

# galileoschool

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FOR GIFTED LEARNING

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Minutes of a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Galileo School for Gifted Learning duly called and held on February 23, 2023 via Zoom and at Galileo, Sanford, FL.

**Board members present:**

- ✓ Michele Gill, Chair
- ✓ Debbie Hahs-Vaughn, Secretary
- ✓ Jason Brodeur, Member
- ✓ Joe MacLaren, Member
- ✓ Treva Marshall, Member
- ✓ Kevin Miller, Member

**Guests present:**

- ✓

**Board members absent:**

- ✓ Javier Rivera, Vice Chair

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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 January 19, 2023 to be taken as read.

- I. The parent town hall was held and summarized as follows.
  - a. Suggestion was made by a parent to change the color of school uniform pants to something other than tan. Additional research will be done.
  - b. Concern was voiced by a parent over the H classroom and suggested adding feedback to the parent survey. Mrs. Nunez provided input on how things are working with the H classroom.
  - c. Question was asked regarding when Skyway is getting portables. Mrs. Nunez shared an update. A fire hydrant must be installed where the portables were being planned (the current first hydrants are too far away according to fire code). The third quote for installing fire hydrants has just been received. The quotes will be reviewed and one will be selected in order for the process for portables to continue to move forward. Portables are needed because Skyway was not intended to hold VPK this long. The pre-vet program also needs space by where the animals are at so that supplies and materials don't have to be transported from the main building to the location of the animals, and a portable will assist with this.
  - d. Question was posed regarding disciplinary issues. SCPS policies are followed, along with state and federal laws for disciplinary issues. Mrs. Nunez shared additional information and guidelines that have to be followed since Galileo is a public school.
  - e. Question regarding if Galileo plans to have a high school. This is not under consideration now.
  - f. Question if teachers receive training in PBL and conscious discipline. Yes, this happens.
  - g. Question regarding if there are different policies for expulsion of students from a charter school. No. Galileo follows SCPS guidelines.
- II. Celebrations/Recognitions
  - a. Galileo has made it through round one and will find out March 20 if they made the next round for the Building Hope grant. If Galileo makes it to the next level, it is anticipated that Galileo will receive at least some funds even if not selected as the winner.
- III. Reminder: Board goals for the year:
  - a. Continued alignment of school operations/curriculum with school mission and vision
  - b. Employee development and retention
  - c. Obtaining development/endowment funds to support our unique model of schooling
- IV. Informational Items
  - a. Updated by-laws are now on the website.
- V. Principal Report (M. Nunez)
  - a. Budget update: Intended impact with hurricane damage. Insurance denied the claim citing the previous damage to the building as the cause. This will have some impact on the budget (\$160K to \$200K total). Over spring break, the drywall and painting

- will be completed. The roof has been fixed.
- b. Staffing update was provided.
- c. Update: Building Hope impact grant (updated previously).
- d. Lottery update. About 700 applications have been received. Kindergarten and a few spots here and there will be open.

VI. Consent Agenda: New Hires.

- a. Queshing Jin - Instructional Assistant - Riverbend
- b. Gloribelle Hernandez - Permanent Substitute
- c. Madonna Awadalla - Permanent Substitute
  - i. Motion made, second, all in favor to approve the consent agenda.

VII. Committee Reports

a. Standing Committee Reports

i. Budget and Finance Committee (J. MacLaren)

- ii. Review of quarterly budget was provided. A deficit at Riverbend of about \$400K. Skyway has a surplus of about \$137K. Total deficit for both is \$274K. However, we have budgeted a shortfall of over \$300K. What is abnormal is the scale of the hurricane repairs. Most hurricane repairs will be funded by the maintenance reserve in the bond. The regular operating budget will need to be increased to account for this. Motion made, second, all in favor to approve the financials.
- iii. The ESSER/COVID relief funds are expected to be received. Most of these funds are slotted for the portables.
- iv. The ERTC has not resulted in receipt of any funds yet.

v. Curriculum Committee (M. Gill)

- vi. Development & Grants (T. Marshall). Mrs. Marshall met with someone that raises funds professionally and also has resources for legislative dollars. Her services also include assisting with gala and other fundraising efforts. She works on a retainer or on a project basis. Given where Galileo is at now, a retainer may be a better option. Motion made to engage Kim Strong in development and event planning for \$4,000 per month with the understanding of an out clause that we can leverage at any time.

vii. Marketing

b. Special Committee Reports

i. Facility Committee (K. Miller)

- ii. Facility updates. Skyway still has some issues with air conditioning.
- iii.

iv. Health & Wellness Committee (J. Brodeur) update was provided. Mr. Brodeur

proposed an educational project around food being medicine.

- v. Board Nominating Committee (M. Gill)
  - vi. Please forward any prospects to fill our remaining seat to M. Gill. The Board is seeking someone with expertise in construction, marketing, development and/or connections with the community who can bring in sponsorships.

VIII. PTSA/SAC Updates. An update from the Skyway campus was provided.

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## **OLD BUSINESS**

- IX. Review Code of Conduct annual form in lieu of yearly notarized ethics forms (D. Hahs-Vaughn). The proposed code of conduct form was shared. This will be tabled until March.
- X. Update on marketing and development staff. This was discussed previously (Kim Strong).
- XI. Recruiting new board members. This was discussed previously.
- XII. Revisit enrollment preferences for Skyway campus (VPK, governing board members). CSP funding has been completed so this can now be revisited. In VPK, there will be 72 students. Hypothetically, this would take all seats at Skyway for kindergarten and leave about 54 seats at Riverbend which would likely go to staff and siblings. In essence, preference would lock up kindergarten spots. This year, there are only 18 children in VPK so it would not have a huge impact on the coming year. Motion made, second, all in favor to update enrollment preference for priority for governing Board members and Galileo VPK children for both campuses.

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## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None fielded.

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## **NEW BUSINESS**

- XIII. Motion made, second, all in favor for the dismissal policy shared by Mrs. Nunez, clarifying that the meeting can be conducted virtually.
- XIV. Review applicant for volunteer hour hardship exemptions. Motion made, second, all in favor to approve the hardship exemption.
- XV. Daycare presentation by Alysia Murray. Motion to authorize staff to spend up to

\$50,000 in attorney's fees and other related costs to pursue a zoning variance allowing the construction of a daycare.

- XVI. Javier Rivera and Jason Brodeur eligible for Board reappointment. Motion made, second, all in favor to reappoint Javier Rivera. Motion made, second, all in favor to reappoint Jason Brodeur.

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## UPCOMING MEETINGS

### MARCH

- Plan Strategic Planning Retreat
- Revisit allowing enrollment preference for governing board members at the conclusion of the CPS grant
- Complete Qualtrics survey of iObservation eval for principal and of Galileo-specific survey
- Board Visit Day at Galileo School
- Annual parent/teacher/student survey
- Board of Directors formally observes and evaluates School Principal and conducts walk through of the school. Complete principal survey via Qualtrics.

### APRIL

- 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 before discussing it with the Principal.

### MAY

- 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

XVII. Adjournment

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

Dated: February 23, 2023

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Debbie Hahs-Vaughn, Secretary