

Minutes of a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Galileo School for Gifted Learning duly called and held on September 17, 2019 at 5:30pm at Galileo School

Board members present:

- ✓ Michele Gill, Chair
- ✓ Rich Margadona, Member
- ✓ Javier Rivera, Vice Chair
- ✓ Jason Brodeur, Member
- ✓ Joe MacLaren, Treasurer
- ✓ Kevin Miller, Member
- ✓ Caleb Edwards, Member
- ✓ Treva Marshall, Member (attending by phone)

Board members absent:

- ✓ Debbie Hahs-Vaughn, Secretary

Others present:

- ✓ Michelle Nunez, Principal
- ✓ Kelly Jennings-Towle, Advisory Board Member
- ✓ Mary Little, Advisory Board Member

Dr. Gill welcomed members of the advisory committee, including Dr. Kelly Jennings-Towle and Dr. Mary Little, and thanked them for their valuable contributions to the school.

The board members reviewed the revised minutes distributed by Dr. Hahs-Vaughn. Motion to approve by Mr. Miller, Second by Mr. MacLaren, with a unanimous vote for approval.

Principal's Report:

Mrs. Nunez presented the school's Success Report. The report included student achievement highlights as measured by FSA from 2019. The school staff focuses on learning gains, which were very good. We experienced growth in the learning of our high-performing students, which is difficult to achieve. Students experienced a 100% pass rate on the Algebra EOC. Civics had a 85% pass rate. We were more proficient in 7th grade math than any other middle school in Seminole County. We remain a high-performing charter school, an "A" rated school, and are considered a School of Excellence by the Florida Department of Education.

We now have 588 students enrolled. This past school year, we retained 90% of the students that were eligible to be retained. Galileo typically loses some students when they transition from 5th to 6th grade due to competition from increased public middle school options, including magnet schools. 684 lottery applications were submitted for approximately 70-80 openings. The current student body is 52% males and 48% females. Diversity increased this school year, with 21% of the students identifying as Hispanic, 9% as African-American, and 4% as Asian.

The school would like to eventually add a preschool in part to support teachers who have young children. The school will purchase a small piece of property adjacent to the current campus that may be able to host the preschool.

The school has adopted a new intervention plan that allows teachers the flexibility to handle intervention and acceleration within their content time, as opposed to pulling students from specials for intervention. The goal is to increase performance in students who aren't performing academically.

Committee Composition

Kevin Miller made a motion and Jason Brodeur seconded the motion to continue the current composition of the committees. All Board Members voted in favor of this motion.

Financial Report

Joe MacLaren reviewed the monthly financial statements through the end of July 31, 2019. The board accumulated income of \$389 thousand and incurred \$159 thousand in expenses, for a surplus of \$229 thousand for the month ending July 31st.

Galileo Gala

Treva Marshall provided an update on the Gala. She was proud that all eight tables that were available have now been sold. It was recommended that the school's accolades be highlighted at the Gala, perhaps as a place card at the tables. Several new sponsors including the Orlando Magic and 4 Rivers have also been signed up.

Facilities

Kevin Miller provided an update on the second campus. Galileo has county hearings in October on the subject of adding a pre-k and kindergarten to the school's zoning. We are also waiting to hear back from the county staff regarding our civil engineering and architectural plans, which were recently resubmitted. If the staff reports back to us by early October that the plans are approved, we should be able to open the new school in time for the Fall 2020 semester, as planned.

Dr. Gill asked the board to consider the loan terms offered by USF Federal Credit Union to be used for the purchase of the small parcel located in front of White's Site Development adjacent to the current Galileo campus. Mr. Rivera moved to accept the terms from USF Federal Credit Union, which are an approximately \$200,000 share-secured loan at an interest rate 2.00% above the savings account rate with a maximum repayment term of 15 years and no prepayment penalty. Mr. Rivera's motion also

authorized Michelle Nunez, as the Principal and CEO of the Galileo School Foundation, to: open one or more accounts at USF Federal Credit Union, borrow funds from the USF Federal Credit Union, and to sign on behalf of the Galileo School Foundation at USF Federal Credit Union. second by Mr. Miller, with a unanimous vote for approval.

The board meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:25pm.

Name: _____ Joe MacLaren _____
Office: _____ Treasurer _____