Midway Star Academy School Board of Directors - District #4153

1091 Snelling Ave N, St Paul, MN 55108 Telephone: (651) 642-0667 | Website: https://midwaystar.org/

Regular Board Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2020, 2:00 pm Location of Meeting: Midway Star facility and by remote video

Midway Star Academy's Mission

Midway Star Academy will provide students with educational opportunities that are respectful of the students' background and culture, learning styles and interests, enabling them to meet high academic expectations in an environment that allows them to celebrate their own unique culture while learning American customs and what it means to be a citizen.

Midway Star Academy's Vision

The academic focus of Midway Star Academy is to integrate students into the scholastic community of Minnesota and enable students to use their talents and experiences to achieve to the best of their ability.

I. Call to order:

Time: Friday, November 20, 2020 at 2:00 PM.

II. Roll Call of Members (Secretary)

Board Members Present or Absent:

Name	Present/Absent
Abdiweli Mohamud (Chair, Community)	A
Hasan Hade (Vice Chair, Community)	P
Ismail Haji (Treasurer, Teacher)	P
Osman Ali (Secretary, Community)	A
Amina Abdullahi (Parent)	P
Paula Stuelke (Teacher)	P
Abdulkadir Abdalla (Community)	P
Mohamed Warsame (Ex-Officio)	P

A quorum was established/not established.

Guests and Community Members Present:

Name	Position/Role
Mohamed Warsame	School Director of Midway Star Academy
Sam Pfeifer	Director of Instruction and Curriculum
Khalif Warsame	Academic Advisor

If you need an accommodation for a disability (i.e. wheelchair accessibility, interpreter, large-print materials) such an accommodation can be available upon advance request. Contact the Director by (651) 642-0667 as soon as possible.

III. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest

IV. Approval of Agenda

Motion: To approve the November meeting agenda

Made by: Abdulkadir Seconded by: Hassan

Discussion

Vote: Yea: 5 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0

Decision: The motion carries

V. Approval of October Meeting Minutes

Motion: to approve the October meeting minutes

Made by: Hassan Seconded by: Ismail

Discussion: No questions were raised

Vote: Yea: Nay: 0 Abstain: 0

Result: the motion carries

VI. Action Items

Action Item: October Financials

Explanation: A motion to approve the October financials.

Robert discussed the overall financial situation of the school and indicated that the school was

in good shape financially with the higher enrollment being a big factor

Made by: Abdulkadir Seconded by: Ismail

Discussion: The board advised that the lease aid should be applied for and submitted as soon as possible. Robert said that the process had already begun and that the application was ready

to be submitted.

Vote: Yea: 5 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0

Decision: Motion carries

Action Item: School Learning Model Update

Explanation: Mohamed asked the board to approve the school's learning models which keeps changing due to the fluctuations of the number of COVID-19 cases in the twin cities. The school admin has decided to transition to full distance learning until January 5 if the cases have stabilized.

Motion: to approve the distance learning model

Made by: Abdulkadir Seconded by Hassan

Discussion: The board members discussed the importance of the distance learning model at

this point in time.

Vote:5 Yea:0 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0

Decision: Motion carries

Action Item: Annual Report Draft

Explanation: The Annual Report is a document that must be approved by the board

Motion: to approve the annual report draft

Made by: Paula Seconded by: Hassan

Discussion: the board noted that this was a draft which should be completed before Nov. 30.

Vote:5 Yea:0 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0

Decision: Motion carries

Action Item: 18 Promethean Smart Boards

Explanation: Mohamed discussed the need for the school to have new promethean smart boards. The smart boards the school currently have are very old and not offer any interactive displays and accessories that support enhancing teaching capacities for our teachers so they can get their job done efficiently.

Made by: Paula Seconded by: Abdulkadir

Discussion: Some board members suggested that the school could take advantage of the GEER money to pay for the smart boards. The cost of the smart boards was estimated to be around \$76,000.00

Vote:5 Yea: 0 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0

Decision: Motion carries

VII. Public Comments: Khalif Warsame

VIII. Board Training: Roderick will discuss this item in the next board meeting.

IX. Academic Update (Discussion)

Explanation: Sam Pfeiffer gave an overview of the school's current distance learning model. He explained the school's mostly personalized curriculum which makes online learning much easier. All of the educational links that we use are found on the school's website and both the students and parents have been trained on how to utilize these resources. The school also posts on the website all of the teacher's weekly lesson plans that underscore and meet the Minnesota state standards benchmarks for the subjects they teach. Currently, the school has enough Chromebooks to achieve 1:1 ratio.

Made by: Hassan Seconded by: Paula

Discussion

Vote: Yea: 5 Nay: 0 Abstain: 0

Decision: Motion carries

X. Next Meeting

Next Board Meeting: Type, Date, Time, Location December 18, 2020 on Friday at 2:00 PM via Zoom

XI. Adjournment at 2:45 PM

Motion: to adjourn the meeting

Made by: Hassan Seconded by: Paula

Discussion: No discussion

Vote: Yea: Nay: 0 Abstain: 0

Decision: Motion carries