

MINUTES

**Treasure Coast University School, Inc. Advisory Board Meeting
Friday, January 9th, 2009
3:00 PM – 4:45 PM
Palm Pointe Educational Research School @ Tradition**

I. Call to Order/ Approval of Agenda Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair

Call to order made by Ms. Deborah Hawley at 3:26 PM.

Motion – Motion made by Ms. Gerry McPherson to approve the January 9th Agenda

Second – Seconded by Dr. Jack Scott

Unanimous Approval

II. Welcome Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair

Board Members present:

Ms. Deborah Hawley, St. Lucie Business/Citizen Representative, Chair

Dr. Eliah Watlington, Florida Atlantic University, Associate Dean, Northern Campuses

Ms. Gerri McPherson, Florida Atlantic University, Vice President, Northern Campuses

Dr. Valerie Bristor, Florida Atlantic University, Interim Dean & Professor, COE

Dr. Jack Scott, Florida Atlantic University, Professor, COE

Mr. Riccardo Fernandez, Palm Point/Parent Representative

Board Members not present:

Mr. Joe Smith, St. Lucie County, Clerk of the Court (elected)

Mr. Michael Lannon, St. Lucie County School District, Superintendent of Schools

Others who were present:

Ms. Cortina Bell-Gray, Assistant Principal, Palm Pointe Educational Research School @ Tradition

Ms. Debra Snyder, Principal, Palm Pointe Educational Research School @ Tradition

Ms. Elizabeth Gray, Recording Secretary

Mr. Glenn Thomas, Florida Atlantic University, Executive Director, COE/ CEO, TCUS

Ms. Lydia Martin, Assistant Principal, Palm Pointe

III. Introductions Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair

Riccardo Fernandez was introduced as the Palm Point Parent Representative.

IV. Approval of Minutes Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair

Ms. Deborah Hawley brought to the Board's attention to the December minutes.

Motion – Motion made by Dr. Jack Scott to approve the December 19th minutes

Second – Seconded by Dr. Eliah Watlington
Unanimous Approval

V. Recognitions and Awards

Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair

None

VI. Principal’s Report

Ms. Deborah Snyder, Principal

Assistant Principal Lydia Martin discussed school events. Upcoming January events include a Spelling Bee for 4-5th grade, Geography Bee, and History Fair for Middle school. Parents are encouraged to come.

Assistant Principal Cortina Bell-Gray reviewed Palm Pointe’s additional school events. A science fair for grades 6-8th was held January 6-8th. All finalists are invited to compete at the district level. Float building has begun for the Mart Luther King Parade January 19th, and an intramural volley ball tournament for middle school is scheduled for Jan 10th at Fort Pierce Central High School.

Principal Debra Snyder discussed Palm Point’s Family Event “Mi Amore”. This event is a PTO Spaghetti Dinner followed by a dance show. This event is open to the public for a fee of 5\$ for adults and 3\$ for children.

Principal Debra Snyder also discussed increasing the involvement of FAU with Palm Point’s events. This could mean FAU acting as contest judges. A review of the January events will be done to increase ways of involvement.

VII. CEO’s Report

Mr. Glenn Thomas, Exec. Director

Mr. Glenn Thomas reported the number of applicants and the demographics (see table). In total eight hundred and ninety three applications were received. Two hundred and seventy kindergarten applications have been received for the projected one hundred and forty four seats, assuming all current students get promoted. Of the two hundred and seventy applications a focus was made on the SES Level one and Level two applicants. Enrollment has closed and parents will be notified by email beginning this March.

A discussion on enrollment announcement followed the report. Mr. Glenn Thomas informed the board that following the county’s policy there was no public issue/announcement and announcements were sent out via email to previous applicants. Future marketing efforts will be made reflect a message to the community to ensure equal opportunity.

Category	Received	Seats needed
White Female	19	17
White Male	18	17

African American Female	7	8
African American Male	6	8
Hispanic Female	21	10
Hispanic Male	10	10
Asian Female	2	1
Asian Male	4	1
Native American Female	0	1
Native American Male	0	1
Mixed Racial Female	3	1
Mixed Racial Male	3	2

VIII. Action Items

Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair

Copies of the updated bylaws were disseminated. Mr. Glenn Thomas reviewed the adjustments made to the bylaws. A decision was made to make additional changes. An update copy will be available at the next TCUS meeting, before scheduled for review by the Board of Trustees.

Motion – Motion made by Dr. Jack Scott to approve Bylaw amendment allowing for technical revision by general counsel

Second – Seconded by Mr. Riccardo Fernandez

Unanimous Approval

The Board discussed the approval of student admission and enrollment policy. A decision was made to change the admission policy of self contained IEP students. To maintain integrity the regular application process will be followed by a screening by the district for self contained placement, once a list has been generated a second lottery will be conducted to determine admission. In addition, modifications to section IV and a review of section III F number 7. Page 3 will be made. An updated copy will be available at the next TCUS meeting, before scheduled for review by the Board of Trustees.

Motion – Motion made by Mr. Jack Scott to approve student admission and enrollment policy allowing for technical revision by general counsel

Second- Seconded by Dr. Valerie Bristor

Unanimous Approval

IX. Discussion Items Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair

Ms. Debbie Snyder brought to the boards attention the district’s budget cuts direct impact on Palm point. To date the funds are frozen, no new hires, four instructor positions are open. Two seats were filled by substitutes and two were dissolved. Palm point is awaiting further budget information from the district.

Gerry McPherson asked if all the seats at palm point were filled. Debbie Snyder noted that in the k-2nd grades the classes averaged around 18-22 seats. Glenn Thomas informed the board that a projected 1534 seats was submitted to the state and done so with consultation from the district.

X. Old Business Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair

None

XI. Public Comment Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair

Formal introduction of Riccardo Fernandez to the board was made by Gerry McPherson.

XII. Announcement, Communications, and Board Comments Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair

Dr. Jack Scott announced the upcoming state wide special needs/autism conference in West Palm Beach.

Ms. Deborah Hawley announced the upcoming St. Lucie Education Foundation “Peace Love & Education” Event. The event takes place March 28th at Tory Pines. Tickets are 100 per person.

Ms. Debbie Snyder announced the Palm Point Networking Group.

XIII. Adjournment Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair

Meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Deborah Hawley at 5:02 pm.