

School Board Meeting Minutes
Regular Meeting
Thursday, August 27, 2009
AISB Library

Present: David Henry (DH), Steve Lutterbeck (SL), Iris Berfelo (IB), Omar Saibou (OS), Rick Caswell (RC), Magnus Bucht (MB), Monique Uwimana (MU), Kathleen Peoples (KP)

Absent: Claudia Vondrasek (CV)

Others Present: Randy Neen (RN), Secondary School Principal, Lynn Robinson (LR), Teachers' Representative, Michael Deutschmann (MD), Project Manager, and two other parents

1. Opening

- a. Call to order at 7:15 by IB, followed by self-introductions by everyone.
- b. Approval of June 9, 2009 meeting minutes: motion by SL, second by OS; ALL (6 voting members) in favor

2. Teacher's Report (by LR)

Highlights included:

- Successful staff development (week before school started) focused on Immersion and Differentiation
- First round of after school activities will begin on September 6 and sign-up forms will be sent home with the students the day after the meeting (Friday, August 28)
- This year's annual AISA conference will be held in Dakar in October and a number of AISB teachers will attend
- There is an idea floating out there about holding an international (regional) Math competition in Bamako in February.

3. Director's Report (by DH)

(See handout)

In addition, DH added that enrollment was still going up as new students keep showing up. The number of students needing ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) has also grown, especially in the Secondary School. As a result, a new ESOL teacher was hired at 60% of the time.

Randy Neen (RN), the new Secondary School Principal introduced himself (and his professional experience) to everyone and gave a short update on the Secondary School.

4. Facilities Committee Report (by Michael Deutschmann)

Self-introduction by MD, followed by an update on the school construction project:

- 17% of total work, including 80% of foundation work, completed as of meeting date,
- Access road to the construction site completed except for top layer to be added after rainy season,
- 2 out of 15 scheduled months of construction has been spent (work slow down requested in July), which pushes the completion date to October 2010 (but August 2010 still possible when work resumes full pace)
- Construction is now in slow mode (at Randy Brown's request) to match the small amount of funds available.

OPIC Loan update:

- Loan Approval Letter from OPIC received and Commitment Letter expected in mid-Sept. First disbursement of funds best if received by mid to end of October.

5. Finance Committee Report (by SL)

- The draft end of year financial report was not ready in time for this meeting, but will be in time for the next one (September 15)
- During its last meeting, the Committee mostly discussed the OPIC Loan. AISB is planning to apply for a Bridge Loan as soon as it receives a Commitment Letter from OPIC. Probably from a local bank (Ecobank seems very positive).

6. Organization Goals with Action Plans for 2009 – 2010: Final Draft

- Final draft presented by DH. Changes include mostly a change in the implementation schedule of a few items.
- Motion by IB to approve the final draft of the Organizational Goals, seconded by SL. ALL (6) approved.
- Motion by IB to postpone examination and approval of the Board Goals to the next regular Board meeting. Seconded by SL. ALL (6) approved.

7. Draft of Director's Goals for 2009 – 2010

(See handout)

8. Draft Agenda for September General Meeting

No questions and/or comments: the agenda stands as drafted

9. Update on Bilateral Agreement

Update by KP:

- Last response from the Malian Government was on July 31st. Delays due to issues relating to translation of the proposed document. The Political Section of the US Embassy is checking on that.

10. Other Business

None discussed

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm!!!