



MMEP Board of Directors
March 12, 2009
1:00 – 3:00 PM
WMEP

MINUTES

Members present: **Stephanie Crosby** (Board Chair), Robbinsdale Area Schools; **Vanessa Abanu** (Vice Chair), University of Minnesota CEHD; **Anthony Galloway** (Secretary), West Metro Education Program (WMEP); **Lydia Lee** (Treasurer), Minneapolis Public Schools; **Stanley Brown**, Hopkins Public Schools; **Bruce Corrie**, Concordia University; **Diane Cowdery**, Pacific Educational Group, Inc.; **Tyrize Cox**, Robbinsdale Area Schools; **Jamie Edwards**, Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe; **Jeremiah Ellis**, Saint Paul Public Schools; **Leann Enninga**, Community Member; **Jim Field**, Minnesota Independent Schools Forum; **Jackie Fraedrich**, Community Member; **Dolores Fridge**, Medtronic; **Danielle Grant**, Minneapolis Public Schools; **Nadine Haley**, Metropolitan State University; **Keith Lester**, Brooklyn Center Schools; **Marcia Moore**, Northwest Suburban Integration District (NWSISD); **Elona Street Stewart**, Saint Paul Public Schools; and **Karen Woodward**, Integral Consulting, Inc./Saint Paul Public Schools Foundation.

Board Representatives: **Sunny Kase** (David Laird), Minnesota Private College Council; and **Kathy Griebel** (Carl Wahlstrom), East Metro Integration District (EMID).

Guests: **Bryan Bass**, principal, Brooklyn Center High School, guest of Keith Lester

Staff present: **Jennifer Godinez**, **Emmanuel Dolo**, **Shawn Lewis**, **Amanda Ziebell-Finley**, and **Caren Custer**

1. **Welcome and Introductions** Stephanie Crosby, Chair

Stephanie Crosby, Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

2. **Expression of our Values-Reflections on our dear colleague, Mona Harris** Stephanie Crosby

Stephanie read an e-mail that Mona had sent her sometime ago and still resonated today; Dolores Fridge shared her thoughts about Mona's service and the size and diversity of the group that came together to offer testimony to Mona's life; Karen Woodward shared a thought from her mother who had met Mona; and Jennifer Godinez read the Synergy article prepared by Carlos Mariani Rosa.

3. **Approval of Agenda** Stephanie Crosby
• Motion to approve the agenda.

The agenda was modified in the following way: Finance Memo would be reviewed earlier in meeting to allow for as many members as possible to review and approve..

A motion was made to accept the agenda with stated modifications.

M/S/P

Keith Lester/Karen Woodward

4. **Approval of Minutes** Stephanie Crosby
• Motion to approve December 11, 2008 Board Minutes

A motion was made to accept, as prepared, the minutes from December 11, 2008.

M/S/P

Elona Street Stewart/Dolores Fridge

5. **Associate Director Report: Staffing and MMEP Introductions of MMEP current staff** Jennifer Godinez, Associate Director

6. **Executive Committee (Action Requested)**
Approval of Oral Executive Committee Report
Policies for Adoption:

Stephanie Crosby or Vanessa
Abanu

1. Mission Statement
2. Governing Body
3. Minutes, Policy on
4. Form 990, Copies to Board for Review
5. Conflict of Interest
6. Code of Ethics
7. Whistleblower Policy
8. Investment Policy
9. Transparency and Accountability

- Motion to adopt recommended policies

Stephanie Crosby summarized that MMEP is adopting new policies in order to keep organization in line with new Form 990 and auditing standards. She explained that these policies had been vetted by the Executive/Finance Committee, staff, and MMEP bookkeeper. Stephanie asked that there being no objection that each policy be examined, discussion take place, and one motion be made to accept all policies. There being no objections, Stephanie proceeded with reviewing the policies.

1. Mission Statement: Bruce Corrie offered that a Mission Statement should be one sentence and not the paragraph offered. Caren Custer, MMEP staff, responded that MMEP mission statement is one sentence, that policy header title were taken verbatim from auditor recommendation to align official board record with that of auditor recommendations. Bruce also suggested that "Students of Color and American Indian Students" be replaced with ALANA which is the acronym for African, Latino, Asian, and Native American. Jackie Fraedrich provided historical background that use of American Indian is an acknowledgement of tribal nation's sovereignty, and that American Indian students have a unique tribal and racial heritage.
2. Governing Body: Karen Woodward requested that Board packets be made available at least one day before the meeting, not day of. The Governing Body policy also contains a provision for a Board Service Commitment Pledge. Karen Woodward offered discussion about language within individual pledge commitments, and had some question about discussing conflict of interest within pledge when a separate conflict of interest form is signed each year. At this point Keith Lester suggested that policies be tabled until June 2009 Board meeting, and that members each take the time to perform a "second reading" of the policies and come prepared for discussion and adoption at June Board meeting.

7. **Finance Memo (Action Requested)**

Shaun Manning, Finance
Committee Member

- Motion to receive January 31, 2009 report

Shaun Manning was unable to attend this meeting so Anthony Galloway volunteered to deliver the Finance Memo. However, Anthony offered that as Financials were straight-forward time for meeting was running short, he suggested that Agenda be modified to allow for Program Reports prior to Finance Memo. A motion was made to modify the Agenda so.

M/S/P

Anthony Galloway/Elona Street Stewart

8. **2008-2009 Workplan Highlights**

9. **Program Reports (Action Requested):**

1. Research Report Dr. Emmanuel Dolo
 2. Convening Report: African American Males in Education and Covenant Shawn Lewis
 3. Minnesota College Access Network (MCAN) and Academic Enrichment Guide (AEG) Amanda Ziebell-Finley
- Motion to accept program reports

Emmanuel Dolo introduced himself to the Board members and summarized the work he had completed to date including a presentation before the Minnesota E-12 Education Committee chaired by Carlos Mariani Rosa. A motion was made to accept the report of Emmanuel Dolo.

M/S/P

Nadine Haley/Diane Cowdery

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| 10. Fundraising Update (Action Requested) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Motion to accept fundraising update | Jennifer Godinez |
| 11. Membership Drive (Action Requested) <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Motion to approve pricing and benefits concept | Caren Custer and Jennifer Godinez |

Next Meeting: Membership Drive Strategy and Timeline

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| 12. New/Other business | All |
| 13. Adjournment | Stephanie Crosby |

Next meeting of the Board: June 18, 2009