



Governing Board Meeting Minutes

Date: May 1st, 2024
Location: Listening Room, 1st Floor
Time: 1:00 PM

Present:

- Dr. Raymond Kimsey, Board Chair
- Ms. Jennifer Kenney, Secretary
- Mr. Pablo Canals, Board Member
- Mr. Alfredo de la Rosa, Principal
- Ms. Carolina Torres, Asst. Principal
- Mr. Oscar Solorzano, Asst. Principal
- Ms. Valerie Barreiro, Asst. Principal
- Mr. Noel Puig, CFO

1. Opening and Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Raymond Kimsey at 1:15 P.M.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

The minutes from the previous meeting held on February 7, 2024, were reviewed and approved unanimously.

3. Financials & Budgets

Mr. Noel Puig presented the financial report and discussed the budget for the next fiscal year.

Main points of discussion:

- Mr. de la Rosa, through New Way Schools, has drafted the 2024-2025 budget.
- We project an FTE increase of just under 4% per student.
- Referendum settlement is still in negotiations through school counsel.
- Staffing plan calls for approximately 12 positions to be filled to replace current staff who will transition out.
- Evening custodial staff will be eliminated and a professional contractor will be hired. This will represent a savings to the school in addition to better quality of service.
- Campus security will be enhanced to include a total of 6 guards.
- As of today, beginning teacher salaries will be \$55,000 per year. This exceeds the district starting salary and will make the school more competitive toward attracting teachers.

- The contract for ESP services with New Way Schools was submitted for modification and review. The contract fee has been static for many years and the contractor is seeking to update the fee to reflect market rate.
- Deadline to submit the final budget is August 1st, 2024.
- Approval of the budget is scheduled for the July board meeting.

4. Public Comments

Members of the public were invited to provide comments. No Speakers Appeared.

5. Action and Discussion Items

PM 3 Results Review- The board reviewed and discussed the PM 3 results. Mr. Alfredo de la Rosa provided encouraging comments regarding the positive outcomes and noted areas for continued focus.

Auditions for New Student Acceptance- Ms. Valerie Barreiro discussed the recent auditions that have taken place for new student acceptance for the upcoming year, emphasizing the importance of maintaining high standards.

School Improvement Efforts/Strategic Plan- Mr. de la Rosa shared updates on efforts to align school improvement with the strategic plan being developed by New Way Schools, highlighting collaboration and goal-setting. The strategic plan will begin with an effective date of 2023-2024 and will be shared with parents and stakeholders. Parental engagement will be a main focal point moving forward.

Pursuit of Excellence- Board members engaged in discussions about making excellence a central point of all efforts within the school, emphasizing the commitment to high standards for both students and staff.

Policy on Student Probation in the Arts- Mr. de la Rosa presented a new policy that will place students on probation if expectations in the arts are not met. This probation may lead to involuntary withdrawal of students after one semester of progress monitoring. The board discussed this initiative, affirming that the goal is to help students make decisions in their own best interests and to ensure excellence remains at the forefront of all efforts. The new probation and withdrawal policy is pursuant to law (Florida Statute 1002.33). Mr. de la Rosa mentioned that the school will implement a “roll-out” process to ensure parents and students are well informed and notified. Our hope is that students in jeopardy will improve and that we can avoid as many withdrawals as possible.

Kitchen Renovations and Parking Garage Improvements- Will begin as soon as school ends for the year and will take place throughout the summer.

HVAC Upgrade- Mr. de la Rosa updated the board on the status of the much-needed air conditioning upgrade. All rooftop units are to be installed over the summer. The AC upgrades are to be paid for through the previously approved ESSER grant funds allocated to the school.

Summer Camps and Tutoring- All summer camp and tutoring activities for the summer have been planned and we are hiring staff to ensure we are able to launch the camps as planned. Camps include:

The Joffrey Ballet

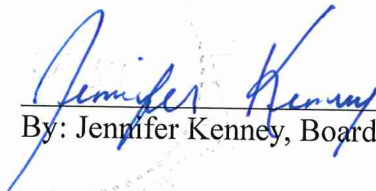
The MAC Elementary Music and Arts Camp

The MAC Intensive Arts Camp for existing MAC students

The MAC Intensive Academic Camps for students needing academic assistance to remain on grade level

6. **Consent Agenda** - The consent agenda was reviewed and approved without any objections.

7. **Adjournment**- The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 P.M.



By: Jennifer Kenney, Board Secretary