

East Chicago Urban Enterprise Academy
Board Meeting
September 28, 2011
1:00 pm

Present:

Erika Rodriguez
David Padilla
Stephanie Wright
Rita Jacque Gillis
Joseph Costanza
John Artis

Darryl Padilla
Charlotte Jackson, ECUEA Director
Vito Bianco, AQS
Josh Samuelson, AQS
Jasmine Mitchell, Regional Manager
Elizabeth Silerio, ECUEA

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:13 pm by Mrs. Rodriguez.

II. Roll Call

III. Approval Minutes

Approval of minutes called for by Mrs. Rodriguez. Mr. Padilla motioned and Mr. Artis seconded. The motion carried.

IV. Treasurer's Report

- Mr. Samuelson stated that there are no unusual stands this month and he provided the board with a copy of the current budget and requested that the Board look over it and if possible give their approval or suggestions by the next board meeting in October. Discussion followed.
- Mr. Bianco gave an overview of the Comprehensive Professional Development Plan that will raise test scores in every school with the first meeting being on October 13th. Ms. Mitchell provided a detailed description of how the program will work. Discussion followed.

Approval of the treasurer's report called for by Mr. Costanza. Mr. Padilla seconded. The motion carried.

V. Items Requiring Board Action

- Mrs. Wright asked about the specific needs of ECUEA and Ms. Mitchell referred the Board to the Comprehension Action Plan that was presented at the previous board meeting by Mrs. Jackson specifically addressing the needs of ECUEA. Discussion followed.
- Mr. Miller suggested that for the year 2012-2013 the budget be given to the Board for approval before the school year begins. Discussion followed.

VI. American Quality Schools Update

A. Director's Report

- Mrs. Jackson presented Mrs. Zak (4th grade Teacher/Student Council Sponsor) and the ECUEA Student Council Members each student introduced him/her self and gave a brief description of their roles as well as the objectives and purpose for student council. Over all Mrs. Zak would like Student Council Members to learn leadership throughout the school and take part in planning activities and programs for ECUEA. Mrs. Gillis commends Mrs. Zak and the Student Council Members for their leadership and gives them her full support. Mrs. Gillis requests that special emphasis be given to the projects and activities that the Student Council Members/Leaders take part in, on the Director's report.
- Mrs. Jackson reports that as of 9/23/11 the total number of enrollment is 438 however on the count date the total enrollment was 442, the goal being 440. Total withdrawals from ECUEA

are six, 4 out of state, 1 for transportation and 1 for behavior, and total number of new students for the 2011-2012 school year is at 105. The lunch status percentages are: free lunch - 296/68%, reduced lunch - 28/0.06%, and Denied lunch - 113/26%. Mrs. Jackson went into a detailed explanation about the PL 221 and the AYP status report. Discussion followed about discipline issues and procedures as well as school discipline policies to determine expulsion and suspensions depending on the severity of the act.

- Mrs. Jackson reported that the over all attendance for September was 93.90% and went into a detailed description by grade as well as the reasons for the absences.
- Parent involvement for the 1st PIA meeting/Spaghetti dinner was very impressive the total attendance was 126 and the Title I meeting had a total of 20 parents in attendance the topics of discussion were PL221 and AYP as well as the Supplemental Educational Service providers (SES) speaking about the programs that will be available to all SES eligible students. Mrs. Gillis would like the Academy to solicit parents for the board at future parent meetings.
- Facilities update: A quote is forthcoming from AMG Construction. 2 Maintenance service requests have been sent to Mr. Garcia for approval.
- At the request of the board an alternative bus service was found. Eclipse Transportation is located in Gary, IN.
- The Academy was ordered by the ECFD to block off the lane closest to the main doors for a fire lane.
- Parent Issues: This year the Academy's policy for parent-teacher communication is by appointment only due to the frequent classroom disruptions and although there has been some resistance to the new change, the Academy deems it important to have in place.
- A schedule of upcoming events was included in the Director's report, also due to technical difficulties the NWEA fall testing session is 2 weeks behind schedule, testing should be finished by October 7th after which Mrs. Jackson will supply the board with the test results.
- Mrs. Jackson expressed how she looks forward to the PD meetings, as this will build capacity in the admin team as well as the teachers.
- A review of the Board tracking report and the ECUEA Remediation Improvement Plan 2011-2012 followed.
- Mrs. Rodriguez would like to see more parent's volunteer and thinks that the perfect 10 fees should be enforced however Ms. Mitchell assured her that the Academy could in no way force parents to volunteer.
- Mrs. Jackson would like to have a meeting with the Board members.
- The Board recommends that the next board meetings take place in a different location due to the parking difficulties and traffic problems that take place during dismissal on Wednesdays. All future board meetings will be scheduled at 1:00 pm at the EC public library pending availability of their meeting room.

VII. Old Business

- Mr. Bianco states that per Mr. Ricordati everything is on schedule and a more comprehensive report will be available at the next board meeting. The Board was given the last sheet of the Resolution for their approval and signature, a copy of the resolution will be sent out to all board members.

VIII. New Business

- Mrs. Gillis recommends to the board that they formalize a development committee.

IX. Board Contributions

- Mr. Padilla inquires about the repairs being done to the panels in the modular. Bids are forthcoming.

X. Adjournment

- Mr. Padilla moved for adjournment at 2:36 pm. Mr. Artis seconded. The motion carried.