

Yinghua Academy Board Meeting Minutes
February 19th, 2009

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Sandy Doubek, Joe Yang, Cindy Moeller, Clark Liu, Luyi Lien, Keri Norell, Maryann Choy, Kristina Schatz, Doug Parish

BOARD MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Naomi Mueller

DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE

Betsy Lueth

VISITING

Dean and Patty Raeker, Bruce Sorenson, Craig Kepler

Ms. Moeller called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

AGENDA

Mr. Parish made a motion to approve the agenda with a few changes with Mr. Yang seconding the motion. Board voted to approve the agenda and the motion carried.

01/26/09 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Ms. Norell made a motion to approve the minutes with a few corrections and Ms. Lien seconded the motion. Board voted to approve the minutes and the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dean and Patty Raeker, from Northeast Minneapolis, shared with the board their enthusiasm for Yinghua moving into their neighborhood and their support of the school moving into the neighborhood.

CLOSED MEETING TO DISCUSS PENDING REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION

The meeting closed at 6:49 pm.

Board meeting was called back to order at 7:45 pm.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

ENROLLMENT

- Enrollment is currently at 239 students. 75-K, 50-1st, 50-2nd, 24-3rd, 25-4th, and 15-5th.

APPLICATIONS

- For the 2009 – 2010 school year there are 77 kindergarten applications (37 on wait list), 11 on wait list for 1st grade, 4 on wait list for 2nd grade, 4 on wait list for 3rd grade and 1 new applicant for 6th grade.

CURRICULUM

- NWEA MAP testing is complete, currently on track at 89% passing for math and 86% passing for MCA's.

- The school has begun intensive MCA preparation for all students under or on the borderline for passing MCA.
- The school has completed the Oral Language Assessments for all immersion grades K – 3. We are tracking students at one ACTFL standard level higher than data presented by Woodstock elementary. The oral language results are suggesting that Yinghua students will reach a JIL level by end of the first grade.

FACILITIES

- Currently facility is fine. No issues to report.

FINANCIAL/GRANT

- StarTalk grant is submitted and the school is expected to hear first week in March
- The school is preparing the application for the FLAP grant, which is due April 13th.
- The school is applying for a research grant offered by the Taiwanese government.
- The school is working in combination with the University of Minnesota on another research only grant.

REPORTING

- The school has received the School Finance Award.
- The school has been approved for Q-Comp
- The school is one of the finalists in the Friends of Education Achievement Award.

STAFFING

- The school has begun to process the H1B and PERM applications for next year.
- Interviewing for staff will begin in March for several positions.
- There is one EA that will be leaving the school mid-March.

STUDENTS/FAMILIES

- Results from the school survey finds 213 families stated they intend to return to Yinghua Academy for the 2009 – 2010 school year, 3 have responded with a no, 13 maybe responses and 10 did not respond to the survey.
- Several families have indicated they would be interested in bussing but feel the cost is too high.

UPDATES/OLD BUSINESS

FINANCIAL

- Mr. Parish handed to the board for review the January 2009 YTD financial statements and the monthly electronic funds transfer with no outstanding issues.

YACA

- Ms. Doubek reported that YACA would achieve their financial goal on the Red Envelope campaign. YACA general membership meeting is Saturday February 21st, 2009 at 10:00 am.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

- Mr. Parish gave an update on the fundraising committee. The Capital Campaign fundraising has started and the committee is working on getting commitments and pledges submitted by the end of May.

- The committee will present an outline at the March 5th board meeting and the official campaign begins April 15th.

MARKETING COMMITTEE

- Ms. Schatz shared with the board the latest update on the Marketing committee. The bumper stickers have been successful; and the school will be ordering another 250 bumper stickers. The original DVD of the Chinese New Year's performance is complete and the DVD duplications will begin sent in the next couple of weeks.

EVENT COORDINATOR

- Ms. Doubek is actively seeking volunteers to help with events for the 2009 – 2010 school year.

EXPANSION TO 6TH – 8TH GRADE

- Ms. Lueth submitted the application to Friends of Education on Wednesday, Feb. 18th.

NEW BUSINESS

EVALUATING THE DIRECTOR'S PERFORMANCE

- Ms. Moeller shared the background information on the Director's performance evaluation, which board members will be filling out and submitting to Ms. Moeller.

TEACHER MAJORITY SCHOOL BOARD

- Ms. Moeller outlined to the board the MDE definition of a licensed teacher who would qualify to serve on the board. The school has seven licensed teachers who qualify to run for the board. Two are already on the board, which leaves five candidates if the board decides to support the teacher majority board. Ms. Moeller had a meeting with the staff and handed out the teacher input form for the teachers to give feedback if they are interested in running for the board. The teachers will be handing back their form to Ms. Norell by Wednesday, February 25th, 2009. Ms. Moeller will also be seeking input from Yinghua parents.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Yang made a motion to adjourn the meeting with Ms. Choy seconding. Board voted in favor of the motion to adjourn the meeting and the motion carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:39 pm.