



**MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD,
LEARNING EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION OF
WEST BROWARD COUNTY, INC.
d/b/a IMAGINE CHARTER SCHOOL AT WESTON**

**MEETING MINUTES
Date: May 15, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Francey called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Board members present: Don Francey, Erika Barnes, Sylvia Allen, Jhanet Garcia, Radhika Paul, Priscilla Prado Stroze, Pascale Royal 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), and Rod Sasse (Executive Vice President Imagine Schools)

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. Prado Stroze made the motion to amend the minutes to reflect the changes giving clarification that Mr. Bryant's schedule included many school visits and business meetings. Ms. Paul seconded the motion. All ayes (8-0)

Mrs. Prado Stroze made the motion to accept April 18, 2017 as amended minutes. Mrs. Paul seconded the motion. All ayes 8-0

PRINCIPAL'S UPDATE AND NEW BUSINESS:

- Ms. Laham shared the list of field trips the various grades would be taking in the upcoming days.
- School (all of 6th grade) participates in KAPOW and that program has a field trip as well. 6th grade teacher, Ms. Roach, was nominated as teacher of the year for KAPOW
- Book Fair and Family Night – May 17th: 5:30 to 8. Yearbook signing for elementary school.
- NJHS Induction – May 30th - middle school. Inducting 6th graders for next year and 7th graders who are eligible this year.
- DukeTip Talent Search – 5, 7th grade students received honors. Three of the five received State recognition at a ceremony at FAU, and one of the students will receive national recognition at Duke University in NC. This was the first year that we joined this program so people did not realize how prestigious and important it was.
- Moving up ceremonies – PreK, Kindergarten, Fifth and Eighth grades - The Governing Board is invited to attend all ceremonies.
 - Pre-K - June 1st at 8:30am

- Kindergarten - June 2nd at 8:30am
- Fifth grade - June 7th at 8:30am @ Temple Dor Dorim followed by a lunch and dance in the school cafeteria
- Eighth grade - June 8th from 5-7pm
- Awards Assemblies – parents will receive notice if their child is receiving an award. 8th grade will be at night.
- MSAA Awards – May 24th – Middle School Athletic Assoc. The top 8th grade boy and girl athlete/scholars will be honored next week at a Stranahan HS assembly. The students will also be honored at the 8th grade moving up ceremony. It was suggested that Ms. Laham should bring this up to 7th graders to give them something to look forward to/strive for.
- School Excellence Plan (SEP) - in the process of taking the entire year's objectives/goals and reevaluating how the school has done.
- Parent surveys closed last Friday. Corporate will be evaluating and sharing information shortly.
- Teacher retention- Have a couple of vacancies in MS next year. Interviewing now. Have filled two positions in elementary school.
- Debate classes are morphing into the Model U.N. Program

REGION DIRECTOR: JACQUELYN VERNON –

- Imagine Principal and Coach will be training in the Acceleration Model – May 22nd at Imagine North Port – it's an Imagine initiative - highly effective teaching practices. Ms. Laham, Ms. Padilla, and Ms. Vernon have attended trainings. Imagine going to incorporate into Professional development.
- The property inspection has been completed (less than 60 days between signed contract and survey receipt) Mr. Eichner, Mr. Francey and Ms. Kreitzer will meet next week to discuss.

BOARD VACANCY

- Five candidates (Scott Beck, Raymond Harrell, Thomas Hunker, Senaka Balasuriya, and Elvira Diez) came forward with resumes and presented about themselves and how they felt they could best serve the Board/School.
- Mr. Eichner suggested open discussion or paper vote. Board agreed that presentations were so detailed that paper vote would be good to start and discussion could follow should it be necessary.
- Mr. Eichner and Mr. Sasse tallied Board votes and 6 of the eight votes were for Mr. Beck. Mr. Beck will take the open seat. The remaining candidates were thanked and invited to continue being involved in the school.

BUDGET UPDATE

- Ms. Forthmuller is home sick today so we will hear from Ms. Gross. Budget looks pretty good right now as we are heading to year end (June 30th). Were supposed to have \$632 by year end, but now will have over \$100K. Legislature put in funding in April, funds must be used by June 30th. Digital classroom expansion monies. PTP gave substantial money for playground but it's a capital purchase that will be amortized over time. So the entire cost is not reflected in the budget. The total cost was \$80-\$85K. PTP gave around \$60K. Variance is \$161K - \$80K. will have for next 7 years in the budget. So, the variance from original budget is \$81K.

- Imagine Weston has a note that needs to be paid of \$19K. That is a balance sheet item.
- School wants to give \$500-\$1000 teacher bonuses for taking on extra duties
- Also, teacher retention goals?
- Can we use for "ALL IN" type purposes? Ms. Vernon has to check. Think that we have to treat it like payroll and it will be taxed. "ALL IN" did not have to be taxed.
- The 1.5% for highly effective teachers still has to be deducted.
- In surplus account (contingent account reserved from last year's budget), how much there and how much are we contributing this year?
- We need to know what the numbers really are once everything is taken into account. Can staff let us know how many people are getting 1.5% and how many people getting extra bonus? How much are we talking about?
- Board will absolutely look for ways to work with faculty to get things right and reward teachers and staff for hard work. Just need to make sure that we have the money.
- Also, want a list that shows what teachers are being paid (without names).

BOARD ACTION

- None

PUBLIC INPUT

- Ms. Royal inquired why there seemed to be little real content around Black history month and suggested implementing a more, well-rounded curriculum. Ms. Laham said many classes do recognize Black History Month, but it was noted that it should be instructional, not only project based. Also, Ms. Barnes suggested Women's history month be incorporated.

BOARD INPUT

- Inspection discussion

NEXT BOARD MEETING

June 12th, 2017 at approximately 5:30pm - with Budget discussion first

Meeting adjourned

Mr. Francey adjourned the meeting at 7:35P.M.