

North Side Community School

Board Minutes

October 4, 2011 Meeting

Meeting convened at 4:50

Present at Meeting:

Members: Margaret Wilson, Jim Brigham, Alex Schoch, Steve Novik, Vivian Gibson, Byron Francis, Sue Cejka, Pat Shipley, Tom Grote.

Ex-Officio: John Grote (ex officio), Ross Woolsey (ex-officio).

Guests: Staff: Stella Erondy, Anne Miller. UMSL: Dawn Finley

Minutes: The minutes from the June meeting were approved as submitted.

Public Relations and Development: Woolsey introduced Lavanna Wrobley who is spearheading development efforts for NSCS. Wrobley outlined plans for development, emphasizing community partnerships and the importance of Board's role in identifying prospective donors.

Student Progress Reports: Stella Erondy described NSCS's student progress reports and handed out sample reports sent to parents.

Elections: Tom Grote and Pat Shipley were re-elected to Board. The following officers were elected: Vice President: Jim Brigham; Secretary: Steve Novik; Treasurer: Sue Cejka.

Incoming Student Assessments: Anne Miller described initial, incoming student assessment process, noting their importance as a baseline and in comparison with national norms. Miller reviewed results for 2011 incoming kindergartners and noted that objective of "Kindergartener Countdown" program is to identify students who enter NSCS behind in typical grade level skills.

Financial Report: Woolsey asked for questions regarding financial statements and budget forwarded in advance to Members. Woolsey also distributed audit notices for Member review and signature. Francis asked about accounting/budgeting for summer program. Woolsey pointed out that because the summer program straddles two fiscal years, it is reported partially in each year. The 2011-12 budget was approved unanimously by Board.

Operations: J. Grote reported death of NSCS's maintenance man and the hiring of his replacement. J. Grote also reported than more teacher assistants have been hired than expected due to the number of first-year teachers among NSCS's staff.

The Special Education teacher's hours have been expanded to help, particularly with language. Grote emphasized the need to raise salaries to attract more veteran teachers.

Board Structure: B. Francis raised issue of Board committees. Consensus of Board was that standing committees are not needed now, and that ad hoc committees should be created as needed for special projects/issues. Alex Schoch agreed to chair 5-year Planning Committee with Brigham and Novik as members.

UMSL Grants: Dawn Finley described grants offered by UMSL to its sponsored schools and their teachers. Finley encouraged NSCS to apply for them.

School Policies: Francis described various policies than UMSL requires of its sponsored schools. NSCS lacks some of these policies and Francis distributed sample language to Members for their review and approval/discussion at future Board meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 6:20.