

THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION
THE AMERICAN COMMUNITY SCHOOL
Minutes of the Monthly Board of Directors Meeting
January 19, 2010 at 18h00, ACS Library

Members Present:

Mr. Darryl Robinson, President

Mr. Azad Keval, Vice-President

Mr. Hossam El-Shaffei, Treasurer

Mr. Mark Lewis, Secretary

Mrs. Susan Razzaz, Member

Mr. Ali Lejlic, Member

Ex-Officio Non-Voting Member:

Ms. Sandra R. Smith, Ambassador's Representative

Others Present:

Mr. Larry McIlvain, Superintendent

Mr. Steve Mancuso, Middle/High School Principal

Ms. Diana O'Leary, Elementary School Principal

Mrs. Diana Rihani, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Hamdi Hamdi, Business Manager

Absent:

Mr. Joseph Hanania, Member

18h00min

1. Call to Order

Mr. Robinson asked to approve the January 19 2010 Consent Agenda after the following amendments:

1. Moving the Personnel Committee to the work session.
2. Striking/deleting the Strategic Task Force from the agenda as it is done with the tasks it started for.

A motion was made and approved by a show of hands of the amended January 19, 2010 Consent Agenda and the December 18, 2009 Board meeting minutes.

3. Committee, Task Force and School Reports

Report #1: Teacher Representative Report – Shannon Balawi

- ELMLE: Mike G. and Maha will be heading out later this week to attend the ELMLE (European League of Middle Level Educators) Conference in Budapest.

- MUN: Lyle and Michael O. will be heading to The Hague with the MUN team next weekend.
- Power School introduced by Khuloud
- Jean's Professional Book Club on Understanding By Design begins
- 5th Grade NESAs Virtual Science Fair begins
- MS New Years Pot Luck Dinner – January 28 at 6 p.m
- Varsity and JV Basketball Try-outs are taking place
- Tennis continues
- Middle School Sports Festival date changed to Feb 24
- Senior Fine Arts in Kuwait

Report #2: PTG – Leslie Kann

No PTG members present – Mr. Robinson read a message from the PTG President, Mrs. Kann that said the following:

The recent Bing night was a success, the PTG made JD700, which is a lot for the small crowd that were present. In February the PTG is working with Mrs. O'Leary to plan an elementary school Family Reading Night. In March a Hawaiian Bingo Night is planned. In May, the used media sale is planned and hoping for another Bingo Night. A Scholastic book fair is also being planned for the spring. Mrs. Kann added in her message that the school is looking fabulous.

Report #3: Task Forces:

Development Task Force

Mr. Robinson is the chairperson of the Development program –Hania Juma reported to the Board members present about her plans and what she has done so far. She informed them about branding ACS, the admissions and how much time that is taking, about 40 people have registered for next year so far. She also talked about the official ACS group on facebook where about 240 people have signed up so far. Her plans for the Alumni magazine that will come out twice a year and the monthly newsletter which will replace the WGO and the plan for sending only quick messages when needed via the email to parents.

After some questions and answers to Ms. Juma, Mr. Robinson thanked her for the report.

Governance Task Force

Governance Task Force chaired by Mr. Keval – Mr. Keval said that there was an attempt but no legal vote tonight during the extraordinary ACO meeting which was held to change the By-laws re the Board members term.

Policy Review Task Force

Policy review task force chaired by Mr. Lewis – No meeting this month.

Future Vision Task Force

ACS Future Vision Task Force chaired by Mr. Hanania. Mr. Hanania is absent. The plans are finished and done with. This Task Force will not be on the agenda any longer

Report #4: Financial/Capital Improvements – Hossam El-Shaffei

Mr. El-Shaffei said that the finance meeting took place on January 12. The following were part of the discussed information:

- Revised budget approved
- Capital Fund Assessment – Recommendation will be presented during the work session

- Administration updated the committee on MEPI students, security grant, upgraded/improved banking system, and on the status of implementation of recommendations contained in the NBOA report"
- H2L2 updates
- Financial impact on school funds re staff salary increases and bonuses
- Updates on the construction upgrades during the holiday break

Mr. El-Shaffei thanked the Administration for their efforts

Report #5: Superintendent's Report - Larry McIlvain

Larry McIlvain shared his Superintendent's report with the Board members via email. Briefly he added that the 2010/2011 school calendar is online. We had an earthquake drill today. Four new staff members were hired for next year. Met with AE7 Architect Firm and got their feasibility study as per the Board's request to Mr. McIlvain to look into local firms.

Two vacancies need to be filled out now, Arabic and Spanish teachers with a tentative Technology position.

4. Other Business -

5.0 Adjournment:

There being no further business before the Board, a motion was made to adjourn. The motion was accepted without vote at 18h45.

The next regularly scheduled meetings are:

- Board of Directors, Tuesday, February 23, 2010 at 17h30
- Work Session, Tuesday, February 23, 2010 after the open session

Respectfully submitted by Diana Rihani