

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 September 27, 2021 via Zoom and at Galileo, Sanford, FL.

Board members present:

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

Board members absent:

- ✓ Rich Margadonna, Member

Guests present:

- ✓ Hillary Dreggors (Riverbend PTSA Treasurer)
- ✓ Advisory Board members
 - Nancy Brasel
 - Derek Cavilla
 - Nancy Chrisman
 - Elizabeth Dooley
 - Mary Little
 - Stephen Schenck
 - Taylar Wenzel

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 August 26, 2021 to be taken as read.

- I. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Celebrations/Recognitions
 - a. Introduction of Advisory Board members for 2021-22
- III. Approve Minutes: August 26, 2021
- IV. Informational Items
 - a. Sunshine Fund collections (\$50 pp)—Use School Pay. Mrs. Bengel will provide a list to Dr. Gill.
 - b. Ethics form must be signed, notarized, and turned in to Lisa Bengel.
- V. School Status Update for Advisory Board and Conversation Session
 - a. School Success Report was reviewed.
 - i. Galileo maintains an A rating.
 - ii. Middle school highlights include: 95% algebra EOC proficiency (top 2, including high schools, in the county); 78% civics EOC proficiency (top 3 in the county).
 - iii. Elementary highlights include: 82% 4th grade reading and math proficiency at Riverbend.
 - iv. Nearly 1,300 total students: Riverbend enrollment = 587; Skyway enrollment = 690. Riverbend and Skyway student retention was 88%.
 - v. 1,107 applications for enrollment in 2020-2021 between the 2 campuses.
 - vi. Current waiting list = 478. This is the 2nd highest waiting list ever.
 - vii. Demographics have changed considerably. Currently, attributes and demographics mirror the community where the schools are located. Gifted: 10%, Skyway; 12% Riverbend. ESE: 12% Skyway; 23% Riverbend; ESOL: 5% Skyway; 1% Riverbend. Twice exceptional: 1% Skyway; 1% Riverbend.
 - viii. About 50% of students are from Sanford.
 - ix. Free and reduced lunch: 30%, Skyway; 29% Riverbend.
 - x. Faculty and staff retention: 85%, Skyway; 82% Riverbend.
 - xi. Most recent award nomination is Playground Magazine's Family Favorite Award.
 - b. Questions were fielded from the Advisory Board members.
- VI. Principal Report (M. Nunez)
 - a. COVID cases. Per Department of Health, parents have the choice to quarantine. Overall, cases appear to be declining at both campuses.
 - b. Staffing. Only one position is currently being sought: one part-time SLP.
 - c. Enrollment update. There are a few open seats in middle school. The waiting list is strong across all grade levels except 7th grade.
 - d. CSP funds for Skyway update was provided. After reimbursement for Chromebooks, less than \$100K will remain to be spent.

e. Update on PPE loan. No current new information.

VII. Consent Agenda

a. Recommended Hires

- i. Sharon Kuruvilla - Instructional Assistant (Riverbend)
- ii. Bobbi Hayes - Instructional Assistant (Skyway)
- iii. Katie Villamar - Front Desk Secretary (Skyway)
- iv. Diana Bohman - Administrative Assistant (Skyway) - COVID relief position
- v. Emily Daniels - Instructional Assistant (Riverbend)

b. Recommended Position Transfers

- i. Lisa Freyman (from Permanent Sub {Riverbend} to Second Grade Teacher (Skyway)
- ii. Megan Schulte (from 2nd grade teacher (Skyway) to Kindergarten (Riverbend)
- iii. Bimisola Thompson (from PreK Instructional Assistant) to Second Grade Teacher (Skyway)

c. Motion made, second, all in favor to approve consent agenda.

VIII. Committee Reports

Standing Committee Reports

a. Budget and Finance Committee (MacLaren)

- i. Annual audit for Skyway and Riverbend was reviewed. Currently have deficits on both campuses. This was projected in the approved budget and due to lag in grant income. The situation should balance as the year progresses. Motion made, second, all in favor to approve budget.
- ii. There are 2 requirements that we need for the bond: 45 days cash on hand at all times and cover debt service (debt service coverage ratio). Galileo is able to meet both requirements.

b. Curriculum Committee (M. Gill)

- i. Report on 9/20/21 meeting of the committee. Highlights of the meeting:
 1. A consultant was hired last year to review school diversity. Among some of the outcomes: A book drive was held to increase the diversity of books available in the class. All holidays are noted on the school calendar.
 2. PEAKS committee is refining the program. This program has expanded to all middle school grades and is open to all students who apply.
 3. The VPK program was observed by Early Education professors at UCF. Feedback was to give students even more choices and incorporate more STEM.

- 4. Math in Focus (Riverbend) and Into Math (Skyway) were reviewed. The school is continuing to use both curriculums so that comparisons can be made.
 - 5. Social skills deficit widened during Covid. There are more outlying students (e.g., need for acceleration).
 - 6. Go Guardians was purchased (computer monitoring system).
 - ii. Motion made, second, all in favor to approve Ms. Bronga as the new middle school representative for the Curriculum Committee.
- c. Development & Grants (T. Marshall)
 - i. Update on Science campaign. No updates.
 - ii. Update on Auction. This will occur the week of November 15. Auction items are coming in well. Examples of items relate to travel, sports, signed athletic items, VIP Zoo experience, suite for UCF athletic game, student artwork, and more.
- d. Marketing (C. Edwards)
 - i. Website redesign is still under construction.
 - ii. Web traffic is up about 12% as compared to same time last year. Most come to the website via Google search.
- e. Special Committee Reports
 - i. Facility Committee (K. Miller)
 - ii. Facility updates. The property next to Skyway is available for sale (\$850K for 5-6 acres). One potential use is a pre-kindergarten facility plus expansion of space for animals. The Board recommends due diligence to explore the option and bring back to the Board to consider.
- f. Strategic Planning Committee (R. Margadonna)
 - i. Strategic Planning update. No updates.
- g. Health & Wellness Committee (J. Brodeur)
 - i. Community Garden update. A plant doctor and master gardener from University of Florida have visited Galileo (Riverbend) and are working with students in the PEAKS program. Galileo has a garden area plus hydroponics. Educational modules around nutrition will be developed in the future, in partnership with Seminole County Department of Health. Harvesting will take place in November and December.

IX. PTSA/SAC Updates

OLD BUSINESS

- X. None

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments fielded.

NEW BUSINESS

- XI. Annual Meeting—election of new Board members and appointment of committee chairs. Motion made, second, all in favor to keep the committee structures as is.
- XII. School Success Report for previous year presented to the Board (presented previously).
- XIII. Annual Profit/Loss Statement due to the Board. This was addressed in the audit report.
- XIV. PTSA President request to dissolve the PTSA and creating a PTO instead. The secretary of the current PTSA shared reasons why the current officers were suggesting dissolving the PTSA and moving to PTO. Of the current \$5 dues, \$3.50 goes to administration fees and historical review indicates that money is actually lost when fundraisers occurs. With PTO, the school can build their structure (e.g., officers that bridge both campuses). Mrs. Nunez did not have any opposing concerns. This is not a voting item.
- XV. Review and approve Principal’s Individual Leadership Development Plan. Motion made, second, all in favor to approve the principal’s leadership plan.
- XVI. Review of SCPS employee contract changes. At the start of the school year, SCPS required employees to take PTO if quarantined. SCPS now has a MOU that, if vaccinated, employees can get the PTO returned if they are quarantined. If Galileo were to follow suit, this would be expensive and could have a significant impact on Galileo if the school were to follow SCPS new MOU.
- XVII. Request to add Nicole Bronga to Curriculum Committee as middle school rep. This was previously voted on.
- XVIII. Joe MacLaren eligible for board reappointment. Motion made, second, all in favor to reappointment Jo MacLaren.

XIX. Upcoming Meetings

NOVEMBER 1, 5:30

- October 2018: Begin talks to discuss early purchase of first school building
- (Rich Margadonna renew board training 2022)

DECEMBER 8, 5:30

- Meet with teachers/staff—employee Town Hall
- Review of quarterly budget
- Caleb Edwards eligible for Board reappointment
- Treva Marshall eligible for board reappointment
- Board of Directors informally observes and evaluates School Director
- (Michele Gill and Debbie Hahs-Vaughn renew Board training in 2022)

XX. Adjournment

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

Dated: September 27, 2021

Debbie Hahs-Vaughn, Secretary