

Board of Directors of Hope Online Learning Academy Co-Op
Meeting Minutes: August 19, 2008
Approved by the Board: September 9, 2008

Board Members Present: Ray Ayon; Stephannie Finley; Phil Fox; Charles Johnson (items 7-14); Carol O'Dowd

Board Members Absent: None

Other Attendees: Heather O'Mara (Chief Executive Officer, Hope Online); Shawn Gillum (General Counsel, Hope Online); Sherida Peterson (Chief Academic Officer, Hope Online)(items 1-8); Christyn Holmes (Academic Operations Manager, Hope Online)(items 1-6); Melanie Stone (Office Manager, Hope Online); Bill de la Cruz (Colorado Department of Education Liaison for Hope Online); Dawn Taylor Owens (Executive Director, CollegeInColorado (items 1-6); Shelby Burnett (Outreach Manager, CollegeInColorado) (items 1-6).

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:40 AM by P. Fox.
2. **Posting of Meeting Notice:**
 - A. P. Fox advises that he confirmed that the meeting notice was posted at Douglas County School District by Ms. Nona Eichelberger 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 of the members of the 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 the Board to act (through approval) or voice concerns (through disapproval).
5. **Consideration of the 6/18/08 meeting minutes:** Motion for resolution to approve the meeting minutes was made by S. Finley and seconded by C. O'Dowd.
 - i. Roll Call Vote:
 - a. R. Ayon: YES
 - b. S. Finley: YES
 - c. P. Fox: YES
 - d. C. O'Dowd: YES
6. **CollegeInColorado presentation by Dawn Taylor Owens, Executive Director, and Shelly Burnett, Outreach Manager:** CollegeInColorado's goal is to change the expectation for higher education with a focus on under-privileged kids. D. Owens and S. Burnett spoke about the website and how resourceful it is for students. Christyn Holmes will be the Hope Online contact for CollegeInColorado as Hope Online continues to roll out this valuable program to our students.

7. **Update from Colorado Department of Education Liaison, Bill de la Cruz:**
 - A. B. de la Cruz announced that Dr. Barbara Medina, Assistant Commissioner, is now responsible for overseeing CDE's Unit of Online Learning.
 - B. B. de la Cruz has been working to implement Hope Online's free and reduced lunch program. Last week, he visited Cherry Creek Learning Center along with Brent Craig and Kim Butler from DCSD. Cherry Creek Learning Center has a USDA-approved kitchen and will be the first center to participate in the free and reduced program.

8. **CSAP 2008 Update from Hope Online Chief Academic Officer, Sherida Peterson:**
 - A. 1415 students (grades 3-10) took the tests this past school year. These tests evaluate grade level performance over time, but do not compare the same students.
 - B. Our grade level performance improved from the 05/06 school year, but the scores declined from 06-07. The exceptions were writing in grades 3, 4, and 5 and grade 5 science. It is very common in similar populations that scores will show an erratic pattern over time.
 - C. As we disaggregated the data for other measures of achievement, we were very pleased when we analyzed the data from matched cohort groups that had been with us at least two years. That analysis showed that in reading, writing and mathematics between 74-98% of our cohort students remained stable or improved. While we acknowledge that the level of achievement must improve, we believe that if we can keep a very mobile population in their learning environments, we will increase their learning levels.
 - D. Invalidations accounted for about 20% of the tests taken and will have a negative effect with the SAR reports when they are released.
 - E. We believe that the new state academic growth model will provide us with important information to further track our students' progress.

9. **Executive Directors Report:**
 - A. **Learning Center Renewal/Expansion 2008/2009:** H.O'Mara reported that this year's enrollment goal is 4,000-4,500 students. Hope Online is excited to announce the opening of Rock Creek Academy in McCoy, CO. An MOU waiver between Eagle County District and Hope Online was negotiated.
 - B. **Free and Reduced Lunch Program:**
 - i. A program will be launched in the 5 learning centers with USDA approved kitchens in the Fall. 10 additional learning centers (with the highest percent of free and reduced lunch students) will be rolled out in Winter 2009.
 - ii. Hope Online is working with DCSD to offer Title I services for the 09/10 school year. This would enable our learning centers to offer (funded) before and after school programs.

- C. NACOL's Virtual School Symposium:** H.O'Mara reported that the NACOL symposium will be held in Phoenix, AZ in October 26-28.
- D. 2008 Yearbook:** The 2008 Yearbook included profiles of all Hope Online graduating seniors. Included are many great student success stories that remind us of why we do what we do. 25 students were first generation high school graduates.
- E. 2008/2009 Training:** Professional development for all Hope Online teachers and mentors was held on August 12 and 13, led by Sherida Peterson and DCSD. This RTI (Response to Intervention) session laid the groundwork for the upcoming year.
- F. Financial Audit:** The goal is to have the final audit completed by September 15. The report will be submitted to DCSD and Vilas.

10. Public Comments:

A. None.

11. Executive Session:

A. Pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(b), meeting will be in executive session for purposes of providing legal advice on the issue of D11's lawsuit. Also pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(D)(5)(II)(b), the contents of this executive session involves privileged attorney-client communications, and the session was not recorded.

B. Return to regular session.

12. Announcements:

A. None

13. Setting of the next regular meeting is September 9, 2008 at 7:30 AM

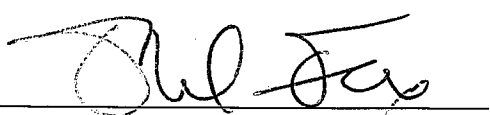
14. Adjourn:

A. Motion for resolution to adjourn the meeting made by S. Finley and seconded by P. Fox.

i. Roll Call Vote:

- a. Ray Ayon: YES
- b. Stephannie Finley: YES
- c. Phil Fox: YES
- d. Charles Johnson: YES
- e. Carol O'Dowd

i. Meeting adjourned at 8:40 AM



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

9/12/08
Date