

VLACS Board of Trustees

Minutes

Date: Thursday, April 9, 2009
Location: Virtual Learning Academy Conference Room
30 Linden Street, Exeter, NH Time: 3:00PM

Attendance

Trustees

Dr. Kent Chamberlin

Dr. Mark Joyce

Mr. Joseph Lovejoy

Mr. Matthew Treamer (phone)

Mr. John Hansen (phone)

Administration

Dr. Stephen Kossakoski

Mr. Gary Tirone

Visitors

Ms. Roberta Tenney, NH DOE

Minutes

1. Mr. Lovejoy called the meeting to order at 3:10PM.
2. Dr. Chamberlin made a motion to accept the minutes from the February 5, 2009 meeting. Seconded by Dr. Joyce. All members voted in favor of the motion.
3. Public comment: none
4. Finance
 - 4.1. The trustees reviewed the financial reports and signed manifests. There were no questions.
 - 4.2. Dr. Kossakoski reported that the annual audit is not ready at this time.
 - 4.3. Dr. Kossakoski reported that VLACS has been approved as a 501(c)(3) non-profit.
 - 4.4. Dr. Kossakoski reported that there has been no news regarding a request to the NH DOE that will allow VLACS to receive funding for more than five credits per year for each full-time student while not exceeding twenty total credits. If approved, this will allow full-time students to complete the requirements for graduation at an accelerated pace.
 - 4.5. Dr. Kossakoski presented the proposed 2009-2010 budget for approval at the June meeting. Dr. Joyce stated that the legislature is about half way through the state budget approval process. Rob Tenney noted that the state charter school budget has been separated from the public school budget. There was discussion regarding the need to contact legislators to ask them to support funding for VLACS during the state budget approval process.
5. CEO/CLO Report
 - 5.1. Dr. Kossakoski reported that there were 4,797 enrolled, active, or completed enrollments as of March 31, 2009.
 - 5.2. Administrative updates

Dr. Kossakoski and Mr. Tirone discussed plans for new courses in science, mathematics, world language, technology, and art. Dr. Kossakoski reported that he and Mr. Tirone will be meeting with representatives from the Great School Partnership in June to discuss how VLACS could assist students in Maine,

Vermont, and Rhode Island. Dr. Kossakoski also reported that VLACS commercials will be running on WMUR in May. He also announced that a grant application has been submitted which, if approved, will provide funding for course competency recovery and access to extended learning opportunities for students.

6. Personnel

6.1. Dr. Kossakoski stated that there have been no personnel changes since the last meeting.

6.2. Mr. Tirone described the professional development opportunities currently available to VLACS staff. He also discussed the school partnership program and noted that an increasing number of schools are opting to use VLACS courses.

6.3. Dr. Kossakoski requested that an fifteen additional days be added to his current part-time contract through the end of June. Dr. Joyce made a motion to approve fifteen additional days at the CEO's current per diem rate. Seconded by Dr. Chamberlin. All members voted in favor of this motion.

7. Policy

7.1. New policies. Dr. Joyce made a motion to adopt policy DIE-Audits. Seconded by Dr. Chamberlin. All members voted in favor of this motion.

Dr. Joyce made a motion to adopt policy EHB-Data/Records retention. Seconded by Dr. Chamberlin. All members voted in favor of this motion.

Mr. Hansen made a motion to amend policy JFA-Residency to include the following text: VLACS is a virtual school and does not, by policy, provide transportation to any student. Seconded by Dr. Joyce. All members voted in favor of the motion to amend this policy. Dr. Joyce made a motion to adopt policy JFA-Residency, as amended. Seconded by Dr. Chamberlin. All members voted in favor of this motion.

7.2. Policies for revision. Dr. Kossakoski asked the Trustees to approve a revision to policy IKF-Graduation that will require full-time students to participate in state mandated testing. Mr. Treamer made a motion to adopt the recommended revisions to policy IKF-Graduation. Seconded by Dr. Chamberlin. All members voted in favor of this motion.

8. Old Business: none

9. New Business: Mr. Lovejoy reported that Arthur Hanson has indicated that he is interested in becoming a VLACS Trustee. Dr. Joyce nominated Arthur Hanson as a Trustee for a term of three years. Seconded by Dr. Chamberlin. All members voted in favor of this nomination.

10. Next meeting: Thursday, June 4, 2009 at 3:00PM.

11. Dr. Joyce made a motion to adjourn at 5:05PM. Seconded by Dr. Chamberlin. All members voted in favor of this motion.