

Yinghua Academy Board Meeting Minutes
June 1, 2009

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

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

BOARD MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE

Betsy Lueth

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE

Scott Jax – running for school board

Ms. Moeller called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm.

AGENDA

Ms. Choy made a motion to approve the agenda with one addition and Ms. Mueller seconded the motion. Board voted to approve the agenda and the motion carried.

05/18/09 BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Mr. Parish made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections with Ms Choy seconding the motion. Board voted to approve the minutes and the motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Jax commented that he was pleased with the board and is looking forward to the upcoming board elections.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

ENROLLMENT

- Enrollment is at 238 students.

CURRICULUM

- We are still awaiting feedback from MDE on the grade level expansion plan.
- Academic Performances went well.
- Summer homework will be available for all students.
- Summer school is around 20 students per session; planning has begun.

FACILITIES

- Currently Raj has quoted \$12,700 for painting and \$3,400 for cleaning carpet and floors.

FINANCIAL/GRANT

- FLAP grant application has been submitted.

FINANCIAL/GRANT

- Transportation Report will be sent this week.
- Annual Report guidelines have been received.
- Lease Aid was due last Friday and will be completed by this Friday. A small delay in payments may occur but will not affect the school from receiving the full amount of the lease aid.

STAFFING

- The school has hired five immersion classroom teachers and expects to hire a final one in the next two weeks.
- The school is continuing to interview for all positions open, including English and Chinese EA's and other support positions.
- The school will have a Chinese speaking music teacher this year. MacPhail no longer is interested in general music partnership. In the mean time the school has interviewed another Chinese music teacher who will be hired by the end of the week.

STUDENTS/FAMILIES

- **BUSING**
 - 3 people are signed up as interested in busing from outside MPLS (no deposit yet); several people have called wondering if it is possible for a better drop off/pick up times and are trying to decide whether to “gamble” that it will be better: 12 MPLS students have waived rights and 4 MPLS students have indicated NO to waived rights: 20 new Kindergarten MPLS students will receive a letter on Friday regarding busing. Current family busing decisions need to be indicated by June 10th, 2009.

COMMUNITY

- No further negotiations on sharing the gym have occurred with the park board at this time pending the amended ground lease resolution.
- No further conversations have occurred with MPS partnership.

UPDATES/OLD BUSINESS

ELECTIONS AND ANNUAL MEETING

- Picnic and Annual Picnic will be this Saturday June 6th from 4 – 7 pm, which kicks off the board elections. The ballots will be sent out this week.
- Ballot counting will be Thursday June 18th – at the new Yinghua school building at 6 pm with a few board members to help with the ballot counting.

EVENTS COORDINATOR

- Ms. Doubek will be sending an email to Ms. Lueth with help for soliciting volunteers for the Dragon Boat Festival July 11th – 12th. Ms. Moeller, Ms. Doubek, Ms. Lueth and Mr. Yang have signed on to volunteer. Ms. Doubek will be using last year's language and schedule for time slots to gauge the number of volunteers needed for this festival.

FACTILITIES

- Craig Kepler, Lindquist & Venum, P.L.L.P., counsel to Yinghua Academy, joined the board meeting to review the Agreement of Lease with Option to Purchase submitted by CSDC. The board reviewed and discussed the Lease Agreement as written. Ms. Mueller brought a motion to the board that they approve the Lease Agreement with the lease subject to further negotiations with CSDC on the lock box provision, landlord fire provision, tenant notice/cure provision and possible changes to the building rule and regulations. Mr. Parish seconded the motion. Board voted in favor of the motion and the motion carried.
- Mr. Yang updated the board on the 501 c 3 status for YBC with a couple of revisions to the documentation.
- Building improvements – Ms. Choy and Ms. Lueth are moving forward with the “wish list” not knowing what changes we can afford to make. All improvement requests need to be sent to Ms. Choy with Ms. Lueth being the final approver of all requests.
- Mr. Yang shared with the board his discussion with Mr. Yan re the possibility of the Chinese Daycare finding rental space closer to new Yinghua school building.

- Mr. Yang discussed with the board the need for immediate review for expansion of the new school building in the year 2012 – 2013.

FINANCIALS

- No report at this meeting.

FUNDRAISING

- Mr. Parish updated the board on the fundraising committee Phase 1 - Direct Solicitations. The committee has been making appointments with Phase 1 family; Phase 2 will be launched this week. A report will be given at the annual meeting on the capital campaign along with a financial report.

MARKETING

- No report at this meeting.

TEACHER MAJORITY WAIVER

- Ms. Moeller emailed a document outlining the Legal Requirements for Charter School Board to the board for review. Yinghua Board currently meets that requirement. The Yinghua Board By-Laws will need to be updated to reflect this Charter School Legal Requirements.

TEACHER WELCOMING STRATEGY

- Ms. Choy sent an email to the listserve. A question has been asked about Chinese teachers being able to speak English during events; but, given the requirement that immersion speakers speak only Chinese in front of students, this will not occur.
- Future teachers are being helped by the volunteer coordinator with housing and answering questions.

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

- Mr. Liu gave the board an update on the technology committee, which had their first meeting. The committee will split with some helping with the website and others helping with other technical areas. The website committee will need help with graphics and the building of the website.

YACA

- No report at this meeting.

YINGHUA BOARD DINNER

- The board dinner is June 29th, 2009. There are 2 options for meeting is POP! and Muffeletta. Ms. Moeller will review both options and make a selection for which place is best for dinner.

NEW BUSINESS

REVISION TO BY-LAWS TO REFLECT CHANGING CHARTER SCHOOL LAW

- Ms. Moeller asked the board to review the current by-laws in the next week for additions or changes since they have not been reviewed for a couple of years.

MN 2020 THINK TANK REPORT ON CHARTER SCHOOLS

- Ms. Moeller gave the board information on a press release being sent out on Tuesday June 2nd with a report being released on audits performed on charter schools by a group called Minnesota 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm for a closed meeting to discuss personnel matters.