

5/13/2008

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**Board of Directors of Hope Online Learning Academy Co-Op**  
**Meeting Minutes: April 15, 2008**  
**Approved by the Board: May 14, 2008**

**Board Members Present:** Phil Fox; Charles Johnson; Carol O'Dowd

**Board Members Absent:** Bill Eaton; Stephanie Finley

**Other Attendees:** Heather O'Mara (Executive Director); Melanie Stone (Office Manager, Hope Online); Bill de la Cruz (Colorado Department of Education Monitor for Hope Online and Vilas); John Snow (Hackstaff Gessler LLC)

1. Meeting was called to order at 12:50 pm by P. Fox.
2. **Posting of Meeting Notice:**
  - A. P. Fox advises that he confirmed that the meeting notice was posted at Vilas by Ms. Mary Holcomb and on the Hope Online website in accordance with the Colorado Open Meetings Law.
3. **Quorum:**
  - A. P. Fox notes that a quorum is present because over half members of Board are in attendance.
4. **Meeting Purpose:** This regular meeting of the Board of Directors will 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. **Consideration of the 3/12/08 meeting minutes:** Motion for resolution to approve the meeting minutes was made by C. O'Dowd and seconded by P. Fox.
  - i. Roll Call Vote:
    - a. P. Fox: YES
    - b. C. Johnson: YES
    - c. C. O'Dowd: YES
6. **Update from Colorado Department of Education Monitor, Bill de la Cruz:**
  - A. B. de la Cruz reported that it has been quiet for him during the MOU appeal process as it was necessary for him to remain neutral.
  - B. The Hope Online pupil count audit for 07/08 has been completed with only 7 exceptions. B. de la Cruz reported that the auditors at CDE felt the audit was organized and worked well with the Hope Online staff. He offered congratulations on a job well done.
  - C. B. de la Cruz reported that he will continue to work on the Vilas/DCSD/Hope transfer.
7. **Update from the Douglas County School District Online Planning Principal and Quality Assurance Team Leader, Kindra Whitmyre:** Report was postponed as Ms. Whitmyre was leading a QAT team review.

8. **Consideration of the 2008/2009 Calendar:** Motion for adoption of the 2008/2009 Calendar was made by C. O'Dowd and seconded by C. Johnson.

- i. Roll Call Vote
- a. P. Fox: YES
  - b. C. Johnson: YES
  - c. C. O'Dowd: YES

9. **Consideration of the Hope Online Mission Statement:** Motion for adoption of the Hope Online Mission Statement was made by C. Johnson and seconded by C. O'Dowd.

- i. Roll Call Vote
- a. P. Fox: YES
  - b. C. Johnson: YES
  - c. C. O'Dowd: YES

10. **Executive Directors Report:**

**A. School District MOU Status:** H. O'Mara reported that all 13 school districts have completed MOUs or waivers with Hope Online. There were appeals in three districts: Colorado Springs D11, Harrison 2 and Eaton. The MOUs will last for 3 years. We hope that the MOU process will bring a spirit of collaboration with all involved school districts.

**B. Learning Center Renewal/Expansion 2008/2009:**

- i. New Learning Centers for the 2008/2009 school year will go through a 3 step approval process. This includes the application, interview and tour of the proposed Learning Center.
- ii. There are approximately 5 Centers that have been recommended for non-renewal and several others will be on probation for the 2008/2009 school year.
- iii. Hope Online will be recruiting additional Learning Center operators in the Boulder/Lafayette area.

**C. SB215 Certification Application:** H. O'Mara reported that the application was submitted by DCSD to CDE. The review committee is made up of 3 out-of-state reviewers. 12 applications have been submitted. The Online Division's recommendations for approval will be made by May 1 and approved by the State Board of Education on May 15.

**D. Online Advisory Board:** The OLAB met on April 2 and discussed the Certification Process. They also discussed what their role would be in the future. A number of conferences have been scheduled over the next year that Pam Ice and Ryan DeHerrera will be participating in as Colorado representatives. Pam Ice will be organizing an online teaching conference that will be held in mid-August in Colorado. She has asked Sherida Peterson for her help.

**E. DCSD Charter Contract Status:**

- i. The Board of Directors needs to review and approve the Charter Contract once DCSD submits a draft for our review. The transition will be effective on July 1, 2008.
- ii. The Board of Directors still need to nominate a DCSD resident for the Board.

**F. DCSD System Integration Teams:** Hope Online and DCSD have been meeting regularly and are working toward a smooth transition for the 2008/2009 school year.

**G. Hope Online Graduation:** Hope Online will hold its graduation on June 12, 2008 at 7pm. Commissioner Jones will be our commencement speaker. It will be held at the Metropolitan State College gymnasium.

**H. Enrollment Fairs:** In order to streamline the process of enrollment, Hope Online staff has been hosting fairs with each of the Learning Centers. There will also be Saturday regional enrollment fairs starting on May 31. Because of this, there will be a revised summer schedule for Hope Online staff.

**I. Industry report: The Silent Epidemic:** H. O'Mara presented a report that gives good insight on why kids drop-out and what we, as schools, can do to prevent this.

**11. Executive Session:**

A. None

**12. Announcements:**

A. None

**13. Proposed Special Meeting:** H. O'Mara proposed that the Board meet on April 30, 2008 at 10am. This special meeting is to act on the DCSD Charter and the election of the DCSD resident Board Member.

**14. Setting of the Next Regular Board Meeting is May 14, 2008 at 10 am.**

**15. Adjourn:**

A. Motion for resolution to adjourn the meeting made by C. Johnson and seconded by P. Fox.

i. Roll Call Vote:

- a. Phil Fox: YES
- b. C. Johnson: YES
- c. C. O'Dowd: YES
- d. Meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.



Approved by: Mr. Phil Fox  
Chairman of the Board of Directors  
of Hope Online Learning Academy Co-op

5/14/08  
Date