

Beacon Academy Work Session

January 28, 2009

5:30 p.m.

Call to Order: *Tam Harken called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.*

Roll Call (present at time of meeting unless otherwise noted):

Tam Harken	Kalin Farrell	Jordan Ford (ex-officio)
Bob Zarriello	Candace Newman	Gretchen McQuillan
Ann Marie Roder	Lori Karcz	Terese Corey Blanck
Anne Ingvaldson	Scott DesBles	

Advisory Members:

Sean Koster

Misc. Attendees:

Melanie Spall	Lisa Avila	John Carnes (attorney)
Tom Vanhatten	Ronai Brumett	Clint Carlson

Motion:	To approve agenda		
Made by:	Terese	Seconded by:	Scott
Discussion:			
Vote:	Yea: All	Nay:	Abstain:
Decision:	Motion passes.		

I. Amendment of Minutes to more accurately reflect the detail of the November 18, 2008 and December 3, 2008 meeting

After a letter was received from Friends of Education indicating an inconsistency in our minutes the board approved, subject to ratification at the February 11, 2009 board meeting changes to the November 18, 2008 and December 3, 2008 board minutes to more clearly reflect the board’s conversation. After ratification, the minute book and website will be updated as needed.

Motion:	To approve changes to the board minutes subject to ratification at the February 11, 2009 board meeting.		
Made by:	Bob	Seconded by:	Terese
Discussion:			
Vote:	Yea: All	Nay:	Abstain:
Decision:	Motion passes.		

II. Lottery
a. Recommendation from Governance committee regarding specific lottery procedures and terminology.

As required by state statute Beacon Academy will give sibling preference for students currently enrolled at Beacon Academy. Sibling preference does not apply for students that are offered enrollment at the lottery.

b. Mock Lottery

The lottery will be conducted electronically for the 2009-2010 school year using spreadsheets.

III. Work Session regarding future facilities

The board has been looking at many different options and has done due diligence in checking out leads on as many buildings as possible. The Robbinsdale School District has decided to close three schools. Tam contacted the school board to express our interest in leasing or buying one of their buildings. Tam received a letter today stating that the Robbinsdale School Board will not be taking official action until at the earliest, their March 2, 2009 meeting. Friends of Beacon still has a purchase agreement in place for the land in Maple Grove and still would like to pursue the dream of building a new facility in the future. The board has decided to lease for the 2009-2010 school year because of market conditions.

Jordan and other board members have been communicating with people at Church of the Open Door as an option to lease for the 2009-2010 school year. Beacon Academy would have the lower level of the church. Open Door has enough rooms to have 2 Spanish rooms, a music room, an art room, and a separate gym and cafeteria. Beacon Academy will be able to occupy 40,000 square feet and the cost will be between \$11.5-12 per square foot. Open Door has applied for a change to their Planned Development Unit (PUD) to be able to hold up to 400 students. There is a neighborhood meet and greet at the church on February 19th at 7 p.m. There is an option to change the time of the school day depending on who we share bus routes with. There was discussion about a before or after school childcare program.

Right before Winter Break, Beacon Academy was approached by Cedarcrest Academy (the landowners in Maple Grove) to build a school together and co-own until one school grows big enough to buy the other out. Many things between Cedarcrest Academy and Beacon Academy are very similar like a rigorous and classical curriculum, uniforms, and a desire to expand. Each building would have a separate wing of the school and we would share common spaces like the gym and cafeteria. This could be a potential option, but there are more details that need to be looked at. This could allow Beacon Academy to get funding sooner and could get a building built sooner. The board advised Jordan to continue to talks with Cedarcrest Academy to plot out possible scenarios.

Motion:	To adjourn the meeting.		
Made by:	Candace	Seconded by:	Anne
Discussion:			
Vote:	Yea: all	Nay:	Abstain:
Decision:	Motion passes.		

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 p.m.