

galileoschool

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FOR GIFTED LEARNING

Minutes of a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Galileo School for Gifted Learning duly called and held on March 22, 2022 via Zoom and at Galileo, Sanford, FL.

Board members present:

- ✓ Michele Gill, Chair
- ✓ Javier Rivera, Vice Chair
- ✓ Debbie Hahs-Vaughn, Secretary
- ✓ Rich Margadonna, Member
- ✓ Joe MacLaren, Member
- ✓ Treva Marshall, Member
- ✓ Kevin Miller, Member
- ✓ Caleb Edwards, Member

Board members absent:

- ✓ Jason Brodeur, Member

Guests present:

- ✓

With the approval of the directors present, Michele Gill acted as Chair of the meeting, and Debbie Hahs-Vaughn recorded the minutes.

On motions duly made and seconded, it was voted that the minutes of the meeting of board of directors from February 15, 2022 to be taken as read.

- I. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Celebrations/Recognitions
 - a. Thank you to the Galileo parent, Carlos Angulo, who added pavers to the courtyard at Riverbend. Additional parents are adding bushes and mulch to complete the project.
- III. Informational Items
 - a. Update on SB1690 (Charter School Loan Bill)—state financial support for new charter school buildings.
- IV. Principal Report (M. Nunez)
 - a. Lottery update. On March 11, about 1,100 applications were received. For VPK, there were about 250 applications. Unfortunately, about 90% of the families that submitted did not get in. There are no openings.
 - b. Galileo daycare. Mrs. Murray is researching this to build background information, including a survey to determine how many are interested. There is a lot of interest. Visits to local daycares will be made by Mrs. Nunez and Murray. A committee will be formed in coming weeks. Mr. Brodeur is looking into this more and will touch base with Mrs. Nunez.
 - c. Staffing update. Interviews for upcoming school year are being conducted.
- V. Consent Agenda
 - a. New Hires: Melissa Worsley - Speech & Language Pathologist – Riverbend. Motion made, second, all in favor to approve the new hire.
- VI. Committee Reports
 - a. Standing Committee Reports
 - i. Budget and Finance Committee (MacLaren)
 - ii. Update on Employee Assistance program. Preliminary discussions have been made with the accountant regarding efforts to assist with retention. Galileo’s lowest salary is over the mark where the State of Florida has proposed so the finance committee is trying to determine where funds for salary increases can be made.
 - iii. No formal report on financials as bookkeeper is on leave.
 - iv. Regarding Covid funding (Karsten Briggs), the funds should be coming but when they will be received is unclear.
 - v. Curriculum Committee (M. Gill)
 - vi. Next meeting is March 29
 - vii. Development & Grants (T. Marshall). An update on the celebration was shared. This will be followed by a campaign kit. The committee can expedite the plan for

donating to support teachers.

viii. Marketing (C. Edwards)

- ix. Website redesign—no update, still working.
- x. Web traffic is up, particularly from Orlando areas.

b. Special Committee Reports

i. Facility Committee (K. Miller)

- ii. Facility updates. About \$23K to conduct a reserve study. A proposal will be shared with the Board. At some point, we need to determine how much money to set aside for maintenance. Mrs. Nunez will look into parents who may be able to assist; this would require a contractor that can do a reserve analysis and budget study.

iii. Strategic Planning Committee (R. Margadonna)

- iv. Update on Strategic Planning. The surveys will be reviewed by the committee to establish an agenda. A draft report will be shared at next meeting.

v. Health & Wellness Committee (J. Brodeur). No update.

VII. PTSA/SAC Updates. SAC at Skyway is doing a fundraiser (rummage sale) for shade structure. At Riverbend, they are working on garden beautification. PTSA is very busy with end of year events. The schools are working together on some efforts.

OLD BUSINESS

VIII. Update on daycare (J. Brodeur). Tabled.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Parent comment: The link for the agendas and minutes seem to not be current. Per Dr. Gill, all have been updated. There were some previous minutes that were not posted, but they are posted now.

Parent comment: Is there any understanding of the assessment for next school year since FSA is removed? Per Mrs. Nunez, end of course exams will still be held. There will be testing for science and civics. iReady will continue to be used. The STAR assessment will be conducted as a trial at the end of the school year. There are many progress monitors in place.

Parent comment: Thrilled to be at Galileo. Question regarding lottery and why it takes 7 hours to conduct? Every individual who enters the lottery has to be rank ordered within a wait list and checked and double checked. It takes approximately 10 staff members to perform.

NEW BUSINESS

- IX. Two families seeking re-enrollment but did not get in for 2022-23. Both had withdrawn to attend FLVS due to immediate family members with cancer and the COVID risk. Per the attorney, the lottery is statutory. Providing preference for the families would be in violation of the law and our charter.
- X. In-house gifted endorsement. Motion made, second, all approved to add this to the agenda.
- XI. Annual parent/teacher/student survey results were reviewed.
- a. Board of Directors formally observes and evaluates School Principal and conducts walk through of the school.
 - b. Complete principal survey via Qualtrics.
 - c. Parents requested better parent outreach from the Board.
 - d. Overall, the Skyway surveys are better.
 - e. A majority of the parents were satisfied with the staff's communication. However, there were disruptions in communication due to COVID and staff turnover.
 - f. Areas of improvement include the parents requesting more feedback on students from the parents. The staff was unhappy with their salaries.
 - g. Staff completion of the anonymous survey was lower than last year. At Skyway – the staff response was better than at Riverbend. 55% of the Riverbend Staff agreed that their salary “is fair compensation given my job description.” The largest group that was dissatisfied was instructional assistants, who were moved around a great deal as teachers missed time with COVID-related absences. Teachers have asked that we reinforce the need for appropriate parent decorum.
 - h. Parents at Riverbend felt the curriculum was differentiated for each student and that the school was safe. Room for improvement – informing parents of student progress, more challenging curriculum. Better monitoring for behavior and bullying. Working with middle school students to offer more emotional support.
 - i. The survey results for parents at Skyway were positive overall. Skyway parents are coming from another school and so they have a comparatively positive experience at Skyway. Several parents had concerns about co-teaching. They felt it was too noisy of an environment.
 - j. Dr. Gill asked about improving Board Member visibility. Mrs. Nunez said that the newsletter sent to all parents was a good start. It is time for Board Members to do a principal evaluation and school visit. Dr. Gill proposed the week beginning April 4th as a possible week for Board Member visits. The visits needed to be completed by May 1st.

- XII. Gifted Endorsement Curriculum. Mrs. Nunez said that, in our employment agreements, we require our teachers to have certain endorsements, including a gifted endorsement. The district funds the coursework needed for teachers to obtain these endorsements. Mrs. Nunez has discovered an opportunity to purchase an existing gifted endorsement curriculum for \$5,000. We would need to obtain the District's assurance that they would accept this endorsement before we moved ahead with the purchase. Javier made a motion to approve the purchase of the curriculum for \$5,000. Mr. Rivera asked if we could possibly allow teachers from other schools to obtain their endorsement from Galileo. Javier also inquired about the IT requirements of hosting this curriculum. The seller stated that he could transfer the hosting for \$80 per month. Motion, second, with all in favor, the purchase of the gifted endorsement curriculum was approved.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

APRIL 19, 2022, 5:30 pm

- Principal Evaluation process: Principal conducts self-evaluation and submits to the Board by the May board meeting. Compile Board members' survey responses.
- Strategic Planning Retreat
- Budget discussions for next year
- Board discusses Principal contract at a board meeting

MAY 31, 2022, 5:30 pm (Javier Rivera, Interim Chair)

- Approve next year's budget
- Review of quarterly budget
- Approve teacher and staff contracts
- Approve Principal contract
- Upload final principal evaluation scores
- Plan Fall Gala
- Review Strategic Planning and discussion 3-5 year plan and any new initiatives

JUNE/JULY Combined Meeting (Javier Rivera, Interim Chair)

- Annual review of student achievement and retention data
- Annual review of Board's conflict of interest policy
- Annual review of board policies and procedures
- Operational issues
- Board recruitment
- Revisit allowing enrollment preferences for governing board members at the conclusion of the CSP grant
- Michele Gill, Debbie Hahs-Vaughn, Kevin Miller eligible for Board reappointment

AUGUST

- Sunshine Fund collections (\$50 pp)

- Annual review and updating of bylaws
- Review of quarterly budget
- Rich Margadonna eligible for Board reappointment
- Review Board goals for the year
- Plan Annual Meeting for September

XIII. Adjournment

There being no further business to transact at the time, it was voted to adjourn the meeting.

Dated: March 22, 2022

Debbie Hahs-Vaughn, Secretary