

# MINUTES

## Treasure Coast University School, Inc. Advisory Board Meeting

Friday, November 12, 2010

3:00 PM – 5:15 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 3:30 PM.

**Motion-** Motion made by Dr. Eliah Watlington to approve the agenda

**Second-** Seconded by Dr. Valerie Bristor

**Unanimous Approval**

**II. Welcome** Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair

Board Members Present:

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

Ms. Sandy Wolfe, St. Lucie County School District, Deputy Superintendent

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

Dr. Valerie Bristor, Florida Atlantic University, Dean and Professor, COE

Dr. Al Jurenas, Florida Atlantic University, Professor, COE

Mr. Joe Smith, St. Lucie County, Clerk of Court

Ms. Tonya Wyandon, Parent, Palm Pointe Educational Research School @ Tradition

Mr. Max Kernick, Parent, Palm Pointe Educational Research School @ Tradition

Board Members Not Present:

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

Others who were present:

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

Mr. Eric Henik, Palm Pointe Educational Research School @ Tradition

Ms. Kathleen Perez, Assistant Principal, Palm Pointe Educational Research School @ Tradition

Ms. D’Jion Jackson, Assistant Principal, Palm Pointe Educational Research School @ Tradition

Ms. Lydia Martin, Past Assistant Principal, Palm Pointe Educational Research School @ Tradition/Current Principal South Port Middle School

Mr. Glenn Thomas, Florida Atlantic University, Assistant Dean, PK-12 Schools and Programs; CEO, TCUS

Ms. Krista Allison, Recording Secretary, Florida Atlantic University

Mr. Tim Bargeron, Assistant Superintendent, SLCSO

Ms. Kim Albritton, St. Lucie County School District, Business Services/Budget Specialist

**III. Introductions** Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair

Dr. Al Jurenas of Florida Atlantic University was introduced as a new appointed member of the TCUS Board.

**IV. Approval of Minutes** Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair

**Motion-** Motion made by Ms. Tonya Wyandon to approve the October 8<sup>th</sup> minutes

**Second-** Seconded by Dr. Valerie Bristol

**Unanimous Approval**

**V. Recognitions and Awards** Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair

Ms. Lydia Martin was recognized as Palm Pointe's first employee and the school administrator responsible for administrative oversight of construction, furnishings, equipment, hiring and other opening duties until Ms. Snyder was appointed as principal.

**VI. Reports**

Recognition and congratulations were provided to Debbie Hawley for her recent election to the School Board of St. Lucie County.

a. Principal Report- Ms. Debra Snyder

1. Mr. Eric Henik provided an informative session regarding the use and recycling of the Styrofoam lunch trays using the thermocompacter technology, thus also reducing disposal costs and landfill space.
2. Ms. D'Jion Jackson presented information regarding the school students' recent benchmark data, which indicated significant growth. The teachers and administrators were thanked for the good work of the students.
3. Ms. Kathleen Perez provided an event showcase, highlighting special events at Palm Pointe School.
4. Mr. Glenn Thomas discussed the activities related to Title I compliance. He thanked the school administration and staff for the excellent and substantial effort required to collect and document requirements of the program in past years.

b. CEO's report- Mr. Glenn Thomas

1. Palm Pointe Applicants:  
410 Caucasians  
113 African Americans  
31 Asians  
58 Indians  
1 Native Hawaiian
2. A Race to the Top grant update was provided. FAUS has submitted a district plan as has SLCSO, but the grants have different provisions. The differences between the districts' plans are problematic for Palm Pointe and the funding levels are relatively small for the effort required. Therefore the Board Chair in consultation and agreement with the school principal and CEO of TCUS has submitted a letter which declines participation of the Palm Pointe School as a university charter lab school option in the FAUS Race to the Top grant application.

**VII. Action Items** Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair  
None

**VIII. Discussion Items** Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair  
As a university charter lab school, Palm Pointe is not required to be measured at the class by class average for the purposes of the class size reduction amendment. A. D. Henderson School is affected by the amendments class by class limits and will be affected by financial penalties imposed by the state.

**IX. Old Business** Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair  
Tim Bargeron- Palm Pointe funding is difficult from a SLCSD perspective. Currently revenues exceed expenses for the operating budget, given the impact of stimulus funding and the effect of not paying district administrative overhead. The capital budget is designed to cover the expense the cost of the debt service related to the construction and FF&E required to complete the school facility (approximately 50%) that was not paid through the state appropriation of \$15million provided through Florida Atlantic University. Because the legislature decreased the capital appropriation for charter lab schools from the 2 mil equivalent level to 1.5 mils, the capital expenses for debt service will exceed the revenue provided for this purpose. Palm Pointe School/TCUS, Inc. will face several financial challenges over the next few years as will all public schools. The TCUS board must address how to best balance the school staffing/site operational needs, debt service shortfall and SLCSD overhead issues including some potential transportation reimbursement with very limited and diminishing revenues, including the potential financial impact of class size reduction if it is extended to charter schools at the classroom level.

**X. Public Comment** Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair  
Dr. Watlington- Thanked the teachers and administrators for their excellent work and for their attendance.  
Mr. Max Kernick provided the recommendation for a Scripps contact. Ms. Snyder will follow up as appropriate.

**XI. Adjournment** Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair  
Meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Deborah Hawley at 5:15 pm