

Academy for Science and Design

Minutes of the Board Meeting

March 10, 2010

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m.

Present: Patty Humphrey, Jack Donovan, and Thomas Frischknecht, Rebecca Paquette, Ellen Mohnkern, Karen Graham, Michael White, Heather MacDonald, Kevin Buchanan, Jennifer Minicucci, Meili Kronenfeld, Susan Correia, Heather Evans, Angela Overman, David Chauvette, Kent Glossop

Absent: Shanthi Nair, Mary Fries, Izuh Obinelo, and John Slater

The minutes were approved as written.

Principal's Report—David Chauvette

- The State Board of Education approved a sixth grade starting in 2011.

(The Board voted to amend the charter to include 6th grade, starting not before 2011.)

- There are already 70-75 applications for next year—approx 60 7th graders and 10 8th graders.
- A summer school would include
 1. A 6-week session
 2. Three types of courses-- amelioration (to achieve mastery), bridge program (placement test weakness) and enrichment.
 3. Mastery and bridge programs would be “mandatory,” but alternative options to the same ends would be considered at the principal’s discretion.
 4. Flexibility would be applied in all ways, including family summer vacations.
 5. Scholarships would be available.

(The Board approved a proposal for a summer school, with the caveats that alternative, equivalent options to summer school be considered and that certain concepts such as mandatory and mastery be defined.)

6. The Calendar for next year follows Merrimack and Nashua.

Budget Projection—Ellen Mohnkern

David Chauvette noted that Ellen should be thanked for hundreds of hours of work and a beautiful result.

Ellen projected that with 199 students next year the deficit would be \$58,208. This does not include any fundraising estimates. She projected a deficit of \$110,960 with 175 students.

Other assumptions were that we would retain 90% of students. Only state tuition money was assumed as income.

We need to consider how many 7th graders to admit.

The Board voted to admit 9th graders if there were enough to form their own group.

Jack Donovan proposed that the Strategic Planning Committee review the numbers and make a recommendation to the full Board at the next meeting.

The Board approved the general outline of the budget projection.

Committee Reports

Fundraising Committee—Patty Humphrey

- Drew Sunstein, board member of the NH High Tech Council, will be visiting with his wife.
- Lorinda will be pursuing small grants from the Amherst Women's Club and the Nashua Rotary.
- Rajesh Nair has arranged the a student-led "Sky Dive" at the NH High Tech Council at their next Forum on Wednesday, May 26 at FIRST at 200 Bedford Street in Manchester. The event starts at 5:00 p.m.
- We will also have a table (for display) at the Entrepreneur of the Year Dinner, sponsored by the High Tech Council on May 10 at the Radisson. This event starts at 5:45.

Outreach Committee—Jennifer Minicucci

- She is working on Open House and High Tech Council event.
- She will write a press release on results of ASD participation in academic competitions.
- Press is being planned for Graduation; 2 seniors and 8th grade "step up."

Policy Committee—Meili Kronenfeld

25 Policies were approved at the last committee meeting.

Please add comments to the bottom of pages. Don't edit.

Curriculum Committee—Mary Fries (absent)

Areas of focus being developed: Math, Physics, Environmental Sustainability, Senior Project.

The Meeting ended at 8:45 after a brief executive session.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Humphrey, secretary