

**BlueSky Charter School  
Board of Directors-Minutes  
November 15, 2007**

**Board Members In Attendance**

Jlayne Torma	Chair
Josh Ashton	Vice-Chair
Renee Parcheta	Treasurer
Kathy Taylor	Director
Jennifer Knutson	Secretary

**Staff**

Tom Ellis	Director
Mary Swingle	Assistant Director
Jerry Stalberger	Finance Officer
Andrea Swanson	Social Worker
Eleanor Groby	Office Assistant Taking Minutes

**Guests**

DeAnn Fiore-RJ Ahmann Representative

**Meeting called to order at 9:00 a.m.**

**1. Approval of Agenda**

Take Number 2 off the agenda, had been talked about at the last Board Meeting.  
5..c to be added- Board Action for Amanda Furth resignation

**Motion by Kathy Taylor, second by Renee Parcheta to approve the additions to the agenda 5/0**

**1. a Insurance Options**

DeAnn Fiore RJ Ahmann Representative explained, discussed and presented 2 plans for BlueSky School medical insurance. Blue Sky's renewal date is December 1. The difference in cost and coverage of the two options was discussed, option 1 being- 100%/25 and option 2 being - 80%/25 for coverage. Discussion paying full employee cost and ½ Family cost for option 2, and if Employee would like Option 1 the employee will pay the difference in cost for employee and family from Option 2 plan.

**Motion by Kathy Taylor, second by Jennifer Knutson to approve Option 2, 80%/25, paying full coverage for employee and ½ cost for family coverage, and the employee having the option to choose Option 1, 100%/25 at additional cost for the employee and family coverage that is over and above Option 2 cost. 5/0**

DeAnn Fiore RJ Ahmann Representative discussed our present Life and Disability Policies that BlueSky presently have and it would be cheaper for BlueSky to change from a small group plan to large group plan.

**Motion by Renee Parcheta, second by Jennifer Knutson to have Tom Ellis, as Director to look over information and sign the application. 5/0**

**1. b Public Input**

No Public Input

### **1. c Approval of October 2007 Board Meeting Minutes**

Kathy Taylor asked to have a label as a Board Member-Director

**Motion by Kathy Taylor, second by Josh Ashton to approve October 2007 Board Minutes. 5/0**

### **3. Annual Report-Sarah McFarland**

Sarah McFarland presented the BlueSky Annual Report for 2006/2007. Tom Ellis, Director gave background information for the Annual Report. Sarah McFarland covered additional information that the report gave.

**Motion by Josh Ashton, second by Renee Parcheta to approve BlueSky Charter School Annual Report for School Year 2006/2007. 5/0**

Annual Report will be put on Web page.

### **4. Technology Plan-Sarah McFarland/Jlayne Torma**

Sarah McFarland explained that the plan is in progress, but not finalized. The 3year existing plan had not been updated. Sharon VanDenbos is part of the Technology Committee and has had former experience and has been very helpful with goal objectives, etc. As for budget information being projected estimated as best they can. Tom Ellis, Director gave background for Federal Government reimbursement for technology to schools. BlueSky School growth has caused technology to be a large portion of school budget. Hope to have Technology plan finalized by next meeting. Josh Ashton asked about Technology for staff which will be part of the budget.

### **5. a & b Financial Report- Jerry Stalberger**

Jerry Stalberger went over October Financial Sheets, and answered questions that were asked.

**Motion by Renee Parcheta, second by Kathy Taylor to approve October 2007 bills in the amount of \$309,954.81. 5/0**

**Motion by Renee Parcheta, second by Jennifer Knutson to approve financial report. 5/0**

### **5. c Amanda Furth Resignation**

Amanda Furth resigned as of 11/8/07. She will finish up the work that she had in progress.

**Motion by Renee Parcheta, second by Josh Ashton to approve the resignation of Amanda Furth. 5/0**

### **6. Parent-Teacher Conferences**

Kathy Taylor spoke stating that Parent Teacher Conferences over-all very successful. The set hours for conferences were 3-7 pm and some teachers were here till around at 8 pm.

Kathy Taylor would like to see on Web site Board Members Goals while on the Board. The rest of the Board thanked Kathy for representing the parents at BlueSky.

### **7. Student Services Update**

**Andrea Swanson- Social Worker**-discussed the 15 day removal issue and how these students are always welcoming back to re-enroll. When the student re-enrolls counselors and social workers are spending time with the student and seeing what can be done so the same 15 day removal won't happen again. A .25 credit course and been put into place for these students to take before going to a full load to help with this issue. Classes that are being implemented presently and in the near future were presented and discussed.

**Renee Parcheta-Counselor**-discussed the 15 day drop and how 2 counselors are doing a survey why, and are getting feed-back to improve this issue. BlueSky has 12 Adult Learners and how they need to take a written test that is not available on line.

#### **8. Student Program Update-Mary Swingle**

Work is being done with E-class reporting for grades and engagement. E-class committee is meeting and finding ways to improve delivery to students and parents, as well as researching technology. Trying to balance work loads for teachers, home base teachers, numbers in classes and future needs that BlueSky will have. Projects that are in the works is increase Web-site, security, inventory automation, internet filtering, student center options, etc.

#### **9. Legislative Update-Tom Ellis**

Tom Ellis gave student numbers. 12 Adult Learners, 31 OLL, grade 7-15 students, grade 8-33 students, grade 9-55 students, grade 10-119 students, grade 11-164 students, grade 12-317 students. Since the beginning of this year, having lots of students dropping, but seeing a change with students staying and not leaving now that the technology difficulties have been discussed at staff meetings and working through some of the problems with the students. Discussed Legislative Agenda and how the Minnesota Department of Education is making the required standards for OLL students more difficult

**Motion by Kathy Taylor, second by Renee Parcheta: Starting Semester 2, BlueSky School will not accept OLL students. BlueSky will accept students that enroll with BlueSky. Current OLL students may be offered a scholarship, or directed to another OLL program. 5/0**

#### **10. Consortium Update-Tom Ellis**

Advertised for Curriculum Development Coordinator and Staff Development Coordinator in-house, had 9 staff apply, and 5 were interviewed. All very good candidates and have not finalized a decision, but will have done after Thanksgiving.

#### **11. Family Leave**

Discussion of Family Medical Leave Act, and what the law reads. A copy of the Family Medical Leave Act will be made available in the office.

**Motion by Renee Parcheta, second by Kathy Taylor to discontinue Leah Sickmann full time pay for Maturity Leave at 6 weeks, and for her to check into Short Term Disability for the additional 6 weeks for a total of 12 weeks, for Family Leave Act and present job will be waiting for her to return. This motion is for this single case only. 5/0**

#### **Adjournment**

**Next Meeting is Thursday, December 20, 10 a.m.**

**Motion by Renee Parcheta, second by Kathy Taylor to adjourn. 5/0  
12:10 a.m.**