



August 20, 2014

Governing Board Meeting

Meeting called to order at 9:20 AM

Meeting called by Dr. Nichols

Governing Board Members

Dr. Nate Nichols – Governing Board Chairman

C. Ron Allen – Governing Board Vice Chairman

Timothy Quinn – Governing Board Member

In attendance: Dr. Nate Nichols, C. Ron Allen, Melissa March, Robert Campo, Nikki Sloan, Jeannette LaFleur, Heather Confer, Karen Holland, Gregory Blount

Introductions/Welcome

Dr. Nichols

School Update

Ms. Sloan

The first two days have been primarily procedures and routines.

Emergency contact sheets have been sent home.

We are currently interviewing to fill teacher openings.

Founder's Report

Gregory James Blount

- Nikki is doing an amazing job.
- There are requests for 30 more students to ride the bus. Mr. Blount reached out to the busing company to readjust routes to accommodate overcrowded yellow bus with underutilized red and blue buses. Busing has been handed over to Heather.
- Mr. Blount worked on the attendance rosters to verify attendance and called students that hadn't reported to school. We are lowest in grade levels that have more temporary teachers.
- The attendance collection is slow right now due to technological issues.
- The principal plans to streamline the attendance collection process to avert confusion. The attendance rosters were picked up today by Mr. Blount to get numbers. Mr. Blount stated he has a stack of letters on his desk with excuses for absences. These will need to be turned in to Jodi to enter into TERMS.
- Currently Mr. Blount is marketing to weakest grades. Kids World Event Saturday and Sunday. Two new banners with the backdrop of Disney was purchased by the Foundation. Mr. Blount, Diane Dolan and two parent volunteers will attend. The event is expected to draw 25,000 in attendance. Mr. Blount will have a computer onsite for parent registration.
- Mr. Allen is helping to diffuse negativity about Eagle Arts from neighboring public schools in response to EAA's large enrollment.
- Enrollment 669, 665 and 670, respectively. 126 in 6th grade each day.
- ALS Challenge – 6th and 5th graders are participating in a challenge to see Ms. Sloan get a bucket of water dumped on her when the challenge is met. Mr. Blount flew the drone and the video will be up on YouTube by tonight.
- The board meetings are on Wednesday nights which is in conflict of church services.
- Dr. Nichols would like the monthly meetings public and noticed. Time, Location, etc.



- C. Ron would like to survey parents for best times and days.
- Mr. Blount would like to relinquish the control of the website. Mr. Blount feels like he is a bottleneck for Heather to post things. The system is inadequate for the school's needs. Mr. Blount would like to hand over control to the management company.
- 1:00 on Monday the CEO of eSparks is flying in to meet the Eagle Arts team. Mr. Blount explains the individualized structure of the program and how it will help the school reach its academic goals. EAA would be one of two schools in Palm Beach. Admin would be able to track individual students. Dr. Nichols is very familiar with a school district that is using eSparks in New York. He would like to see the effects of eSparks on student growth. This program was to be funded by TCE; this is being reevaluated. Discussions about future funding will continue in an executive meeting.

Teacher/Student Handbook Update Ms. Sloan

- Faculty Handbook is close to being ready.
- The Family Handbook is ready. The Family Handbook was first sent out on July 29th. Mr. Blount requested more time to review the document.
- Handbook approval will be on Friday through an emergency meeting.
- The signing pages will not likely change and can be printed ahead of approval.
- Suggestion was made to upload the handbook onto the website in PDF form and send home the signing sheets and communicate to parents the availability of a hard copy if desired.

Security Update Ms. Sloan

- The security positions are in holding until the budget is reviewed.

Budget/Staffing Ms. March

- The complete budget will be finalized after the 11 day count.
- The staffing matrix suggestions have been developed according to the 670 students. The matrix includes class consolidations. ESE specialist, Dean of Academics, and Principal for administrative positions. The specials would move out of classes allowing for consolidation of classes. One teacher would need to be let go at this time but would be kept on as a substitute for future growth. Management onsite position would have a lower salary allocation. The administrative assistant position hole will not be filled. The security positions will be consolidated with IT. The ESE contact is currently in the classroom but with conversations with Jim Pegg our climate needs a standalone ESE but will also be consolidated with ESOL. The AP position would be cut. The Academic Dean is also certified guidance which would suffice the charter. The board agrees that this is a projection not a decision.
- Dr. Nichols recognizes that changes need to be made soon, but wants to wait until the 11 day count on the advice of the management company.
- C. Ron moves to approve the projected budget. Seconded by Dr. Nichols. All in favor "aye"; all in favor.



- Ms. Holland raises questions of contracts and benefits. Ms. March explains that benefits pricing is based on participation. That has been difficult with staff changes. The effective date will be Sept. 1st. The contracts are being reviewed. A faculty meeting is planned to clarify questions.

Additional School Revenue Ms. March

- Mr. Blount would like clarification on before/aftercare salaries absent from the salary matrix. It was clarified that aftercare has its own budget.
- Mr. Blount discussed with Heather and Walter that the Foundation is working to set up aftercare payment.
- Mr. Blount is willing to discuss revenue from uniform sales being moved to the school but can't guarantee it.
- Foundation is raising funds for possible awning between E and C and renovation of basketball courts.
- There have not been allocations agreements set up for the money raised.
- Mr. Blount expresses concern that the Foundation has spent monies that the school should have reimbursed. Dr. Nichols would like to see what monies are coming and going between the Foundation and School.
- Ms. Sloan would like there to be monies set aside to provide student rewards and staff appreciation.
- Ms. March requested an executive meeting to verify line item budgetary items. Ms. March needs clarification on who is handling specific line items.
- Dr. Nichols clarified that future conversations on structure of budgetary items will be addressed.

501(c)(3) Mr. Campo

- Additional information is needed for the completion of the application.
- Mr. Campo gave suggestions on each item needed via email.
- Mr. Allen makes a motion to approve Mr. Campo's recommendations to complete the application and have it sent back to Curtis Fuller. Mr. Blount questions if the application lists the management company. It will change the filing process. Mr. Campo states that it just changes the application but does not adversely affect the process. Mr. Allen retracts his approval. Will it delay the application process to add the management company? Mr. Campo says that it would only delay in the time to collect additional information about the management company. Mr. Blount states that the approval and filing have changed since Curtis Fuller wrote the application. The charter doesn't call for a management company. The board would like to further review the addition of a management and the topic will be revisited at Friday's meeting.

Policies and Procedures Dr. Nichols

- Dr. Nichols would like all policies to be brought to Heather. Heather is in charge of compliance.
- The board has some notes to existing policies and procedures to review with Heather.
- This will be revisited in the next board meeting.



Parent Academy

Mr. Allen

- The school and Mr. Allen would like to start a Parent Academy similar to a PTA but with enriched aspects. We would like to promote student achievement through parent workshops and activities.
- We have a large parental improvement at this school affording opportunity to have this school be a model in the state.
- Mr. Allen is on the taskforce for the Palm Beach County Schools for Graduation and Drop Out Prevention. The Parent Academy was born out of that.
- Dr. Nichols notes the parent volunteer levels at the school and congratulates Greg and Diane in their efforts to bring in parents.
- Dr. Nichols would like to show the school's appreciation for the volunteer work done by parents. Mr. Allen has drafted some appreciation letters that the school can use. Ms. Sloan would like to limit the number of parent volunteers during the academic school day. The school would like to have more structured volunteer time to make sure parents are not in the office where confidential discussions regarding students take place.
- When phones are installed the Foundation will be moved to Building D which will alleviate some of the parent volunteers working for the Foundation.
- Ms. Holland requested room parents. Ms. Sloan will discuss this with Ms. Holland.
- Ms. Sloan would like to have parent meetings that include the topics of Bullying, Student Achievement, and Character Education. She would correlate this with a monthly theme inside the school time. Dr. Nichols reminds the connections of Mr. Allen with P.R.
- Ms. Holland asked if the ALS challenge will be in the newspaper? Ms. Sloan states that prior approval is needed for news print.

- Mr. Allen would like to add discussions about the management company to Friday's meeting agenda.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:21 PM. Motion made by Mr. Allen and seconded by Dr. Nichols.