

YACA General Membership Meeting
Saturday, February 21, 2009
Yinghua Academy
FINAL

Ms. Daul called the meeting to order at 10:15 am.

Board Members Present

Cindy Moeller, Sandy Doubek, Jennifer Daul, Susan Green, Wendie Lindberg, Julie McCormick, Jean Parish, Paul Scanlon, and Deb Volkert

Board Members Not Present

Sandy Norris and Clayton Black

There were approximately fifty Yinghua Academy parents in attendance.

Ms. Daul introduced the YACA board members and volunteers to the general membership.

State of the School – Cindy Moeller

Yinghua had received 111 applications for next year's kindergarten and the lottery was held. There is a waiting list for kindergarten and for some other grades as well.

The Putnam school building 90-day inspection period was originally scheduled to end on February 24th. There are still several unresolved issues and the Minneapolis School District extended the inspection period to March 10th.

Ms. Moeller sent a letter to all parents seeking input on the issue of the School Board makeup. Current MN law requires that the majority of each charter school board is to be made up of teachers currently teaching at the school, who also meet licensing requirements, unless the board petitions the state of Minnesota for a waiver. The School Board would like input from parents on the issue of Yinghua seeking a waiver from this requirement.

The expansion of Yinghua to a K through eight school is being reviewed. Ms Moeller does not see any real barriers to this going through.

The Minnesota Dept. of Education identified Yinghua as one of many schools who met the criteria for the School Finance Award. Approximately 36% of all charter schools receive this award.

Friends of Education (formerly known as Friends of Ascension), Yinghua's sponsor, notified Ms. Moeller that Yinghua is a finalist for their Friends of Education award.

Ms. Moeller took questions from the group.

Announcements – Jennifer Daul

The Red Envelope Campaign has exceeded its goal of \$20,000. The total pledged as of February 20th was \$22,390. Red Envelope campaign funds will be used to cover the current year Artistic Partnership expenses. Additional funds will be used for other YACA program expenses and to fund the 2009-2010 academic year Artistic Partnership expenses. Ms. Daul thanked everyone and the fundraising committee.

Elections for the YACA Board will be held at the next general membership meeting to be held on May 7th. The open positions are three General Representatives and the Vice Chair. She requested that anyone interested let one of the current board members know, or sign the sheet located in the meeting room.

Ms. Daul thanked the nourishment team volunteers, led by Ruth Hanson and Muree Larson-Bright. This group provides food to the staff during school conferences and development days.

Ms. Daul introduced Jo Shifsky. Ms. Shifsky is starting a Wellness Committee at Yinghua which will focus on issues of nutrition, physical activity and environmental issues at the school. She requested that anyone interested in volunteering for this to sign the sign up sheet or contact her at Yinghuawellness@yahoo.com.

Presentation

Ms. Daul introduced Signe Nestingen, Yinghua parent and licensed psychologist. Ms. Nestingen's presentation was on setting limits for children. A handout was provided.

Ms. Daul adjourned the meeting at 12:00 noon.