



Staff

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Wednesday October 4, 2017
PEPIN ACADEMIES-PASCO
9804 Little Road
New Port Richey, FL 34654

CALL TO ORDER:

5:15pm Meeting was called to order.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Board Members in Attendance:

Chair Natalie King, DeLynn Gaston, Kris Hudson, Ruth Reilly, Tom Ryan, Dreama Bilby, Frin McMillan

Board Members NOT in Attendance:

Tammy Curtis, Cathy Peckett, Mary Spoto

Staff Members:

Principal Celeste Keller, Charlie Burke, Kelly Mothershead, Jason Aponte, Katherine Burns, Carrie Donahue, Ian Beckell, Tiffani Anderson, David Mattingly

Guests:

Mr. Dale Bieber

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion by Ruth Reilly to approve April Board Meeting Minutes without any changes; Seconded by Kris Hudson. Approved Unanimously

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No Public Comment

DISCUSSION:

Natalie King discussed the death of Craig Butz, Executive Director of our Hillsborough campuses. She talked about how everyone is doing and what that means for the Tampa campus as we move forward and continue to pray for his daughter Teagan.

Natalie King welcomed and thanked guests in attendance and invited Board Members and Staff to introduce themselves.

Natalie King advised that Tari Mitchell resigned from his board position but that he had expressed a desire to help in some other way, however, time didn't allow him to attend board meetings. This leaves three board positions open and anyone interested should first meet with Celeste

Kellar and tour the school, then attend a board meeting as a guest to see if it is a good fit. They would then meet with our board chair, Natalie King. Natalie mentioned that Dale Bieber was in attendance and had expressed an interest in the board, she would be meeting with him in the near future.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

Principal Celeste Kellar provided an update on student enrollment, currently at 325 after a successful open enrollment and lottery. Principal Kellar discussed ongoing effort to secure grants. Principal Kellar discussed the highly qualified teacher letter and distributed copies to the board, letters will go out to parents this week and also posted on our website. **Motion by Delynn Gaston to approve this policy and letter as written; seconded by Ruth Reilly. Unanimously approved.**

The Transgender bathroom policy was distributed to all board members and discussed. **Motion by Ruth Reilly to approve this policy as written; seconded by Dreama Bilby Unanimously approved.**

Principal Kellar discussed enrollment numbers for each grade level. Graduation will be held May 24, 2017. The venue for graduation is still undecided. All compliance reporting has been submitted to the district. All of the required beginning of the year drills have been completed. Pepin Academics Pasco improved our assessment scores from unsatisfactory to maintaining, which will result in \$30899.00 from the state (\$100 per student reported in survey 3-308). Principal Kellar discussed upcoming events including, Storybook parade/Histoween/character day, Trunk or Treat, High school dance, Veterans Day program and Great American Teach in.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

CFO Charlie Burke reported that the financials are stable with a projection of \$4.1 MM in Revenues and \$4 MM expenses, for a surplus of \$145,000. There is 40 days cash on hand with \$440k in the bank. Copies of financials were provided to all board members with a date through August 31, 2017. No Budget amendments at this time.

HR REPORT:

Jason Aponte discussed the Principals review. He is waiting for the board reviews and will re-send the link to all board members. Once they are received, Natalie King will compile and present findings to the board for approval. Jason

Aponte stated that we currently have 70 staff members with a turnover rate of 27%. Natalie King asked that the board and HR continue to prioritize teacher compensations, benefits, etc.

BUILDING COMMITTEE:

Tom Ryan discussed that there is plenty of land in Pasco County and there are about 20 sites available. Tom Ryan posed the question about whether we wanted to explore building our own or retro-fitting an existing site. Tom stated that we need to discuss in depth funding sources and options. Taking into consideration county codes, flood zoning, etc. Keeping in mind that we have about 31 months to find a solution and it may take that long if we need to build. Tom asked if we should maybe consider setting aside funds for professional services that will be needed as well.

Congressman Bilirakis toured our current facility and identified land with a facility that is close to us and leased by the Veterans Administration. Discussed whether that location could be negotiated into a long-term deal. Its 45,500 sq ft.

Natalie, Celeste and Charlie are in continued conversations with the District regarding availability of properties owned by the District.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS REPORT:

Kelly Mothershead reported on current activities: Kelly is making presentations to local Rotary clubs and Chambers of Commerce about Pepin Academies. She is presenting updates and showing our graduation video to those clubs who already support our school. Kelly discussed the Superbowl raffle ticket fundraiser sales. Kelly is sending letters to local businesses for classroom sponsors. We currently have 17 classrooms sponsored. Our Gala has been postponed until February 8, 2017. Kelly stated that she was elected to the Chasco Board steering committee, and this is great for Pepin Academies. Kelly is working with United Way for presentations as well. Kelly is also still collecting donations for teachers requests and for gala auction items.

PEPIN FIRST REPORT:

Erin McMillan discussed that Pepin FIRST currently has 143 members paid, there are still just a few parents actually volunteering. Erin discussed a catalog fundraiser and she will send that info to all board members. Erin also talked about the Field Day that they are planning. Erin talked about the events for the upcoming school year, including,

Trunk or Treat, Holiday party, Catchin' for Pepin Fishing tournament.

NEW BUSINESS:

Natalie King asked the board if they had any additional questions or comments. Delynn Gaston discussed "The Grinch" event and asked for participation from Pepin Foundation as well as board members. Kelly Mothershead will forward The Grinch information to Natalie King for review. Tom Ryan challenged each board member to bring someone who might be interested in our board in hopes of filling our open board positions.

Next meeting will be November 7, 2017 5pm

ADJOURNMENT:

Kris Hudson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:60pm; **Tom Ryan** seconded. Motion approved **unanimously**.

[Handwritten signature] approved 11/8/17