

MINUTES OF THE
CAPE CORAL
CHARTER SCHOOL AUTHORITY GOVERNING BOARD
REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, January 12, 2016
Council Chambers
9:00 a.m.

CALL TO ORDER: The Cape Coral Charter School Authority Governing Board of Lee County, Florida, met on January 12, 2016, at Council Chambers, a Regular Governing Board Meeting. Co-Chair Donaldson called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

INVOCATION: Co-Chair Donaldson

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:
All in attendance

ROLL CALL: Anderson, Boyer, Cosden, Donaldson, Jackson, Lucas-Ross, Teblum, Zivkovic
• Jackson, excused

ALSO PRESENT: Bill Buztrey, Assistant City Attorney
Nelson Stephenson, Superintendent, Cape Coral Charter School Authority
Shannon Treece, Principal, Oasis Charter High School
Keith Graham, Principal, Oasis Charter Middle School
Steve Hook, Principal, Oasis Charter Elementary School
Jacque Collins, Principal, Christa McAuliffe Charter Elementary School
Danielle Jensen, Director of Procurement and Food Services, Cape Coral Charter School Authority
Mary Anne Moniz, Business Manager, Cape Coral Charter School Authority
Vicki McAtee, City of Cape Coral, Human Resource Liaison to Charter Schools
Victoria Bateman, City of Cape Coral Director of Financial Services
Russ Winstead, Parent, Christa McAuliffe Charter Elementary School
Debbie Winstead, Parent, Christa McAuliffe Charter Elementary School
Jaime Olivio, Parent, Christa McAuliffe Charter Elementary School
Nancy Starner, Parent, Christa McAuliffe Charter Elementary School
Kelly Jackson, Parent, Oasis Charter Middle School

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion to approve the minutes for the Regular Governing Board Meeting of December 8, 2015 was made by member Boyer and seconded by member Teblum.

Board vote: Anderson, Boyer, Cosden, Donaldson, Teblum, Zivkovic

All “Ayes,” motion carries.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA REGULAR MEETING:

Motion was made by member Teblum to add an agenda item for the suspension of the Christa McAuliffe Principal and seconded for discussion by member Cosden.

Discussion held.

Member Cosden withdrew her second.

Motion was made by Member Teblum to amend previous motion. He now motions for the board to authorize the superintendent of schools to investigate the complaints and evidence submitted by member Teblum and report back to the governing board within one week of the next meeting.

No second, motion dies.

Motion to approve the agenda as submitted was made by member Cosden and seconded by member Zivkovic.

Board vote: Anderson, Boyer, Cosden, Donaldson, Teblum, Zivkovic

All “Ayes,” motion carries.

Motion was made by Superintendent Stephenson to move item 12C, Presentation of CAFR, to take the place of Superintendent Report. Motion seconded by member Cosden.

Board vote: Anderson, Boyer, Cosden, Donaldson, Teblum, Zivkovic

All “Ayes,” motion carries.

Amended: NEW BUSINESS:

A. Presentation of CAFR-Victoria Bateman

Discussion held.

Item does not need a vote.

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT:

Mr. Stephenson recognizes student Ximena Moua for designing and preparing the Strategic Plan.

Mr. Stephenson commends student Ximena Moua for putting together the MLK Unity Day flyer.

Mr. Stephenson presents student Ximena Moua with a certificate for all of her hard work.

Mr. Stephenson states that everyone is invited to the MLK Unity Day Celebration on January 18, 2016 at 8:30 AM in the OHS gymnasium.

Mr. Stephenson states that the practice field has green grass. Mr. Stephenson thanks the Foundation for providing the financial resources to get us to this point. He also thanks Paul Pescatrice, Tod Baldwin, other support staff and board members for their efforts and contributions.

Mr. Stephenson states we will have a policy in place for the new field.

Mr. Stephenson states that in the very near future all four school websites, plus our charter school main page will be updated. Penny Faulkner has been working on our websites to make sure they all have the same framework.

Mr. Stephenson states that he and a few other staff members will attend FETC (Florida Education Technology Conference) beginning tomorrow, January 13, 2016.

Mr. Stephenson states that he has contacted Lee schools and they have assured him they are going to work with us on anything we need for the CSADS component until they get the Focus parts added.

Mr. Stephenson states that we will stay in the council chambers for the NEOLA workshop following the regular governing board meeting.

Mr. Stephenson commends our administrators and staff for their quick response and hard work after the tornado.

Mr. Stephenson recognizes *Overtime Sports Bar & Grill* for their donation of 10 pizzas to help after the tornado.

Mr. Stephenson recognizes the Home Depot regional manager for offering to call the store manager of the Skyline location and have him open up if we needed anything after the tornado.

Mr. Stephenson states that he has asked the principals to compile a list of students that have needs resulting from the storm. We will communicate with parents and collect money to help with those needs.

Discussion held.

CHAIRMAN REPORT:

None

FOUNDATION REPORT:

Mr. Stephenson states that Chris Porter is unable to attend.

Mr. Stephenson states the field update he gave would be part of the Foundation Report.

Mr. Stephenson states there will be information coming about the upcoming Light House Awards.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Parent Russ Winstead states he is a parent at CME. He would like to provide a clarification in reference to the 5th grade gifted NASA field trip brought up at the last board meeting. Since that time there have been some issues brought up that seem to be an individual's personal preference verses the program. In the past it has been common practice for the gifted program to go on this field trip. The trip was approved by the board but due to a clerical error it did not identify specifically that it was for the gifted program. Mr. Winsted has been privy to comments made and it has been blown up into a ridiculous situation. Parents are very uncomfortable with the personal side of this issue continuing to happen. He knows there have been efforts against the principal in regards to this situation. He is asking for the board to recognize that this is for the gifted program and the preparations have been made.

Parent Debbie Winstead states that she is a parent and previous employee at CME. She states that it was a pleasure to work for Mrs. Collins for 3 years. She states that she has pages and pages of documentation from a private Facebook group which she created and is the administrator of. She states Mr. Teblum has made comments about the NASA trip such as, "oh well, the principal made a mistake it's discrimination; the gifted class can go to Lego Land because he doesn't want to go there." Mrs. Winsted has made Mrs. Collins aware of these comments. The parents do not want Mr. Teblum's personal vendetta to cause a problem with the gifted kids going on a field trip. Mrs. Winsted and her husband do not feel that their children are unsafe at school and they love Christa McAuliffe. She has documentation if anyone would like to see it. She doesn't want to see the kids suffer because of this.

STAFF AND BOARD COMMENT:

Director of Procurement and Food Services

Danielle Jensen states that November numbers are favorable to budget.

Danielle Jensen states the year to date revenues is coming in exactly at budget.

Danielle Jensen states that we are a little favorable in our expenses but that will be offset by the food service staff who now qualify for benefits.

Danielle Jensen states the on-site audits will be complete this month.

Danielle Jensen states that out of four OHS intern students, one will continue into the third semester.

Danielle Jensen states that ESSI was able to install the A/C coils at CME over the winter break.

Danielle Jensen states that she has completed filling out the landscaping scope for our quote and it has been submitted to the city for review.

Danielle Jensen states that she is focusing on getting quotes for OES carpets, OES kitchen mini-split, and the walk-in freezer.

Danielle Jensen states the outer fence bid was awarded and will be started this week. Permit was obtained from the city. This will enclose the Oasis campus.

Danielle Jensen states the OMS gym curtain bid was awarded and will be installed during Presidents' Day week so students are only affected one day.

Danielle Jensen states she will work with the food service and maintenance teams to identify capital needs for next year's budget.

Christa McAuliffe Charter Elementary School

Jacque Collins states they have a production called *Honk* at 7:00 PM on February 13, 2016 at the Fort Myers Academy of the Arts. There will also be a matinee at 2:00 PM on February 14, 2016.

Jacque Collins states 4th grade will be performing *The Granny Awards* from 6:00-8:00 PM on January 14, 2016.

Jacque Collins states the science fair will be held on February 4, 2016. Members of the Southwest Florida Scientist Society will be judging the projects. The awards presentation will be on February 4, 2016 at 6:00 PM.

Jacque Collins states that on February 6, 2016 there will be a bike rodeo at OMS.

Jacque Collins states the Florida Center for Reading Research is doing a second grade study at CME and OES. The focus is on the level of professional development teachers are given to implement the program and they will gauge the professional development on academic progress.

Jacque Collins states that she would like to give clarification to any of the board members on the Kennedy Space Center field trip.

Discussion held.

Motion was made by member Cosden to make an addendum to last month's vote for the CME 5th Grade Accelerated Class Overnight Field Trip to Kennedy Space Center on May 11 -12, 2016 (originally item 12D on the December 8, 2015 board agenda) due to clerical error. Motion seconded by member Boyer.

Discussion held.

Board vote: Anderson, Boyer, Cosden, Donaldson, Teblum, Zivkovic

Five (5) "Ayes" and One (1) "Nay", motion carries.

Oasis Charter Elementary School (OES)

Steve Hook states that on January 8th and 9th students had the opportunity to perform with Lisa Vroman at the Barbara B. Mann Performing Arts Hall during a Rodgers and Hammerstein production.

Steve Hook states that OMS and OES drama students are competing in the upcoming Junior Theatre Festival (JTF) in Atlanta, GA. This is an international festival and we are excited to participate.

Steve Hook states that February 24-26, 2016 will be the OES production of *Shrek*.

Steve Hook states there will be a special fundraiser January 15, 2016 for the Oasis families affected by the recent devastating weather.

Steve Hook states that the Luau for Life fundraiser is wrapping up with a boy vs. girls coin competition. Luau for Life is a children's foundation for cancer. We are anticipating raising \$10,000.00 or more for this foundation.

Steve Hook states that OES has started enrichment camps in preparation for the upcoming testing season.

Steve Hook states he appreciates the support from the community for the upcoming bike clinic/rodeo. This is one of the few done at local schools to promote bike safety.

Discussion held.

Oasis Charter Middle School (OMS)

Keith Graham states there was an informational open house last week for all incoming/new parents and students to middle school. A lot of concerns and questions were addressed.

Keith Graham states that on January 13 and 14, 2016 at 6:30 PM in the OMS cafeteria the OMS drama class will conduct their *Night of One Acts*.

Keith Graham states that every Wednesday the National Jr. Honor Society will promote their Water for Life Campaign.

Keith Graham states January 29, 2016 will be the annual staff/student basketball game at 1:00 PM.

Oasis Charter High School (OHS)

Shannon Treece shares some firsts for Oasis High School:

- Congressional Nominees- Josh Gordon and Matt Wolfe
- Full four year JROTC scholarship in the Marines-Logan Woods
- Accepted into the University of Pennsylvania-David Victoria
- Accepted into Duke University-Rose Graves

Shannon Treece states that students will take mid-term exams at the end of next week.

Shannon Treece states they are working on 2016-2017 scheduling.

Shannon Treece states they are addressing student needs resulting from FSA reading scores.

Shannon Treece states they are doing some specific work in curriculum with English Language Arts and more specifically in writing.

Shannon Treece states they are doing a lot of work in innovation which involves a lot of student meetings. Students are appreciative of the AICE program and the rigor but are looking for something else.

Shannon Treece states they are working to take teachers on visits to schools that are known for their innovation.

Discussion held.

Miscellaneous Business & Board Comments

Member Zivkovic states the board's responsibility of oversight needs to remain impartial and fair and we need to set an example. We've been entrusted by the city council to look out for every student in our school system. Sometimes we can get too close as a parent and we need to self-police ourselves and take a step back.

Member Zivkovic states that we want to make sure our superintendent and principals are not spending endless hours answering questions that have been answered.

Member Zivkovic thanks the board for today's actions and states the need to focus on the big items.

Member Zivkovic states that we have good staff and the board needs to trust in their abilities.

Co-Chair Donaldson states that she would like to clarify for the public that their job as board members is to deal with the superintendent. Issues should go through the superintendent. The board does not have the policy to go into the school system and micromanage.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS**A. Strategic Plan-Nelson Stephenson**

Charlotte County implemented the Focus program about 5 years ago and seems to be very happy with the software. We are planning a visit to the Charlotte County school system.

Mr. Stephenson will send out a *State of the Schools Address* email sometime next week. It will be a cumulative of all the good things that have happened so far this school year.

We are confirmed to be part of the Great Florida Teach-In. Thousands of teachers will be there. They make appointments to be interviewed and we are able to hire them on the spot. This will be a great opportunity for our school system.

Mr. Stephenson is working on a salary committee comprised of some teachers from each school. We will have some informational meetings so they understand where we are. We will discuss budget and a potential plan.

Mr. Stephenson will not be present at the next board meeting. He will be attending an AdvancEd accreditation site visit as a site reviewer. Our AdvancEd paperwork is due by April 15, 2016. There will be upcoming training for the board sometime in March.

NEOLA ties right into our strategic plan. Mr. Stephenson is looking forward to today's workshop to get our start in establishing policies.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Approval of OMS Technology Student Association (TSA) Overnight Competition to Orlando, February 24-28, 2016-Keith Graham

Discussion held.

Motion was made by member Boyer and seconded by Member Cosden to approve the OMS Technology Student Association (TSA) Overnight Competition to Orlando, February 24-28, 2016 noting that there may be fluctuating student numbers.

Board vote: Anderson, Boyer, Cosden, Donaldson, Teblum, Zivkovic

All "Ayes," motion carries.

B. Approval of OHS JROTC Drill Team Overnight Competition to the University of Tampa, February 5-6, 2016-Shannon Treece

Discussion held.

Motion was made by member Zivkovic and seconded by Member Boyer to approve the OHS JROTC Drill Team Overnight Competition to the University of Tampa, February 5-6, 2016, provided an Oasis Charter School bus is used as transportation.

Board vote: Anderson, Boyer, Cosden, Donaldson, Teblum, Zivkovic

All "Ayes," motion carries.

C. Presentation of CAFR-Victoria Bateman

This item does not need a vote.

Time and Date of Next Meeting

Regular Governing Board Meeting: Tuesday February 9, 2016, 9:00 a.m., Council Chambers.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Shannon Arthur
Executive Assistant to the Superintendent
Cape Coral Charter School Authority