

4/12/2007

9:41 AM

**Board of Directors of Hope Online Learning Academy Co-Op**  
**Meeting Minutes: March 14, 2007**  
**Approved by the Board: April 11, 2007**

**Board Members Present:** Charles Johnson, Carol O'Dowd

**Other Attendees:** Heather O'Mara (Executive Director), John Snow (Hackstaff Gessler LLC), attorney for Hope Online Learning Academy Co-Op

1. Meeting was called to order at 11:15 a.m. by John Snow.
2. **Posting of Meeting Notice:**
  - a. Mr. Snow advises that he confirmed that the meeting notice was posted at Vilas by Mary Holcomb in accordance with the Colorado Open Meetings Act.
3. **Quorum:**
  - a. Quorum is present; over half members of are Board present.
4. **Meeting Purpose:** Regular meeting of the Board of Directors to focus on certain items relating to the organization's operations and will provide an opportunity for Board to act (through approval) or voice concerns (through disapproval).
5. **Approval of Minutes from 2/07/06 Board Meeting:**
  - a. Heather O'Mara proposes change showing her as an attendee, not board member.
  - b. Page 3, Item I – the book title is called The Pact (with a T at the end, not a K)
  - c. Item J should be the pupil count, not people count
  - d. Item L, second sentence that says the results of the OSA, should say the result of the Legislative Audit Report was two different commissions.
  - e. CDE commission is actually the State Board of Education Commission.
  - f. Motion for resolution approving the 02/07/06 minutes is made by Charles Johnson and seconded by Carol O'Dowd.
    - i. Roll call vote:
      1. Carol O'Dowd: YES
      2. Charles Johnson: YES
    - ii. Resolution passed.
6. **Executive Directors Report by Heather O'Mara:**
  - A. Start CSAP Testing This Week
    - i. Looking for 99% Participation
    - ii. Teachers and mentors have trained to administer the test.
  - B. Analysis of Prior CSAP Tests

- i. Having another organization review data.
  - ii. This organization will apply a different methodology and provide Hope feedback on the methodology Hope employs.
  - iii. Hope expects these results to show less of an improvement by the students as compared to first reports.
- C. 05-06 Pupil Count
- i. Audit still ongoing.
  - ii. Field work completed.
  - iii. 150 files yet to be reviewed.
- D. 06-07 Audit ongoing
- i. Auditors visited for 6 days, beginning February 20.
  - ii. No feedback to report at this time.
- E. Trujillo Report Issued on 2/15
- i. Report incorporated many of Hope's recommendations
  - ii. Recommendation 5 concerning MOU's regarding the operation of learning centers is troubling to Hope and leaves some questions unanswered.
- F. State Board Commission Issues Report
- i. Generally favorable report.
- G. Senator Windels has sponsored SB 215
- i. SB 215 "Concerning Online Education"
  - ii. Schedules to be leaved 3/22
  - iii. Bill track Trujillo Commission
  - iv. Hope is working on issues with Sen. Windels
  - v. 3 areas of concern:
    - a. Creation of Online Division to oversee all online education within state funded by 1% per pupil operating revenue. Hope's issue is that no other special program requires this type of self-funding.
    - b. Creates multiple levels of bureaucracy. The Online division has an online director who works with an advisory board to create the rules and standards. In addition, the online division creates a difference between online programs that serve single district programs and those that serve multiple districts. All multi-district programs need to go through an extensive certification process. Hope is concerned that these levels of bureaucracy may jeopardize the quality of education provided.
    - c. The bill creates the requirement for memoranda of understanding between online providers and districts within which they operate. Hope believes that requirement needs to be tempered by providing clear objective standards within which the district can reject a MOU. In addition, the process needs clear appeal protocol in case the MOU is rejected.

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H. Hope plans to meet with Sen. Windels to talk about proposing some amendments to the bill.

I. Hope plans to work with other online providers to create a consensus on the amendments.

J. Hope is open to accountability, and clearly understands the need for accountability and oversight but believes that we don't want to create a bureaucratic process that takes resources away from the students.

7. **Executive Session:**

a. None.

8. **Announcements:**

a. None

9. **Next Meeting:**

a. April 11, 2007 at 11:00 a.m.

10. **Adjourn:**

i. Motion for resolution to adjourn the meeting made by Charles Johnson and seconded by Carol O'Dowd.

1. Roll Call Vote:

a. Charles Johnson: YES

b. Carol O'Dowd: YES

ii. Resolution passed. Meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.