizing the Facilities Committee to do some analysis of options toward pursuing purchase of a building to serve as the Network Office.
 - 1. Preferred location is mid-city/Gentilly as four of the five schools will be in that area as of the 2012-2013 school year.
 - 2. Stephen Rosenthal asked that we reach out to the RSD to look into possible space from them.
 - 3. Alison Hartman noted that we need to include all costs of owning (insurance, taxes, upkeep, etc) in any analysis that is done.
 - 4. Brian Egana moved that the committee will continue to analyze the options and will present options at the October board meeting. Gregory St. Etienne seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- (b) Adrian Morgan gave an update on the progress of demolition of the Monroe Street property.

5) Other business (Jay Altman)

- (a) Jay presented the Enrollment Update: LHA is at target, Green is one under target, Ashe is eight over, Dibert is one under, Clark is on target. Total network-wide enrollment is over 2,300 students.
- (b) Stephen Rosenthal moved to approve the Material Amendment for Arthur Ashe Charter School in regards to enrollment. Catherine Pierson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- (c) Brian Egana moved to request an extension from BESE, to June 30, 2012, for the FirstLine Schools outstanding K-8 charter. Catherine Pierson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
- (d) Jay Altman presented the School Development Update, focusing mainly on the Blended Learning Project and Clark Prep.
 - 1. Alison Hartman moved to add an agenda item regarding staffing at The NET and Clark Prep. Stephen Rosenthal seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
 - 2. Stephen Rosenthal moved to approve additional support of the Clark Program, not to exceed additional private funding and up to \$50,000 from Network surplus, and any surpluses from Clark above \$40,000 projected surplus. These additional expenses include costs for The NET to move into a non-school based space, to hire an admin support

position for The NET, hire an additional teacher for Clark 10-12 for a one-year period, and for additional support for student activities.

Alison Hartman seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

(e) Rebekah Cain reminded the board about the October 20th Board & ESY Task Force Tour of all FirstLine Schools and Edible Schoolyard NOLA programs at each campus.

(f) Stephen Rosenthal moved to approve Contract signing authority for Jay Altman and Adrian Morgan, retroactive to date of hire. Brian Egana seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

6) Jay Altman presented the Pupil Progression Plan.

(a) Stephen Rosenthal motioned to adopt and approve the Pupil Progression Plan. Catherine Pierson seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

7) Mark Martin, School Director and Elementary Principal, gave a presentation of Langston Hughes Academy.

Catherine Pierson moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:18pm. Brian Egana seconded. The motion passed unanimously.