

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

**MEETING MINUTES
Date: July 11th, 2016**

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Sandoe called the meeting to order at 5:43 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Board members present: Patrick Sandoe, Erika Royal Barnes, Veronica Diaz, Priscilla Prado Stroze, Pascale Royal, Jhanet Garcia, Sylvia Allen, Don Francey 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), 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

Minutes of the June 13, 2016 meeting to be approved at subsequent meeting.

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE AND NEW BUSINESS:

- Grades came out and Imagine Weston did GREAT. Middle School #1 in the county and #17 in the state. Elementary #2 in the county and 30th in the state. Imagine did very well on learning gains. Elementary is judged on 7 components and Middle School is judged on 9 components.
- Going to be working on volunteer hours (to give the volunteer commitment teeth)
- Playground - the tire mulch issue (some reports say it is toxic - especially when heated up). The PTP did a lot of fundraising. The original plan was to change the surface of the playground and replace the mulch with something heavy duty astro-turf or bouncy type of surface. The PTP did a lot of investigation on what to do and what to replace and how much. Our current playground equipment does not have much of a life left. If the surface is replaced now and subsequently a piece(s) of playground equipment needs replacing/repair it will require that an entire new surface will need to be laid. The PTP met and voted to give the school \$64,000 to replace the entire

playground - surface and equipment - except for the Pre-K part which still has some lifespan and only requires some refurbishment.

- The next major fundraising will be to cover the basketball courts.
- Venture Design Premium Services Agreement - Already signed. Because we have a new number (we are a different school) we are back in middle school sports again. We had been thrown out for a year because we forfeited too many games. Ms. Vernon is working on getting the competition to be between similar schools. Because the contract required immediate signature, Mr. Sandoe has already signed, and it is presented to the Board for approval now.
- Ms. Stroze motioned and Ms. Barnes seconded to approve Mr. Sandoe's signature on the Venture Design Premium Services Agreement. All ayes 9-0.
- The opening of the Franklin Academy Middle School/High School has impacted Imagine Weston. The fact that their middle schoolers automatically have acceptance into the High School has been a large drawing point. Eighteen Middle Schoolers have left Imagine for Franklin. Further discussion ensued regarding our middle school/elementary school structure, size, accountability and discipline.

CONTRACTS:

- COL-USA Ms. Stroze motioned to authorize Mr. Sandoe to sign the COL-USA contract. Ms. Barnes seconded the motion. All ayes 9-0
- BAS (A/C Mechanical) Ms. Stroze motioned to authorize Mr. Sandoe to sign the BAS contract. Ms. Barnes seconded the motion. All ayes 9-0
- A1A Transportation - The presented contract is basically what was presented last year before the changes we had requested then. Mr. Eichner suggests having a new contract with the items as requested last year as part of the new contract this year. Ms. Stroze motioned to amend the A1A Transportation agreement as specified by Mr. Eichner. Ms. Garcia seconded the motion. All ayes 9-0
 - On page 5, modify the cost adjustments to state greater THAN 30%. Used to be \$4.00/gallon, now it's \$2.25. Need to add "/gallon" after \$2.25.
 - In paragraph that says 30 days notice, In the event that the health, safety, and welfare of Imagine students is at risk due to conduct or activities of A1A or it's employees, Imagine may cancel contract without notice.
 - Prevailing party shall be entitled to recover reasonable attorney's fees and costs.
- Ms. Barnes motioned to authorize Mr. Sandoe to sign the A1A Transportation agreement once it is amended as set forth above. Mrs. Allen seconded the motion. All ayes 9-0.
- SLA Management (dining services) agreement for review/signature at next meeting. Board did request that the pizza quality be improved.
- InUnison (2 year contract) - moved to next meeting. Contract not ready yet. InUnison wants to change the contract to be a December 1st - November 30th time period. This is not logical for our school. Imagine attorneys are negotiating with them on this point.

REGION DIRECTOR: JACQUELYN VERNON –

- Ms. Vernon commended the school on the great job in learning gains.
- Ms. Vernon is working on retention bonuses for next year.
- It was noted that the teachers are receiving recognition. School back to school breakfast schedule for 8/15. PTP back to school breakfast schedule for 8/16. Highly effective teachers received a stipend at the end of the 2016 school year. As did team leaders, committee coaches, etc. Also a \$500 check was distributed to those staff members with 100% attendance (6 recipients). The \$300 All In For Excellence gift cards were a very welcome and pleasing surprise.

Pro-Forma presentation for 2016-2017

- made by Ms. Forthmuller, with some assistance from Ms. Gross and Mr. Francey. A great deal of the pro forma was based on speculation on which way funding would go. Need to make a decision regarding broker. Ms. Barnes motioned to authorize Mr. Eichner to contact the Paiz group and indicate that the Board is willing to retain their services for \$11,000 pending approval of a retainer agreement and for them to create and provide such an agreement to Mr. Eichner so that it can be reviewed by both Mr. Eichner and Ms. Kreitzer and then presented to the Board. Hopefully by the August meeting. Ms. Stroze seconded the motion. All ayes 9-0.

Consolidation of Elementary and Middle Schools

- The consolidation of the elementary and middle schools requires more information/documentation. Ms. Stroze motioned to table this item until next meeting. Ms. Barnes seconded the motion. All ayes 9-0.

BOARD ACTION

- see contracts section above

PUBLIC INPUT

- Parental concerns regarding accountability of teachers.
- Concern regarding InUnison uniforms and an individual that is making them on the side. Potential conflict?
- Bullying within the school has become an issue. Several parents are considering removing or actually removing their children due to this problem.
- Ms. Laham is working on hiring more experienced, mature teachers for Middle School.
- A question was raised if a Dean of Middle School/discipline might be needed.

BOARD INPUT

- Goal is to keep the middle school. Need to promote our school's attributes and benefits that distinguishes us from others. Get information out as soon as possible in newsletters and website.
- All In for Excellence - Ms. Royal will be working on this year's letter and video for dissemination at the beginning of the school year.

NEXT BOARD MEETING

The next Governing Board meeting will take place on August 15th, 2016 at 5:30pm.

Meeting adjourned 8:30 P.M.

Erin F. Barnes