**Linden S.T.E.A.M. Academy meeting notes from 12/4/2012**

Attendees: Linda Bell, Rich Bransfield, Diana Buonopane, Nick Catoggio, Kathy Cutting, Laura Degelmann, David Deruosi, Peter Dolan Deb Gesualdo, Rachana Gray, Alisha King, Melissa Lightbody, Linda Patrie, Ann Schiro, Franklin Shearer, Susan Terban, Lenny Young, John Froio

* The Board elected executive officers:
  + Co-Chairs: Kathy Cutting and Lenny Young
  + Treasurer: Linda Patrie
  + Secretary: Rachana Gray
* The Board decided that the board and its officers will stay in place for two years. This was decided so that there could be some stability while the ground work is laid for the school. After the two years, the board will hold staggered election to ensure that there are always experience people on the board.
* The attached By-Laws were conditionally accepted based on an upcoming re-write of the Personnel Advisory Committee. It was decided that the committee should be renamed the Academic Programming Committee. The committee will be responsible for making recommendation based on the Academic Programming needs of the school and not on the personnel needed to meet those needs. The final decision on Personnel will rest with the Principal.
* There was a discussion over the use of email to hold discussions. In order to move issues along faster several discussions were being held through email. Many felt that it was difficult to follow the threads of the discussions. Deb also brought up that using email violated our open meeting policy. The Board agreed to use Edmodo to store documents and hold discussions between meetings. Deb will send out directions on how to join. Edmodo is a tool that teachers currently use with their classes for group projects etc.
* A decision was made to hold off on going over the progress of the foundations. A new grant writer has been hired by the district. Her first assignment will be for the LSA. Rich will invite her to speak to us at one of our meetings and we will get her advice before moving forward.
* A discussion about Parent/Teacher meetings was started and will be continued at the next meeting. Everyone agreed that it has not been a pleasant experience for either the teachers or the parents. Rich mentioned that many different methods have been tried, but nothing seems to really make everyone happy. Everyone agreed that we need to keep trying to find a method that will work for the majority of people. Some suggestions are to use a half day, to split the night into two separate nights, and to look into what the High School does. We will continue this discussion at the next meeting.

Action Items:

* Deb will send out direction for Edmodo
* Members will log into Edmodo and start playing around
* Rich will invite the grant writer to our meeting

Items for future discussions (in no particular order):

* Parent/Teacher Conferences
* School Uniforms
* Grant Writer
* Communication Committee
* School Lunches
* Staggering elections