

SNA Board Meeting Minutes

May 21st, 2024

Star of the North Academy
1562 Viking Blvd NE, East Bethel, MN

Meeting called to order at 6:08 PM by Board Chair Javed Mohammad

Board Members Present: Javed Mohammad, Abdul Khadeer, Natoli Umer, Zeenat Ahmed

Board Members Absent: Fikret Ajdinovic

Others Present: Eman Ibrahim, Tamarah Hammad, Magdy Rabeaa, Roby Thomas, Mindy Wachter, Eric Molho, Kamrul Hasan

Community Comment 5- 10 Minutes:

Comment is the only open forum portion of today’s meeting and is an opportunity to present an issue or concern to the board of directors. There is a maximum of ten minutes set aside for community comment. Each presentation should be limited to no more than two minutes. If your item needs follow-up from the board and/or staff or will require research etc., a decision may not be made during today’s meeting. Thank you for coming this evening.

Adoption of Agenda

Motion to approve the meeting agenda made by Javed Mohammad and seconded Natoli Umer. Motion passes unanimously.

Motion to approve SNA previous board meeting minutes made by Abdul Khadeer and seconded by Natoli Umer. Motion passes unanimously.

Item No.	Subject	Presenter	Time
1.	Audit Report: Roby from Thomas & Company, presented the SNA audit report. A motion to pass Audit Report as presented made by Natlio Umer and seconded by Abdul Khadeer. Motion passes unanimously.	Roby Thomas	6:10- 6:38
3.	Review & Approve March and April Financials: Mindy from Creative Planning presented the Supplemental Packets & Balance Sheets from March & April A motion to pass the March & April Financials as presented made by Abdul Khadeer seconded by Natoli Umer. Motion passes unanimously.	Mindy Wachter	6:40- 7:01

4.	<p>FY 25 Original Budget: Mindy Wachter presented East Bethel & Coon Rapids Budget preview for upcoming school year 2024 -2025.</p> <p>A motion to pass for School year 2024 -2025 Budget as presented made by Abdul Khadeer and seconded by Natoli Umer. Motion passes unanimously.</p>	Mindy Wachter	7:02-7:23
5.	<p>Review and update Capital Asset Policy: Mindy Wachter introduced the revised 808 Capital Asset Policy for Star of the North Academy</p> <p>A motion to pass for capital asset Policy as presented made by Natoli Umer and seconded by Javed Mohammad. Motion passes unanimously.</p>	Mindy Wachter	7:24-7:26
6.	<p>School Calendar: Eman presented the calendar for the school year 2024-2025.</p> <p>A motion to pass for school calendar as presented made by Javed Mohammad and seconded by Abdul Khadeer. Motion passes unanimously.</p>	Eman Ibrahim	7:27 - 7:30
7.	<p>Assign an IOwA to SNA: Eman Ibrahim will be appointed for the IOwA.</p> <p>A motion to pass for IOwA representative as presented made by Abdul Khadeer and seconded by Javed Mohammad. Motion passes unanimously.</p>	Eman Ibrahim	7:31 – 7:32
8.	<p>Executive Director Report:</p> <p>Staffing & Hiring Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff recruitment & Interviews began early January • Star of the North Academy is hiring teachers for K-8 for the new location and East Bethel campus. • 16 new hires, including both local and international teachers. • Partnering with Amity Exchange Program for candidate selection and J-1 Visa assistance. <p>Student Enrollment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 186 active students. • Over 220 completed applications were received online, and a staff member was hired to follow up with families, conduct a parent tour, and finalize the registration packet. • Advertising campaigns conducted at various locations and events. <p>Transportation Plans:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided a list of active, waitlisted, and new students to the bus company to finalize the new routes for two campuses. 	Eman Ibrahim	7:33 – 7:50

Academics Update:

School-Wide MCA Preparation Plan:

Ms. Eman shared what was done this year to improve academics.

- Hired educational consultant for academic growth and MCA assessments.
- Provided teacher feedback and modeled teaching strategies.
- Launched intervention plan focusing on low-average students.
- Introduced a new homework requirement for students to use MobyMax.
- Promised rewards and incentives for meeting homework expectations.

School-wide Plan to improve academics:

Ms. Eman shared MAP testing results in reading, math and science. She presented the plan to improve students' achievement growth.

- Hiring a Highly Qualified Instructional Coach: Interviews conducted with six candidates, identifying two effective ones.
- Fail Fast Approach: Testing strategies for implementation next year.
- Summer School Program: Targeted program to increase language proficiency for struggling students.
- Continuing Current Initiatives: Building on successful strategies implemented this year.

Reading Initiatives:

- Launched a reading challenge: 30 minutes for 30 days challenge.
- Author read books to elementary students and conducted writing workshops with MS students.

	<p>Grants:</p> <p>-The Go Wild with Fruits & Veggies Initiative is a collaborative program involving SNA and nutrition educators, focusing on healthy eating and physical activity.</p> <p>-Grow Your Own Grant: Grant funds for scholarships or stipends for people of color, including Indigenous people, to obtain their first professional teaching license in Minnesota.</p> <p>Teaching & Learning Updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff Appreciation Week: Lunch, souvenirs, and 10-minute massage chair session for teachers and staff. • Wildlife Science Center Field Trip: In-school field trip featuring live animals like owls and snakes. • 1st Annual SNA 5K Color Run: Raised awareness about mental health and reduced stigma with 25 participants. • Bike Day is Thursday, May 23. Students will enjoy riding bikes and trikes 		
	<p>End of the year Evaluation: Javed Mohammad and Abdul Khadeer will evaluate SNA Executive Director and SPS</p> <p>A motion to pass for end of the year evaluation as presented made by Natoli Umer and seconded by Abdul Khadeer. Motion passes unanimously.</p>	Javed Mohammad	7:52- 7:53

Motion for adjournment was made by Javed Mohammad and Seconded by Natoli Umer

Meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM

Next SNA Board Meeting: Thursday May 30, 2024, at 6:30pm