

Yinghua Academy Facilities Planning Minutes
April 13, 2008

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Cindy Moeller, Kristina Schatz, Clark Liu, Joe Yang, Michael VanKeulen, Sandy Doubek, Margaret Wong

BOARD MEMBERS NOT IN ATTENDANCE

Larry Yan, Doug Parish, Luyi Lien

DIRECTOR IN ATTENDANCE


Betsy Lueth

Meeting began at 2:15 pm

AGENDA

Ms. Moeller outlined the agenda for this meeting.

IDEAL SPACE REQUIREMENTS

 Currently the school has these items

SCHOOL YEAR	# OF CLASSROOMS
08-09	10 classrooms
09-10	13 classrooms
10-11	16 classrooms
11-12	18 classrooms
12-13	21 classrooms

In addition -

2-3 rooms for Music, Art, Science and **Computer Labs**

1-2 rooms for Special Ed

4 offices (5-6 offices ideally)

Cafeteria/Kitchen

Gym/Auditorium

Library

Staff Bathrooms

Staff Workroom - Space

Entry Area

Playground (outside)

Larger **Parking Spaces**

Possibly wings for K-2, 3-5, 6-8 with central or common space

Lockers

Larger **Gardening Space**

Room for Minnesota Chinese Daycare

Currently we have a total 15,000 square feet at 1355 Pierce Butler Route and will probably need 35,000 – 40,000 square feet by year five of a new lease (if an option).

Close to public transportation is important

The board discussed sharing space with other schools –

- Concerns are safety, use of the space or sharing the space and rules for the building.
- The model partner would be an organization that has shared self-interest and possibly resources (like the YMCA gym space).

LOCATION

The largest portion of families currently at Yinghua come from the city of St. Paul - Mac/Groveland-Highland Park areas, next is Minneapolis, Woodbury, Shoreview-Arden Hills – Roseville areas, then the second-tier suburbs.

Ideal boundaries for location would be 35W to the west, 36 to the north, Dale to the east, West 7th to the south

SCHOOL CULTURE AND CURRICULUM

Currently the school is still receiving applications for the 2007 – 2008 school year with 35 on the waiting list for kindergarten and potentially 245 students attending.

The current part of the Yinghua curriculum that is working well:

- Morning opening meeting
- Student Performances
- Gym Program – Exercise time

FINANCES AND OWNING V. LEASING

- The board has decided not to review setting up a separate 501 (c) 3 and pursue the option of owning at this time.

NEXT STEPS

- Ms. Moeller will put together some hard dates that will need to be met in order to stay on track of meeting our goal.
- Ms. Lueth and Ms. Schatz will meet with current landlord and discuss future leasing options and considerations for breaking current lease
- Mr. VanKeulen will further review the possibility of leasing empty school space in the city of Minneapolis, which may have some restrictions.
- The board will continue reviewing leasing options on Energy Park Drive and within boundary area
- Board will continue to tour different schools to review their facilities
- Ms. Moeller will put together a note to parents asking for interested individuals to send in their qualifications for potentially serving on the Facilities Committee. Mr. Yang will be the board representative on the committee and will review the qualifications.

This committee will have individuals specializing in:

- Facilities
- Commercial Licensed Real Estate Agent or a Real Estate Agent
- Construction Architect and Engineer
- Green or Environment Building
- School Facilities Development

The meeting adjourned at 3:53 pm.