

**MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD, LEF OF  
WEST BROWARD COUNTY, INC.  
IMAGINE CHARTER SCHOOL AT WESTON**

**MEETING MINUTES  
Date: April 19th, 2016**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mr. Sandoe called the meeting to order at 5:38 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Board members present: Patrick Sandoe, Erika Royal Barnes, Veronica Diaz, Radhika Paul, Priscilla Prado Stroze, Pascale Royal, Jhanet Garcia, Sylvia Allen and Jason Montan. The following persons were also present: Paul Eichner, (attorney), Nadine Laham, (Principal), Jacky Vernon (Region Director Imagine Schools), Theresa Sumner (Assistant Principal), Susana Padilla (Curriculum Specialist), Karen Gross (Business Manager), Elsa Forthmuller (Finance Director) .

**PUBLIC NOTICE:**

Ms. Laham confirmed public notice was given via the website, email blast and posted on the front door of the school.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mrs. Stroze made the motion to accept the March 15th, 2016 minutes. Mrs. Paul seconded the motion. All ayes 8-0

**PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE AND NEW BUSINESS:**

- Charter Tool Agreement for Board signature. Every year The District asks charter schools for a lot of information. This year, there is an online tool called Charter-Tools Agreement. Chair of the Governing Board is asked to sign a form stating that five identified individuals for Imagine are authorized to complete the information. Once the completed form is received by the District, they will inform the school on how to proceed. The individuals agreed to be listed are: Nadine Laham, Jacky Vernon, Karen Gross, Theresa Sumner and Monica Andujar. Motion by Ms. Stroze to authorize Mr. Sandoe to sign the Charter-Tools authorization form; seconded by Ms. Barnes. All ayes 9-0.
- There is a new company over the VPK program, Early Learning Coalition (used to be Family Central). The head of the Imagine's VPK needs to communicate with this company with administrative information. The Board chair needs to give

authorization to Miriam Altuna, as the director of Imagine VPK to sign contracts on behalf of the VPK. VPK is part of the lower school budget even though it's not part of the charter. Motion by Ms. Stroze to approve Mrs. Altuna to act as the director and sign contracts, with the caveat that if the responsibilities go beyond the ministerial, they are to be brought before the Board. Seconded by Mrs. Paul. All ayes 9-0.

- The Engagement Letter from Berman Hopkins (this is the final year of the 3 year contract before coming up for RFP again), is due to be signed for both schools. Mrs. Paul made the motion to authorize Mr. Sandoe to sign the engagement letter for audit from Berman Hopkins for 2016. Seconded by Ms. Stroze. All ayes 9-0.
- State testing is complete. Star testing is still to come for 3rd, 4th & 5th grades. Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd have tests and end of year assessments.
- "I Led The Pledge" at Weston City Hall was April 18th 2016. Mrs. Sumner attended with 9 Imagine students.
- Middle school is hosting a family picnic at Weston Regional Park on Sunday April 24th and inviting the 5th graders as a welcome to Middle School.
- The Kindergarten and Primary grades Roundup is April 29th for new students and their parents.
- Security-Met with 3 BSO officers (one of which is the PTP President) to discuss training for Code Red Lockdown. (Training on what to do if there is an intruder on campus...active shooter...not terrorism).
- Imagine Schools Parent Survey went out electronically today. Ms. Laham and teachers are emailing. Submission ends May 6th. One survey per family regardless of how many children at the school. Survey response is anonymous.
- Fourth marking period interims are going out April 28th.
- Parent volunteer breakfast and 'walk of fame' is scheduled for May 10th at 8:30am.
- Next big fundraiser is the Golf Tournament at Lago Mar Country Club on Friday, May 13th. Many auction items including 4 to 5 resort stays. Porsche contributed \$5,000. A banquet including a silent auction will follow the tournament. Celebrity Cruises has donated a cruise for 2 to be raffled (thus far raising approximately \$8,000) Prizes are going out to the top 5 teachers whose classes sell the most raffle tickets (\$500 for

first place and \$100 for the rest). Ms. Augustave had the highest, and the rest to round out the top five are Ms. Ventura, Ms. Romero, Ms. Gamboa and Ms. Breeding.

- Two family dine outs are coming up. I Love Tacos on May 4th and Carolina Ale House on May 16th.
- As a reward for the school winning the Mayor's Fit Challenge the teachers won a happy hour at Carolina Ale House on May 6th.

#### REGION DIRECTOR: JACQUELYN VERNON –

- The Amendment to Charter has been signed and submitted to the District. The consolidation should come before the District for review and approval on the May 17th consent agenda.
- There is a large audit going on and everything must remain separate until the consolidation is final.
- Elementary budget - if the consolidation is approved before July 1st, 2016 would like to have a more realistic budget for the school. It is due on June 30th. Around that time either an Elementary budget or a Consolidated budget will be submitted depending on the school status at that time.

#### PAUL EICHNER

Mr. Eichner has received two proposals from Real Estate consultants. Both are quoting \$25,000. One has an hourly fee (\$275) against the \$25,000; the other has a flat \$25,000 fee.

Mr. Rubin wants to renegotiate the lease on a contingency basis and get 15-20% of any reduction. Caldwell Banker wants a percentage of any reduction to the security deposit (1.5%) and no bid on reducing the lease in toto.

Discussion: The \$25,000 would have to be submitted up front. We are looking to save money in the long run and it is an investment in the making. Board needs to know how this money would be paid up front.

Mr. Montan has spoken with Mr. Rubin. This is what Mr. Rubin does and has done for charter schools before. These proposals discuss negotiating the lease, but not assessing the property. Is Caldwell trying to do that assessment? typically on a triple net agreement, A/C repairs are on the lessee not lessor. So immaterial to triple net lease. This would not be a bargaining chip for the Landlord. What about the roofs? We have 9 that will be up for repair.

Bringing in someone shrewd and knowledgeable third party could be good and bad. With this particular landlord we have a very unique situation and this could backfire.

The Board requests that Ms. Laham schedule a meeting of the Board for the purpose of discussing the proposals from the Real Estate consultants, including having said consultants make presentations. Coordinate the meeting with Board members as well as Ms. Kreitzer, Mr. Huber and Mr. Francey as they have had extensive dealings with the Landlord and could have valuable insights. Mr. Eichner will contact the consultants and determine their availability.

#### PUBLIC INPUT

Ms. Laham noted that Mrs. Paul is going to be a contestant in the Mrs. Florida contest. She just won Mrs. Ft. Lauderdale.

Another active Imagine mother, Michelle Rauch, is being honored as Mother of the Year by Healthy Mothers/Healthy Babies at a luncheon on May 5th.

Ms. Diez

#### BOARD INPUT

Veronica Diaz compared budgets and noticed that the actuals compared to budget is higher. The increase is due to field trips that is in and out money and cannot be counted.


We have several fundraisers. Hoping to keep it minimal to the families. All In, Fun Run and Golf. Fun Run needs to move to the fall so that Golf can happen in the spring when the costs are the lowest.

As far as 'All In' - Elementary has collected \$15,900 and Middle School \$7,700. Mr. Sandoe noted it is not as much as we had hoped, and that we should consider paying it to the entire staff. This should be a line item on the agenda next meeting. We should all think about a cutoff date and how we want to distribute the money. We should also start thinking now of how to push All In in the fall, including website and video and even social media promotions.

#### NEXT BOARD MEETING

May 16th or 17th, 2016 (depending on the availability of the presenters and attendees) at 5:30pm.

Meeting adjourned 7:12 P.M.

  
5/16/16  
Governing Board President