

DRAFT
MINUTES

Treasure Coast University School, Inc. Advisory Board Meeting
Friday, June 12th, 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 3:12 PM.
Motion – Motion made by Dr. Valerie Bristor to approve the June 12th Agenda.
Second – Seconded by Dr. Eliah Watlington.
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
Mr. Joe Smith, St. Lucie County, Clerk of the Court (elected)

Board Members not present:

Mr. Michael Lannon, St. Lucie County School District, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Anika Hardman, Palm Pointe/Parent Representative
Dr. Jack Scott, Florida Atlantic University, Professor, COE

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
Mr. Tim Bargeron, CFO, St Lucie School District

- III. Introductions** Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair
Ms. Deborah Hawley introduced Mr. Tim Bargeron as the CFO of St. Lucie School District as well as an adjunct professor with FAU in the College of Education.

- IV. Approval of Minutes** Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair
Motion – Motion made by Dr. Eliah Watlington to approve the May 8th minutes.
Second – Seconded by Dr. Valerie Bristor.
Unanimous Approval

V. Recognitions and Awards Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair
Ms. Debra Snyder thanked the board members for their patience and guidance through the unknowns of the first year. To show their appreciation, Ms. Debra Snyder principal of Palm Pointe Research School @ Tradition presented each member of the board a plaque as a token of support. She also gave special thanks to Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chairperson, and presented her with a gift of appreciation. A round of applause followed from all who were present.

VI. Principal's Report Ms. Deborah Snyder, Principal
Ms. Cortina Bell-Gray, assistant principal read aloud a letter Palm Pointe received from an 8th grade, African American, ESE, self contained emotional classroom student that qualifies free meals. This letter was a touching story of how a student overcame odds, passed the 8th grade and gained confidence in his/her ability to learn.

Ms. Lydia Martin, assistant principal discussed the test results from the FCAT summary. Palm Pointe is generally very pleased with the report. Palm Pointe's goal was to be at district standards by the first year, state standards by the second year, and above state standards by the third year. Currently the tests results from this year are above state standards, meeting year three goals.

VII. CEO's Report Mr. Glenn Thomas, Exec. Director
Mr. Glenn Thomas announced that the corporate reports have been filed and that the annual audit for charter schools is approaching. Mr. Glenn Thomas mentioned that the research listed in the Lab School Research Report can be showcased at the district workshops. Ms. Debra Snyder announced at Palm Pointe there are currently 40-50 individuals ready to start research projects and many of them are doing background literature reviews over the summer break.

VIII. Action Items Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair
The draft TCUS meeting date calendar was disseminated. The board amended the following dates: December 11th meeting to December 4th and June 11th meeting to June 4th.

Motion – Motion made by Mr. Joe Smith to approve the amended calendar.

Second – Seconded by Dr. Eliah Watlington.

Unanimous Approval

IX. Discussion Items Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair
Mr. Tim Barger, Chief Financial Officer, St. Lucie District Schools discussed financial issues faced by the St. Lucie School Board in the 08-09 school year that arose. Possible solutions were discussed that include a new operating agreement that assures Palm Pointe funding. Under the current operating agreement Palm Pointe receives 3 sources of funding, FEFP, Title I, and additional funding for supplemental services.

Mr. Tim Barger addressed the transportation issue and DOE subcontract.

Ms. Debra Snyder brought to the Boards' attention possible concerns related to the National Board Teachers status.

The district predictions of 08-09 decline in enrollment though this is not the case with Palm Pointe. To date, Palm Pointe has hired 1443 staff and predicted 1487.

Factoring in transportation reimbursement, the 143 dollar per student drop in funding, the given legislation drop in funding next year, the 550 thousand stimulus loss in 2 years, there is still room in the operating budget.

Ms. Gerri McPherson requested hiring status at Palm Pointe. Ms. Debra Snyder noted that Palm Pointe has 17 open positions, 4 people have been placed and hiring 13 posted positions.

At this time there is no state funding for transportation at Palm Pointe. The district gets 50% for other schools. Palm Pointe is using the Hub Model for transportation also used by magnet schools in the district.

Ms. Gerri McPherson requested a budget overview to address long term budget reserve plan.

X. Old Business Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair
None

XI. Public Comment Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair
None

XII. Announcement, Communications, and Board Comments Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair
Ms. Gerri McPherson announced President Brogan will attend the Treasure Coast Campus economic council July 7th and the June 19th FAU advisory luncheon. Contact Ms. Gerri McPherson to RSVP.

Dr. Eliah Watlington asked about the current student body demographic at Palm Pointe. Mr. Glenn Thomas informed the board that Palm Pointe has 54% of its students participating in the federal free and reduced meal program and is on target with the state's demographics of 52-53%.

Dr. Eliah Watlington commended the accomplishments of the Palm Pointe teachers in one of the most challenging years in their careers. She on behalf of the board expressed her pride in the teachers and their hard work. A resolution will be drafted and signed by the board.

Ms. Debra Snyder recognized outstanding teachers.

Ms. Deborah Hawley honored Ms. Gerri McPherson with a gift of thanks. Ms. Deborah Hawley noted that Ms. Gerri McPherson is responsible for the thousands of volunteer hours invested by Ms. Hawley and played a huge part in Ms. Hawley's development and learning.

Ms. Debra Snyder also honored Ms. Gerri McPherson with a gift of thanks. Ms. Debra Snyder noted that she worked with Ms. Gerri McPherson her first year as a media specialist and throughout their time together, their paths have crossed resulting in 30 great years together. Gifts were presented, photos were taken and Ms. Gerri McPherson gave thanks all around.

XIII. Adjournment

Ms. Deborah Hawley, Chair

Meeting was adjourned by Chairperson Deborah Hawley at 4:52 pm.