

New City School Inc.  
Board Meeting April 8, 2014  
New City School

Present: Linda Crawford, Gary Crawford, Vince Esades, Ven Anderson, Karla Bisco, Marcy Myers, Melissa Johnson

Also Present: Jitendrapal Kundan, ex-officio member of Board; John Cairns, attorney, Paul Donovan and Jacqueline May, from Cushman & Wakefield Realty

Absent: none

Meeting convened at 5:00 pm.

### **Minutes from previous meeting**

The minutes from the meeting on January 14, 2014 were approved. Vince Esades moved approval; Gary Crawford seconded; Minutes unanimously approved as written.

**Adoption of Agenda** – Board adopted the Agenda unanimously.

### **Lease-Aid Paper-Work - Board Conflict of Interest Certification**

Jeremy Nellis presented a form needed for the renewal of our lease agreement with St. Cyril's. It requires Board members to certify any conflicts of interest due to employment with the Lessor (New City School). All Board members signed and submitted their forms.

### **New City School Building**

The Board discussed the issues involving our need for more space to accommodate our growing numbers. Options of renting or purchasing, building, and changing our location were all discussed. A final decision will be made by June 15.

### **Hiring for 2014-2015**

Staff other than Principal

Principal Kundan recommends the rehiring of all current staff for next year:

Karla Bisco: Vince Esades moved rehiring; seconded by Gary Crawford Unanimously approved  
(Karla abstained)

Marcy Myers: Vince Esades moved rehiring; seconded by Gary Crawford; Unanimously approved  
(Marcy abstained)

Melissa Johnson: Vince Esades moved rehiring; seconded by Gary Crawford; Unanimously approved  
(Melissa abstained)

Ven Anderson: Vince Esades moved rehiring; seconded by Gary Crawford; Unanimously approved  
(Ven abstained)

All other staff: Vince Esades moved rehiring all staff not present at the meeting; seconded by Marcy Myers; Unanimously approved

Principal

Vince Esades moved the rehiring of Principal Kundan; Gary Crawford seconded; unanimously approved.

### **Acceleration Policy**

A committee was established to propose to the Board a policy guiding any student acceleration. The committee consists of Melissa Johnson, Karla Bisco, Mary Spohr (if she will accept), Principal Kundan.

### **Financials**

**Budget for 2013-2014** remains the same as previously approved @ 180 ADM's

Income	\$1,660,625
Expenses	1,699,995
Projected change in fund balance:	(39,370)
Change in fund balance to date:	108,901

**Preliminary Budget for 2014-2015** was presented @ 218 ADM's:

Income	\$2,091,724
Expenses	1,885,673
Projected change in fund balance:	\$206,051

Vince Esades moved approval of the Fiscal 14-15 budget; Melissa Johnson seconded. Unanimously approved.

Principal Kundan informed the Board that the school population could go up to as high as 240 for next year, before any building expansion. Staff had previously approved at a staff meeting the idea that they could work successfully with that number of students next year, even though we would be full to capacity. The Board thanks the New City School staff for their willingness to do whatever is needed to serve that number of students well within the limits of our current space.

**Check Register 1-14-14 to 4-8-14** was reviewed.

Gary Crawford moved its approval; Ven Anderson seconded; Unanimously approved.

**Journal 1-14-14 to 4-8-14** was reviewed.

Gary Crawford moved its approval; Vince Esades seconded; Unanimously approved.

### **State of the School**

**Title I and Special Education Services families gathered** on March 13 2014. Small discussion groups led by five teachers facilitated a good discussion. Families were able to ask questions and discuss any concerns or issues. Dinner was provided for all families as well.

The turnout for the event was excellent: 140 students and adults were present. Each child who participated received a book (paid for through Title I funds)

**Spring Conferences** were held on February 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> with attendance at 100%

**The annual Talent Show** was held on March 21, 2014 and was a huge success. Performances included gymnastics, rapping, magic tricks, various kinds of music and dancing, a skit, a comedian, and a ventriloquist!

Families have been returning their annual **Spring Survey**. 66% have been received. The Board thanks the families for taking the time to give New City School the feedback we need in order to meet the needs of everyone in the best possible ways.

### **Donations 1/14/14-4/8/14**

New City School has received a total of \$33,245.70 in donations since January.

Charles Schwab, anonymous \$500.00

Razoo Foundation, 166.42

Todd and Sarah Olson, 161.28

Elizabeth Funari, 50.00

Prospect Creek Foundation, 19,800.00

Nathan St. George, 20.00

Allison Achterkirch, 20.00

Smikis Foundation, 12,000.00

MN Historical Society, 508.00

The Board expresses its gratitude for the generous donors who make a significant difference in the quality of instruction and the well being and success of all of our students.

**Next Board Meeting: May 13, 2014 5 p.m. in the school office**

**Meeting was adjourned at 7:30.**

Melissa moved adjournment. Karla Bisco seconded; unanimously approved.