

6/8/2009  
3:16 PM

**Board of Directors of Hope Online Learning Academy Co-Op**  
**Meeting Minutes: April 21, 2009**  
**Approved by the Board of Directors: May 19, 2009**

**Board Members Present:** Ray Ayon; Michael Bautista; Stephannie Finley; Phil Fox; Jennifer Sobanet

**Board Members Absent:** Charles Johnson

**Other Attendees:** Heather O'Mara (Chief Executive Officer, Hope Online); Shawn Gillum (General Counsel, Hope Online); Melanie Stone (Office Manager, Hope Online); Pat McGraw (Chief of Staff, Douglas County School District); Margo Branscomb (Chair, Hope Online School Accountability Committee); Bill de la Cruz (Consultant, Hope Online)

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:35 AM by P. Fox.
2. **Posting of Meeting Notice:**
  - A. P. Fox advises that it was 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 at least one-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. **Agenda Approval:** Motion to approve the proposed agenda was made by S. Finley and seconded by M. Bautista.
  - i. Roll Call Vote:
    - a. R. Ayon: YES
    - b. M. Bautista: YES
    - c. S. Finley: YES
    - d. J. Sobanet: YES
    - e. P. Fox: YES
6. **Consideration of consent items:** Motion for resolution to approve all matters on the consent agenda was made by M. Bautista and seconded by S. Finley.
  - A. Approval of 3/17/09 Meeting Minutes
    - i. Roll Call Vote:
      - a. R. Ayon: YES
      - b. M. Bautista: YES
      - c. S. Finley: YES
      - d. J. Sobanet: YES
      - e. P. Fox: YES

7. **Update from the Douglas County School District Chief of Staff, Pat McGraw:** P. McGraw reported that DCSD continues to work closely with Hope Online, CDE and Commissioner Dwight Jones. Recent topics of discussion have included SPED, Admissions, Enrollment and a review of a CDE advisory group on online education.
8. **Update on the status of the free and reduced lunch program by Bill de la Cruz, Hope Online Consultant:**
- A. The FRL committee has been meeting with a vendor, East Side Entrees that distributes reimbursable boxed lunches. This may be a potential solution for Learning Centers without kitchen facilities.
  - B. DCSD has submitted an application to run a Summer Lunch Program (SFSP) for Hope Online. Five Learning Centers were included in the application.
  - C. For the 2009/2010 school year, all interested Learning Centers will be able to apply to participate in the FRL program.
9. **School Accountability Committee Report Update from Chair, Margo Branscomb**
- A. The last meeting was held on March 16, 2009 and officers were elected. Margo Branscomb, Hope for Kids, was elected Chair and Steve Boston, Community Representative, was elected Vice Chair.
  - B. M. Branscomb attended a meeting with SAC representatives from other DCSD Charter Schools last week. Their focus was the School Improvement Plan.
  - C. The School Accountability Committee is required by statute. To give parents a voice into school operations. SAC's review safety, educational mandates and quality education.
10. **Financial Report Update from Hope Online Chief Compliance Officer, Ms. Michael Cooke**
- A. M. Cooke reported that the financial statements as of March 31, 2009 have been submitted to DCSD.
  - B. The 2009/2010 Budget will be presented to the Board for consideration at the May 19<sup>th</sup> Board meeting.
  - C. Learning Center Expansion 2009/2010
    - i. Twelve Learning Centers have been notified of conditional approval. Note that Hope Online must secure MOU's with 3 school districts for 6 of these Learning Centers to operate for 2009/2010.
    - ii. Two additional Learning Centers are pending facility approval
    - iii. Four additional Learning Centers have begun the interview phase.

**11. Executive Director's Report:**

- A. H. O'Mara invited the Board Members to attend the 1<sup>st</sup> annual Hope Online Prom on May 9, 2009, at Mi Casa Resource Center at 6PM. The students are excited and we anticipate approximately 60 attendees.
- B. Hope Online's Graduation will be held on Thursday, June 11 at 7PM. The ceremony will take place at Metropolitan State College. Moira Cullen and Erin Silver are working to secure a keynote speaker. We expect approximately 90 graduates.
- C. The Learning Center tours have slowed down but will gear up in May, once the legislative session ends. This week, Katie Genereux will tour with Karin Piper (Colorado Charter Schools Examiner) at Front Range. H. O'Mara and Michael Cooke will tour with Susan Meek (DCSD Expert Technician Academy) at Mile High and LARASA.
- D. H. O'Mara and P. McGraw have been working together to establish a revised purchased services agreement between Hope Online and DCSD.
- E. H. O'Mara presented the Colorado Cyberschool Association report, made to the State Board of Education in April.
- F. Hope Online processed 5722 total CSAP tests with a 100% collection rate and a 98% participation rate.
- G. Commissioner Dwight Jones, issued the "Choice and Innovation: Stimulating Education Reform" report on April 6<sup>th</sup>. Hope Online is mentioned several times throughout the report.
- H. H. O'Mara is attending the last Online Learning Advisory Board meeting on April 28<sup>th</sup>. With the "sunset" of OLAB, Commissioner Jones is forming an advisory group of online stakeholders and hands-on online experienced leaders.

**12. Public Comments:**

- A. None.

**13. Executive Session:**

- A. None

**14. Announcements:**

- A. R. Ayon recommended a website that may be of interest to Hope Online and its Board: Teachers Against Gangs at [www.teachersagainstgangs.org](http://www.teachersagainstgangs.org)
- B. S. Finley announced that she has been elected to the Board of Directors of the Urban League of the Pikes Peak Region.

**15. The next regular meeting is scheduled for May 19 at 6:00 PM at Siena at the Courtyard -333 Perry Street Castle Rock )**

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**16. Adjourn:**

A. Motion for resolution to adjourn the meeting at 8:17AM made by S. Finley and seconded by J. Sobanet.

i. Roll Call Vote:

- a. R. Ayon: YES
- b. M. Bautista: YES
- c. S. Finley: YES
- d. J. Sobanet: YES
- e. P. Fox: YES



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

6/10/09  
**Date**