

# Natural Science Academy

-a school named for environmentalist, Michael Frome

920 Holley Avenue, Suite 3 \* St. Paul Park, MN 55071  
651.925.5050 • 651.925.5051 (fax)  
www.naturalscienceacademy.org • info@naturalscienceacademy.org



## Annual Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011  
7:00pm

Meeting Location: Natural Science Academy, St. Paul Park

The Annual Board Meeting of Natural Science Academy was called to order at 7:02 p.m. on Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2011. The meeting was held in the cafeteria at Natural Science Academy, St. Paul Park.

Board Members Present: Kendra Hunding, Terrence Bro, Jim Gleekel, Don Emery, Richard Bend, Kirsten Kinzler, Traci LaFerriere

Board Members Absent: Jane Husnik

Also present: (17) NSA Parents, NSA Staff, NSA Board Candidates

Kirsten Kinzler, NSA Director, conducted the meeting in the board chair's absence.

- I. Current Board Members were introduced and included:
  - a. Jane Husnik, Board Chair
  - b. Jim Gleekel, Board Treasurer
  - c. Richard Bend, Community Member, Founder, Outgoing Board Member
  - d. Don Emery, Community Member, Founder, Outgoing Board Member
  - e. Terrence Bro, Parent Member
  - f. Kendra Hunding, Teacher Member
  - g. Kirsten Kinzler, Ex-officio Member, NSA Director
  - h. Traci LaFerriere, Ex-officio Member, NSA Business Manager
- II. Board Candidates were introduced and included:
  - a. Penny Barnes, Community Member
  - b. Rachel Blank, NSA Staff
  - c. John Cavalieri, Community Member
  - d. David Glick, Community Member
- III. Board Election – Ballots were distributed to voting members and asked to vote for (3) three candidates. Ballots were collected and results will be posted tomorrow, Wednesday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011.
- IV. Reports
  - a. Director Update – given by Kirsten Kinzler, Director.
    - i. Enrollment/Staff Update – NSA Staff were introduced. Current enrollment numbers were communicated to members. 56 current students returning for next year plus thirteen new kindergartners and five additional students in grades 1-5.

**Seed Sale Update:** The students again measured and counted seeds into packets this spring. Each packet cost \$2.00. Artwork by the students was used on the packets, and the originals are available for purchase. Last year the seed sales netted \$1200.00 in profit.

**Garden Grant:** The school received a grant for \$500.00 to put in a garden space. Help is needed over the summer to weed the garden and keep it watered. Kendra Hunding read a brief passage from her grant proposal. The school is hoping to get intergenerational help to maintain the garden next fall.
    - ii. Student Achievement – The students continue to meet or exceed state guidelines. MAP tests to check progress will occur later in May.

- iii. Marketing – Information about summer events was mentioned and families were asked to continue to spread the good news about NSA to anyone who may be interested.
  - iv. PAC Report - The Parents Advisory Committee meets the first Tuesday of each month from 6:30 – 8:00 pm. The next meeting is May 17<sup>th</sup>. The biggest project they are working on for the month is setting up a fundraiser night at a local restaurant in order to promote the school and earn additional funding.
  - v. Finance Committee - The school is budgeted for 70 students next fall. Budgeting continues to be conservative. The school was honored again this year for its adherence to both its budget and its charter and received the School Finance Award from the MN Department of Education.
  - vi. Other - **Upcoming Events:** Go Wild For Science night is rescheduled for May 19<sup>th</sup>. Thursday, May 26<sup>th</sup> will be the Spring Musical. Last Day of School is June 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- V. Special Guest Speaker – Mr. Steve Dess, Audubon Center of the North Woods, Charter School Authorizer  
Mr. Dess spoke at length regarding his long experience working on behalf of kids in Minnesota. He gave a brief history of how the Audubon Center of the North Woods got involved in charter schools and why ACNW felt it was valuable to offer students an environmental connection in their educational process. He urged parents and the board to continue to stay viable and strong by keeping the focus on kids and the continuing mission of NSA.
- VI. Adjourn Meeting - A motion to adjourn was made by board member Richard Bend. It was seconded by Jim Gleekel. The meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.

**NSA VISION: To develop a "green" school for children where the facility, operations, and educational program reflect a commitment to the natural environment.**