
PEPIN ACADEMIES



PEPIN ACADEMIES OF PASCO COUNTY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

December 9, 2014

6pm

Pepin Academies of Pasco County
9804 Little Rd.
New Port Richey, FL 34654

6:07 PM

PUBLIC
COMMENT/
OPENING
COMMENTS
PRINCIPAL
REPORT

No Public Comment

School Update:

- 200 enrolled
- Goal 225 by February FTE
- Four interviews last week, everyone has been appropriate
- Hired an Administrative Resource Teacher: Dr. Mary Jordan Anstead
- Needs: ESE specialist, typically 150 students to one specialist.
- Dr. Scott been helping, wonderful, can't afford
- Lost a Data entry person and a Para-professional (need to hire)
- 5th grade is full
- Most space in 7th grade
- High school teachers now filled with middle school schedules.
- No space for high school right now, two co-horts currently
- Holiday Gathering – December 18th 6-8pm, food and crafts. For the families
- On site Candyland stroll on the 19th for arts and music, staff setting up the cafeteria

Celeste visited a Florida charter conference:

- Very informative
- Pre conference required as part of CSP grant
- May require board to watch video on compliance of grant
- How to have a successful charter board
- Topics: Orientation needed for the board, along with a Tour school, show board what the Application looks like for students.
- Create a Board Handbook and Member Agreement

Senate Bill 850:

- Unable to open Pepin Transitional right now because of the enactment of Senate Bill 850
- 850- bill: special diploma students must receive regular diploma
- The Standard diploma will be based on access points; still working out the particulars
- We may have to offer a technical degree, there can be ramifications for our whole program
- The 9th grade cohort of next year would start this new plan
- This option can be great for students with autism who have abilities to meet requirements to pass FCAT. Not sure how funding will go.
- In order to accommodate 300 kids, I need more space for specials teachers. Need guidance and ESE specialist, and half time OT
- 75 kids will bring in \$750,000
- Personnel cost: \$530,000
- Large challenge has been orienting teachers in the "Pepin way"—hard to go from traditional school teaching to special needs
- Dr. Scott visited Genesis School, felt it wasn't large enough, but feels a letter should be sent from board kindly declining the space.
- Anywhere to put portables on current site? No
- Recommendation to bring in an Interior design person? Not sure of cost, maybe an idea. Lots of space here that may be utilized, it is an odd layout.
- There is an old Tire Shop and Bank now available on site. – possibly 6 classes can fit in

the bank

- 300 students was the original goal, now thinking that number is opportune for Fall.
- Adding 11th grade opens space for 3rd grade.
- Don't want to put too much into this temporary space.
- The Charter application projected 500 for next year. Not realistic numbers
- No money for transportation for field trips. Pepin FIRST has supported field trip.
- Middle school needs a real physical education feel.
- Parents are hanging on knowing it is a temporary site.
- Location would be ideal closer towards the Veterans would be preference. Lots of students from West Pasco and some from Land 'o' Lakes too.
- Porter Ranch possible – 3-4 years down the road.
- Do we have parents that are developers? Need people to start looking and talking...
- Starkey? Property? All these options need to be considered.
- Maybe Joe Cash has some ideas.
- If we want 300 students we have to start in January with Open House. But we need space for them.
- Need swinging doors to block noise between classes; the cost is \$1,900 Total. Can't approve yet, would like to have this done during the summer time.
- Need to find out if 250 okay would be okay with the budget temporarily?
- Technology is still needed in Pasco
- Discussion that it makes since to have 300 students at a new location.
- Temporarily there could be space available in café to throw up walls. Strategic plan can then be done for 3 year and 5 year space.
- Dreama asks: When can you get Capital Outlay money? You can apply? Find out. (Ask Russ Jacques)
- Find other grants from the state to get money, Medicaid reimbursement.
- Hillsborough gets \$232,000 in Capital outlay

FINANCE REPORT

No Finance report

COMMUNITY RELATIONS AND FUNDRAISING

- Macy's at Wiregrass Parade on the 22nd of November (start time 10am) had a banner made; everyone wore a Pepin shirt, candy to pass out. Great time.
- Radio PSA with Steve Schurdell, he is a Managing Partner with greatest hits 106— they have 3 FM stations that target the Naturecoast. He is familiar with Pepin through a presentation Crisha gave to his rotary club. After talking to him about our start up and need to increase enrollment, with little to no marketing money, Steve was able to get the PSA on air for free, for a full month. It can be heard on 106.3 FM till December 18th.
- Last month attended the Pasco Youth Initiative forum for community education, discussion and action planning to remove barriers that Pasco youth and families face on their path to self-sufficiency. Tons of networking sessions, met new contacts from business, government, schools, non-profits, civic and social organizations, parents, youth and others. A lot of the counseling services that were there are aware of who we are and said they refer students to us all the time.
- Met with Keri Porter, she is going to let families she works with know about our school. She is the founder of New Path Learning centers: She discovered the Sensory Learning Program four years ago when looking for a comprehensive therapy for her son with autism. She was so impressed with the improvements she saw with her own child, she became a Parent Advocate counseling parents on the results they could see with the Sensory Learning Program.
- Working on a new website to improve the brand consistency, still a work in progress, the home page is coming together, right now I have the pasco site currently being used connect to the Pasco Icon; it is not live yet, but you can see it coming together at : <http://staging11.absolutemobilesolutions.com/>
- Met with Tampa Bay Parenting Magazine, there are some great options to advertise with them, for a price of course. There is a Pasco page in the magazine each month, if we hold an open house it can be listed in their magazine if we give them 6 week notice, and also on their e-newsletter that goes out. January is their education focus month. This goes out to Doctors, YMCAs, home delivery, supermarkets, schools, learning centers, children retail stores, etc. The January educational ad deadline is the 19th of December.
- Gala Dinner Fundraiser Sponsorship form, was finalized, this event goes through the foundation and supports the needs of all campuses. It is scheduled for May 21st, still waiting on confirmation of a speaker. Gala Sierens is our MC for the evening.

PROSPECTIVE BOARD MEMBER RECOMMENDATI ONS

Recap: Kelly Mothershead and John Walsh possibilities. DeLynn Gaston a recommendation by Kathryn Starkey; invite to next meeting.

No additional recommendations

ADDITIONAL
COMMENTS

- Get with Dennis on getting a Bowling fundraiser going: up to 160 players, Date needs to be confirmed and details sent to parents and community friends. \$10 per person / \$200 funds per team.

Erin McMullen, PTO President:

- Challenging to get parents to participate, selective on what they do and can throw in
- Louise may know how much was made during the clay shooting
- Fundraising is a big challenge for us

- Out of uniform money

- Dayspring experienced the same challenges the first couple years.

- Next year parents will donate uniforms to school – then we will have a clothing closet

- Some parents want their money to go toward specific needs. If we do a board fundraiser then we need to be specific so parents will attend.

- Buses cost \$400.00; Need our own bus, even a small bus. We can get surplus buses from district... it is the insurance, gas, driver training that costs. CDL license needed. A designated driver can go to Pasco school district training and rules course. Depends on size of bus and where it is going for insurance costs...

- January 5th is a teacher work day, Board Breakfast, ideas:
Breakfast Station (43 staff members) /Coffee and juice needed

- Monday December 15th all staff invited at TPepin's Hospitality Centre from 4pm - 5:15pm for holiday drinks and food before board meeting

- Next meeting: January 13th 6PM / Finance meeting 5:30pm

Adjournment – 7:30pm

Next meeting scheduled for

January 13, 2015

6pm

Finance meeting for all board members available held at 5:30pm

Pepin of Pasco County

9804 Little Road

