



*Mission: Educating all students to highest levels of academic and social standards with a focus on Hmong language and culture.*

HOPE Community Academy

November 21, 2024  
Conference Room – 5:30 pm

**Present:** Shaw, Ahrens, D. Lorr, Xiong Vang, M. Lor  
**Absent:** Ball, Wildebuer  
**Staff:** M. Vu, Sierra Robinson  
**Others:** None

- I. Call to Order 5:30 pm
- II. Rules of Engagement
  - Be here now
  - Be a leader and a team player
  - Be a good steward
- III. Approval of Agenda
  - Correction to agenda: add “r” to “Coordinator” under item VI. Executive Director’s Report
  - Xiong Vang moved to approve with correction. Ahrens seconded.
  - No discussion.
  - Motion passed.
- IV. Approval of October 24, 2024 Minutes
  - Ahrens moved to approve October 24, 2024 minutes. D. Lorr seconded.
  - No discussion.
  - Motion passed.
- V. Community Comments
  - None.
- VI. Executive Director’s Report – Maychy Vu (20 minutes)
  - 1) Principal’s Report (10 minutes)
    - “Title Talk 2025” – Sierra Robinson, Title I Coordinator
    - Highlights from presentation:

9 – MDE definition of Title I: To provide all children a fair, equitable and high-quality education and close the achievement gap. To help those who are at risk of not meeting academic standards — the low-achieving and historically underserved students.

16 – What does Title I provide for HOPE parents/families?

17: Funds spent to upgrades curriculum, training staff with new technology, universal screening paid for by Title funds – progress monitoring; and K-5 intervention needs (slide 21)

41 – Student Data from SY23-24: focus low-risk “bubble” students to meet to be at grade level; grade level breakdown 73/156 exited (met during progress monitoring; 83% making growth making gains not exited

Q/A:

Expected Growth? Making adequate progress but not meeting benchmark

Benchmark? Benchmarks are different per grade level and time of year

42 – SY24-25 currently have 5 Title teachers - 108 students (20/108 exited); 92% to make expected growth

43 – Title for 6-12 focus on College and Career Readiness Class, Mastering Mathematics class, Hmong Cultural Class, After School Programming, & Summer School

44 – 45 MS & HS reading data is making some gains, math indicates more gains

46 – Improvements to see more gains

47 – Training in ELA teachers Careiall training; MDE had 3 programs to select; HOPE teachers chose Careiall; added additional screener to FASTBridge for grades 2-3

48 – new ELA curriculum Open Up Education K-8; gives students more opportunities to talk, links to literature and social studies

53 – Contact Sierra for info for K-5; Mr. Reed for 6-12

Q/A:

Data on students who are EL and Title? Current model pulls students who are at 2.8 for Title support

Are special education students receiving Title services? They receive reading services through special education teachers, depending on their IEP

## 2) ED Report

UST Fall Site November 13, 2024 Discussion under “New Business”

SY24/25 Quarterly Report/Annual Report – resubmitted with updates

Strategic Plans – Year 2 (November 2024)

Strategic Plans Updates - Dashboard: KPIs & Milestones (see attachment)

Infinite Campus – Parent Portal Tracking System

- PreK Data: 1 parent account, no logins, average weekly 0
- Elementary: 28 parent accounts, 80 logins, average weekly 7
- MS Data: 27 parent accounts, 94 logins, average weekly 8
- HS Data: 12 parent accounts, 0 logins, average weekly 0

Medical Leave Request: January 6-31, 2025

- Principals will rotate attendance at board meetings as have been in place this year. January will be Dr. Damon
- IT will schedule doors to unlock and lock before and after all meetings

VII. Consent Agenda ( 5 minutes)

- 1) SY2024-25 School Calendar: March 12, 2025 MS Program to be e-learning day, while HS Program to take ACT test
- 2) SY2024/2025 Licensed Staff Contracts

Elementary:

4<sup>th</sup>: Storm, Michelle

Specialists: Chah, Deeh – Hmong Language & Culture  
Her, Salina – Hmong Language & Culture

EL: Vu, Thanh Ha

Social Worker: Hartos-Hord, Barbarajean

Ahrens moved to approve the consent agenda. D. Lor seconded.  
No discussion.  
Motion passed.

VIII. Committee Reports (25 minutes)

1) Executive Committee

- Refined current ED Rubric
- Midyear review process: administer Dec. 1, due Dec. 10, Special Meeting TBD before full board meeting
- Board trainings: board members receiving trainings needed, board approval for subscription Chartersource at \$750

Ahrens moved to approve the \$750 subscription to Chartersource.org. Xiong Vang seconded.

Discussion on board budget.  
Motion passed.

2) Board Operations Committee – November 12, 2024 Meeting

- a. Annual Meeting/Election Date: May 14, 2025
- b. Public Participation/Guest Policy Adoption
  - BOC suggested adopting MSBA version of the Public Participation policy w/ minor updates

- Don will distribute updated version to the full Board to review before NOV meeting
  - Policy will be added to the Board of Directors section of the HOPE policies
  - BOC will motion for its adoption at the NOV Board mtg
  - Once adopted, the new policy should be added to the HOPE website. Under both the Board and Policy sections.
  - Patchia and BOC will condense the previous Guest Policy document into a one page handout for Guests
  - BOC will work with Board Chair and full board to document Community Comments public participation process
- c. Board Engagement/Recruitment Process
- Patchia has updated the events listed and will be reaching to confirm upcoming events with ED and Parent & Community Coordinator
  - Board Members should update the Tracker with attendance
  - Upcoming Events:
    - November Family Night 11/19
    - HOPE New Year 12/05
    - Concert Elementary 12/12 (During school)
    - Concert MS/HS 12/12 evening

D. Lor moved to approve Policy #121 – Public Participation in School Board Meetings, with the adjustment from the term “superintendent” to “executive director.”

Xiong Vang seconded.

No discussions.

Motion passed.

Next meeting: December 10, 2024x at 5:30 pm

### 3) Finance Committee

November 19, 2024 Meeting Minutes:

Reviewed October 2024 Financials

- ADM 791
- Spending below revenues
- \$54k from federal just arrived in November
- Right now 1.2million excess – but only look at budget because timing is different
- ADM is below our forecast – that’s why we’re looking at a revised budget
- New line item – READ act training – we were paid \$28k
- Misc revenues – Jenny looking into what this is
- Office really tracking – supplies only at 12% of budget
- Other items also under budget
- Supplementals – end of rent credit

#### Reviewed revised budget

- Chart compares ADM for each grade level
- With savings in VPK and transportation, saved \$255k, but that was not enough to leave us above the rent credit level (\$383k)
- 4 HMONG teachers in the budget – only hiring 3
- Some money coming from fundraiser last year (\$28k) the rest from the staff money
- Conservative numbers – 785AMD, current actual 791

Ahrens moved to accept the revised 2025 budget. M. Lorr seconded.

No discussion.

Motion passed.

#### Bank updates

- Type of account does not accrue interest
- FDIC insures \$250k; anything over requires collateral (supplied by the bank)
- Would need to switch type of account and open a new account; monthly fee – looking for actual APY
- Jenny is also looking into potential CD rates

#### Other Agenda Items/Comments

##### Further Discussion of Goals for Finance Committee

- Maintain a balanced budget
- Start a sustainable fundraising campaign (RaiseRight)
- Staci started the program and sent information to all school employees. Will be working with Parent Engagement person to get the info out to our families.
- Join code is **2MCRVKAEL98I**
- Staci will connect w/ Barb about sending an email
  - Generate Sponsors – local business to sponsor kids, sports teams, music programs, etc.
- October 2024 Summary Report
- October 2024 Summary Income Statement
- October 2024 Balance Sheet
- October 2024 Payment Register

The board reviewed, discussed, and filed the financial report subject to audit.

#### IX. Existing Business

None

#### X. New Business (20 minutes)

1) SY24 Finance Audit Report Presentation via video – Tyler See, Abdo

\*handouts attached

- Clean audit



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- If board members have any questions following the presentation, send them to Executive Director. ED will forward to auditor for responses to be presented at the December board meeting.

2) UST Visit Follow-up

Areas to focus on:

- Board meeting prep
- Late turn-ins such as transportation report
- Website updates

XI. Adjournment

D. Lorr moved to adjourn the meeting. M. Lor seconded.

No discussion.

Motion passed.

**Next Board Meeting: Thursday, December 19, 2024 5:30 pm Conference Room**