

South Florida Autism Charter Schools, Inc.

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SFACS Governing Board Meeting Fri., February 1, 2019 8:30 a.m.

Location: SFACS Conference Room

Present:

Board members: Glenn Pierce, Dr. Cicily Payne-Nestor; via teleconference – Dr. Carrie Landess, Michael Marsh, Dr. Yadira Martinez-Fernandez
Staff: Dr. Tamara Moodie, Susan Leon, Kristen Falepaini
Guests: Dana Vignale, Patrick Salmasi, Lawrence Popritkin

Mr. Pierce called the meeting to order. The minutes from the January 11, 2019 board meeting were reviewed and approved.

Public Comment: Mr. Pierce opened the floor for public comment; there was none.

Financial Report:

Mr. Pierce reported we are slightly behind on the Budget vs. Actual report, but this is due to IDEA reimbursement funds from 2017-18 not being received yet. Once the funds are received, we will be on target. The Balance Sheet look good with \$1.2 Million in reserve.

School Report:

STUDENT REPORT: There are 229 students currently, and who will be included in the FTE count next week. There are students on the wait list who could be enrolled, but there is not enough space and additional students would affect class size requirements.

STAFF REPORT: Dr. Moodie reported that it is challenging to find highly qualified teachers. Ms. Vignale indicated that there is a statewide shortage of teachers. Dr. Moodie is working Miami-Dade College to address this; she will begin teaching the Autism Endorsement courses in February for 4 weeks, and then will begin the ESOL course. In addition, she will be meeting with parents who are interested in becoming substitutes. Ms. Vignale stated that there is an online Career Fair that SFACS should sign up for, as well as a Fair at UM on April 16th.

Principal / Executive Director
Tamara Moodie, Ph.D.

Operations Director
Susan L Leon

Governing Board
Glenn R. Pierce - *Chairman*
Robert Cambo - *Vice Chairman*
Yadira Martinez-Fernandez, M.D. – *Secty./Treas.*
Michael C. Marsh, J.D.
William "Max" Wyler
Carrie Landess, M.D.
Cicily Payne-Nestor, D.C.
Robin Parker, SLP.D., CCC – *Member Emeritus*

Advisory Board:
Susan Neimand, Ph.D.
Dean of the School of Education
Miami-Dade College

Consultants:
Frank Rodriguez, MS, BCBA
ABA Programming

Dr. Moodie next discussed the salary supplement that was recently approved by MDCPS. She recommended to the board that they implement a similar supplement for SFACS highly qualified teachers. The supplement is calculated at 5% of the annual salary for the period of Jan-June 2019, and then paid out in equal payments from Feb-July 2019. Mr. Pierce made a motion to approve the 5% salary supplement for highly qualified teachers; Mr. Wyler seconded, all approved.

UPDATE ON OUT-OF-FIELD WAIVERS: Dr. Moodie explained the Out of Field Waiver process to the board, she then provided a summary of the teachers who are currently holding waivers for 2018-19. The names and waivers held were read into the minutes as follows:

August 17, 2018

Teacher Name	ESOL	ASD Endorsement	Subject Area
Amanda Ammon		X	
Ariel Betancourt		X	
Stephanie Ghitis		X	
Aakilah Johnson	X	X	ELEM K-6
David Macias		X	ELEM K-6*
Pablo Olivares	X		ELEM K-6
Daniela Rodriguez-Machado	X	X	ESE K-12
Ariadna Rojas		X	
Brianna Wright	X	X	ELEM K-6

October 5, 2018

Teacher Name	ESOL	ASD Endorsement	Subject Area
Yiusalin Del Cuadro		X	
Dana Ariel Edwards	X	X	ESE K-12*

January 11, 2019

Teacher Name	ESOL	ASD Endorsement	Subject Area
Melissa Ames		X	
Tamara L. Moodie		X	Elem K-6

*Has already completed requirements for this subject area.

COMPLIANCE UPDATE: The Compliance Subcommittee held their first monthly meeting this morning, and Mr. Wyler presented and update to the board. The Action Plan was discussed, and Mr. Wyler indicated there were 4 areas of concern, one of which the Committee disagrees with. Data is being collected to make a presentation to District staff. In addition, Mr. Wyler reported that software is being purchased to assist with monitoring compliance and staff responsibilities. Ms. Vignale indicated that one of the software applications being considered

is not compatible with ISIS; she recommends Pinnacle. Dr. Moodie requested that they provided training for her staff.

Facilities:

CONSTRUCTION: Mr. Pierce provided an update on the progress of construction. The foundation is complete, the concrete is being poured, and the walls will go up soon.

LEASE: It has been recommended that SFACS extend the current lease at Country Club Middle School for an additional year, through 2018-19. Mr. Pierce made a motion to enter into another one-year lease with MDCPS for the space at CCMS; there will be an option to end the lease early in the event our building is done ahead of schedule. Mr. Wyler seconded; all approved.

MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT: Ms. Vignale indicated that the current Management Agreement will expire with the charter 5-year renewal; we must execute a new Management Agreement. She is working with the District to honor the discount that was previously offered in light of the fact that we do not utilize all the services they offer as part of the management services. Mr. Pierce made a motion for the board to renew the Management Agreement with MDCPS, including the new rate; Mr. Wyler seconded; all approved.

Grants:

The Agency for Persons with Disabilities has approved SFACS as a Medicaid provider. The school can now bill for therapy services.

The Charter School Growth Fund will be touring SFACS with Dr. Moodie and Mr. Pierce. We will ask them to fund a professional development program that trains other organizations on how to implement a program similar to ours.

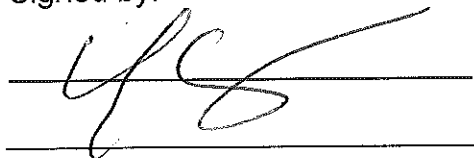
Misc.:

Dr. Moodie reminded everyone that the SFACS Walk is April 27th. This will be a very special walk, as the school will debut many new extra-curricular clubs: The SFACS Dancers will perform, the basketball team will play, and the Media Club will be interviewing guests throughout the day. Dr. Moodie will be sending a video appeal from the Clubs to all the board members and she asked that they share this with their contacts. The Clubs will also host a Banquet on May 4th, and will be going to Volcano Bay on June 6th, and there are ongoing fundraisers to benefit these two activities.

Mr. Pierce made a motion to adjourn; all approved. The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, May 13, 2019.

Prepared by: Susan L. Leon

Signed by:



Print Name: Yvonne Martin