

MNIC ELA Campus  
300 Industrial Blvd.  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55413

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## **Approved Minutes**

### REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

*Thursday, January 20, 2011*

*4:00 PM*

Held at 1313 5<sup>th</sup> St SE, Minneapolis, MN (UTEC Site – B5)

Membership: Ali Egaale, Nicole Harris, Deonna Perez-Evans, Gertrude Hoskins, Kristin Quinn, Kathy Reamer, Oliver White, Reggie Womack (Board Chair)

Ex officio: Kevin Byrne (Executive Director), Chanda Baker and Katie Black (Sponsor Liaisons)

Note: All votes were unanimous unless otherwise stated.

I. CALL TO ORDER: Chair expectations for the meetings and time limits.

Mr. Womack called the meeting to order with quorum at 4:14 PM and gave instructions.

a. Pledge of Allegiance

Members Present: Nicole Harris, Kristin Quinn, Kathy Reamer, Oliver White, Reggie Womack, Gertrude Hoskins; Absent: Ali Egaale, Deonna Perez-Evans,

Others Present: Kevin Byrne (Director), Jenna Sanderson, Mary Ander, Samone Dirks, Dave Haugen, Melissa Kappenman, Amy Libman, Stephen Bosacker (Designs for Learning)

Items distributed at the meeting include: Agenda, Unapproved minutes for November 18, 2010, Bullying Policy draft, School Calendar, Continuous Learning Plan new form,

II. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Add to agenda (Other Business):

Change in MNIC Calendar (Snow days) (Ms. Hoskins left meeting)

Adopt Continuous Learning Plan form for all sites

Discuss board member status

Charter School Renewal Process

Defer Item V-D to a future meeting

**Mr. White moved to approve the agenda with changes. Ms. Harris seconded. Passed.**

III. REVIEW BOARD MINUTES FROM 11-18-10

Corrections: Add the value of the homeless student grant, \$22,500.

**Ms. Reamer moved to accept the minutes of November 18, 2010 as amended. Ms. Quinn seconded. Passed.**

IV. OUTREACH UPDATE (REGGIE WOMACK AND NICOLE HARRIS)

Recruiting continues, including into St. Paul. The team is going to places and events where students congregate. Existing brochures are running out, so new ones will be created.

KMOJ on-air discussions continue. Ms. Harris asked for people to submit new, good locations and events for recruiting. Please update phone numbers and addresses for all

students regularly, so we can stay in communication with them. There is a steady flow of new students into the school. Continue to improve retention. (Ms. Hoskins returned)

## V. FINANCE AND BUDGET (KATHY REAMER)

### A. Finance Committee Report

The Finance Committee met yesterday and made change to address the current MNIC financial situation. Enrollment has been lower than anticipated so expenses have been adjusted. Increasing enrollment and retaining current enrollment is important to protect the school finances. Control of spending is important, requiring constraint on desired spending. ADM is 237 as of the last submission report. Spending is near on target for December for the anticipated income level.

**Ms. Quinn moved to accept the finance committee report. Ms. Hoskins seconded. Passed.**

### B. Donation by Sue Wolf and Family

Ms. Wolf and family made a partial contribution to the Unity facility phone system in the form of services for a new phone system installation. Value of the donation is determined by the family.

**Ms. Reamer moved to accept the Sue Wolf and Family donation for the phone system. Ms. Hoskins seconded. Passed.**

### C. Donation by Jeff Carter Family Members

Mr. Byrne reported about the donations of new equipment to the Unity site made by the Carter family. Thanks were expressed by a number of people.

**Ms. Reamer moved to accept the Jeff Carter Family Members' donation. Ms. Harris seconded. Passed.**

### D. Recognition of Marnee Kiefer and the Resource Store at Unity (Dave Haugen)

Deferred to a future meeting.

### E. Additional lease at Sabathani for Safe Circle

The Safe Circle needs a new location. A room in Sabathani Community Center has been located. The lease is presented. Room space can accommodate 20 to 25 students. A new youth housing shelter has opened near Sabathani. Most of these are not in a school program, but must work to stay in the housing shelter. MNIC could meet their needs and requirements.

The lease is month to month to June 15<sup>th</sup>. Renewal or finding a new space will be determined at that time or during the summer.

**Ms. Reamer moved to accept the lease for the Safe Circle at Sabathani as presented. Ms. Hoskins seconded the motion. Passed.**

### F. Contract with City of Minneapolis for SHIP grant

This is a grant for \$3500, written by Jenna Sanderson and Mr. Byrne. It provides for physical education equipment and nutrition curriculum resources for teachers to use in school. The goal is to have all these materials in place by Spring break. A student survey combined with site leader input. [Clarify if the document signed was a contract or approval for a grant.]

**Ms. Quinn moved to accept the SHIP grant. Ms. Harris seconded. Passed.**

## VI. ADOPTION OF BOARD POLICIES

### A. Bullying Policy (Version 4)

Recommendation to the group developing the policy to explore and refine the policy to improve quality and accuracy of language suitable for a school policy, with input from others outside the group.

VII. FOOD AND NUTRITION PROGRAM: Should we serve lactose-free milk? (Melissa Kappenman)

Requests have come from students who are lactose intolerant. Melissa will communicate with each site to learn more about this need. Nutritional requirements need to be met with appropriate milk alternatives. Cost and interest levels will be explored.

MNIC may be able to receive from a non-profit organization donated food to give to the students, aside from school meals.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

A. Change in MNIC Calendar (Snow days)

Two snow days must be replaced. The goal is to not extend the student school year. Two half days of staff training could be converted to two full student contact days (adding 1 full day). Another staff development day could be converted to a student contact day. Professional development days will be rescheduled for the end of the school year. **[Include copy of official calendar]**

**Ms. Reamer moved to make March 11th and April 22<sup>nd</sup> to be full student days instead of ½ days, and May 9<sup>th</sup> will be made a full student day instead of a staff development day in order to replace the two snow days on December 13 and 14. Ms. Quinn seconded. Passed.**

B. Adopt a new Continuous Learning Plan form for all sites

A “Continuous Learning Plan” (CLP) is created for each student to identify tangible learning goals for students based on State and MNIC graduation standards. A new and standardized version of the plan form has been created based on input from leadership and staff. This is presented for approval and a requirement for all sites to use for all students. **[Get copy of the form for minutes]**

**Ms. Reamer moved to approve the new Continuous Learning Plan form for all sites. Mr. White seconded. Passed.**

C. Discuss board member status

Deonna Perez-Evans will no longer attend MNIC board meetings and must leave the board.

**Ms. Reamer moved to remove Deonna Perez-Evans from a position on the board. Gertude seconded. Passed.**

Mr. Womack introduced Kimberly White, a parent of a student at the Unity site. Kimberly has been an active parent in her children’s education. She is observing school activities at the site. She is a spoken word artist in the community. She is interested in contributing to the school. She is interested in joining the board as a parent member.

**Ms. Quinn moved to appoint Kimberly White as a board member in the Parent seat. Ms. Hoskins seconded. Passed.** Mr. Womack welcomed Kimberly to the board. Kimberly took a seat with the Board.

D. Charter School Renewal Process

Mr. Byrne reviewed the process for renewing the Charter Contract with Pillsbury United Community. The first step, an application, was submitted earlier in January. More steps will continue in the next few months. The application was sent to all board members.

- E. New Item: Improve student transportation. A few members and Mr. Byrne initiated a new discussion to research the benefits and costs of purchasing/leasing buses for MNIC use. A number of members expressed interest to research this more.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be February 17, 2011, 4:00 PM at UTEC – Room B5

**Mr. White moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:40 pm. Ms. Reamer seconded. Passed.**

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM

Submitted by Stephen Bosacker, Designs for Learning