

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 February 19, 2019 @ Galileo School for Gifted Learning in Sanford, Florida.

Board members present:

- ✓ Javier Rivera, Vice Chair
- ✓ Caleb Edwards, Member
- ✓ Joe MacLaren, Member
- ✓ Rich Margadonna, Member
- ✓ Treva Marshall, Member
- ✓ Kevin Miller, Member
- ✓ Michele Gill, Chair
- ✓ Jason Brodeur, Member (attended via phone)

Board members absent:

Debbie Hahs-Vaughn, Secretary

Guests present:

- ✓ Dr. Robin Dehlinger, Executive Director SCPS
- ✓ Eric Huet, Teacher
- ✓ Chris Giddings, Parent
- ✓ Kristin Ripley, FTE
- ✓ Alisa Wendorph, Teacher
- ✓ Chris McLeod, Parent

Michele Gill served as the Chair of the meeting, and Joe MacLaren recorded the minutes.

On motions duly made and seconded, it was voted that the minutes of the meeting of board of directors from January 8, 2019 to be taken as read.

Town Hall:

1. Mrs. Nunez shared the School Success Report for 2019
2. Mrs. Nunez provided an overview of a new program, Galileo PEAKS, that will be piloted for the 2019-2020 school year. The program will cater to students identified as gifted and want to participate in a project-based, interdisciplinary learning experience. This small cohort of students will learn science, ELA, and science together in one three-hour block of time daily under the direction of the new Gifted Instructional Coach
3. Mrs. Nunez provided a facility update for the Galileo Skyway Campus, which is on track to open in August, 2020.
4. Mrs. Nunez spoke about the employees' desire for better benefits and the survey that was conducted to understand the staff sentiment regarding benefits and salary.
5. An open forum for questions was provided and a few questions were posed about the Galileo PEAKS program.

Board Meeting: 6 PM

- I. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Celebrations/Recognitions
 - a. Welcome to Jason Brodeur, our newest Board Member. Our team is full!
 - b. Congratulations to Galileo School admin and teachers for earning national recognition as a school that promotes social-emotional learning via the American Psychological Association's Coalition for Psychology in Schools and Education Top 20 Social-Emotional Learning Badge.
- III. Approve Minutes: January 8, 2019. Motion made to accept the minutes (Miller), seconded by Rivera, and all are in favor of approval.
- IV. Informational Items: Dr. Gill reminded the board members to schedule their school visits soon with Mrs. Nunez. New board members are reminded to finish their board trainings.
- V. Principal Report (M. Nunez).
 - a. Mrs. Nunez provided an overview of the results of the staff benefit survey and a historical overview of what we have provided to staff members of the course of recent years as a benefit package. Although Galileo's salaries are comparatively higher than school district salaries, several employees were concerned about working longer hours without being appropriately compensated. Several senior teachers also expressed concern

about effectively having no funds available to save for retirement if that teacher chose to use their flexible funds on health insurance. A benefits committee will be established to further research this topic. Ms. Marshall, Mr. Miller, and Mr. Rivera agreed to serve on the Benefits Committee in an effort to better understand staff feedback and strategize as a team with our faculty a more attractive benefit package.

- b. Mrs. Nunez noted that lottery applications were coming in large numbers with very few seats open for the coming school year.
- c. Request received by a UF professor that's affiliated with a group from Mexico that is studying American schools. The Board discussed that some preferable options would be to limit the number of visits each month, require a contribution, require that teachers volunteer to participate.
- d. Consent Agenda – The board approved the hire of Melissa Barnes, Mental Health Counselor.

VI. Committee Reports -1. Standing Committee Reports

- a. Budget and Finance Committee (MacLaren)
The board members reviewed the monthly, quarterly, and year-to-date financials.
- b. Curriculum Committee (M. Gill). Dr. Gill will be working with the Galileo Coaches on a few initiatives to refine the Galileo ELA blocks and ultimately provide more training on our Making Meaning Curriculum, which needs to be delivered with more fidelity. Dr. Gill spoke briefly about the CCSIS – Center for Creating and Sustaining Innovative Schools and the collaborative effort with a few local schools as part of a UCF initiative to improve education in the Central Florida Area.
- c. Development & Grants (C. Edwards). Mr. Edwards is working with the Marketing Committee on the 2019 Gala currently to create marketing materials.
- d. Marketing (C. Edwards). New users on the Galileo site are up by 16%. Enrollment Applications page views are up by 35%, social media page views are up over 115%, and mobile views are up by 31%.
- e. Facility Committee (K. Miller): Mr. Miller provided an

update on the second campus. The property has been acquired. The County is still working on scheduling the hearings necessary to add a kindergarten to our current entitlement of grades 1-5. The architect and civil engineer have been asked to value engineer the site to reduce construction costs due to cost inflation.

- f. Strategic Planning Committee (R. Margadonna): Mr. Margadonna reported that the Strategic Planning committee will meet in the first part of April.

VII. PTA/SAC Updates

OLD BUSINESS

Discussion of employee retirement/benefits survey

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Update board research policy – Dr. Gill recommended changing the board’s policy to address the Institutional Research Board policy to reflect current board practice. Dr. Hahs-Vaughn would bring a proposed changed policy to the board at a future meeting.
- b. Javier Rivera is nominated for Board reappointment. Motion seconded. Motion approved.

VIII. Upcoming Meetings

MARCH 11, 5:30 pm @ CFE, 1000 Primera, Lake Mary

- Plan Strategic Planning Retreat
- Board Visit Day at Galileo School
- Annual parent/teacher/student survey
- Board of Directors formally observes and evaluates School Principal and conducts walkthrough of the school

APRIL 16, 5:30 pm, Galileo School

- Principal Evaluation process: Principal conducts self-evaluation and submits to the Board by the May board meeting
- Strategic Planning Retreat
- Budget discussions for next year
- Board discusses Principal contract at a board meeting before discussing it with the Principal.
- Plan gala for fall

MAY, 14, 6:00 pm, 2441 West SR 426, Suite 1061, Oviedo, FL

- Approve next year's budget
- Review of quarterly budget
- Approve teacher and staff contracts
- Approve Principal contract
- Final Evaluations of School Principal are due
- Plan Fall Gala

IX. Adjournment

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

Dated: February 19, 2019

Joe McLaren, Treasurer