FLORIDA SCHOOL FOR INTEGRATED ACADEMICS AND TECHNOLOGIES GAINESVILLE, INC.

REGULAR MEETING of the BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Thursday, September 8, 2016 * 9:00 a.m.

7022 NW 10th Place * Gainesville, FL 32605

MINUTES

1. **CALL TO ORDER/ESTABLISH QUORUM** – *A. Lawson*

   President Lawson called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. A quorum was recognized.

   Members Present: Alena Lawson; Prof. Zag; Chief Jones; Steven Schwab

   Members Absent: Jackson Cowart and Christopher Stokes

   Guests: Christal Blue; Vivian Covington; Lin Miller, Joy Baldree; Richard Trainor

   Telephone Attendees: Debra Anderson;

2. **CONSENT AGENDA**

   On a motion from Steve Schwab and seconded by Tony Jones, the Board unanimously approved the Consent Agenda as presented.

   A. **Approved** Regular Meeting Agenda of June 16, 2016 – Agenda amended to reflect the addition of June 30, 2016 financials to Item 4-A
   B. **Approved** Regular Meeting Minutes of April 21, 2016
   C. **Approved** Regular Meeting Minutes of May 17, 2016

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS** – *None*

4. **BUSINESS/FINANCE**

   A. **Review Financials**

   June 2016 Financials

   Reporting of the pension liability began last year and there is a large liability reflected on the closing budget in the amount of $298,000. Each month the statement will reflect funding on the current liability and monies paid to fund toward the amount reserved to building the fund to 100%. The amount of extra funding depends on the investment returns. When the fund reaches 100% you will not have a liability showing in this column.

   Richard reported that the District called and is very concerned about the financial health of the school. It is important that the FTE goal of 235 is met in October. It will help if the school enroll more than the 235 students. The school must work on retaining our current students as well. If the FTE does not come in by October count the Board will need to make decisions on staffing and reduce accordingly.

Lease on the facility is going up $2400 a month this year and PECO funding does not cover the facility costs so we will be dipping into the general funding to cover the costs.

July Financials
July and August financial are always skewed as there are no staff salaries paid out. The fund balance will go up again in August and will start dipping in September as the school begins paying salaries. Schools that receive and alternative rating did not received their PECO funding in the first distribution. There is some discussion that alternative rating schools should not receive PECO funding but the pushback has them working to distribute the allotted monies and we hope it will come in October.

5. **REPORTS TO THE BOARD**
   A. **Principal's Report – *C. Blue – PowerPoint highlights included:***
      - Slogan and catch phrase for the school 'Going to the Tech'
      - In the process of hiring new staff and we are working to increase enrollment and community outreach
      - Enrollment – 181 –- 50 are Job Corps students. Schools goal is 235 or more and we are holding orientation every week.
      - New bell scheduled this year: open at 7:00 a.m. and serve breakfast to the students. We established a special session for Job Corps students. Students are released at 5:22 so they can meet the early buses.
      - FTE Week is Spirit Week
      - Designated as a testing site and as a Planned Parent Class location.
      - Moving forward with the Student Ambassador Program again this year. First project will be at Ronald McDonald House.
      - Staff Goals - focused on the graduation rate and staff is working together in Google Docs. Every student will have a staff mentor to provide progress reports and support to help students stay on track and keep moving through the program.
      - Applied for an education grant through WalMart.
      - Recruitment: Marketing booklet, website updates, attended community partnership at Santa Fe College and the downtown art festival.
      - Rebuilding the staff: currently have 3 open positions. Have a new Educational Specialist starting next week. Interviewing for ESE position.
      - Instituting small group instruction to help with testing prep.

The Board discussed how to help clear the list of MIA students. Currently the staff is reaching out by phone calls, email, and text. Ms. Blue did a "drive-around" over the summer to reach out to students who were working in the fast food industry and urged them to come talk with her. The Board asked about home visits and they are not currently being done. They would need to be done in the evening and would need to be done in pairs. Pastor Stokes will work with the list and see if he can locate any of the students on Facebook. Jackson Cowart will reach out to some of the students he knows personally.

The Board also discussed the upcoming charter renewal coming up next year and what we need to do in preparation of that renewal.

B. Florida Update – *J. Baldree* – *No Report*

C. Organizational Update – *L. Miller*

- Dr. Amy Lansing will be training staff in Florida on Trauma Informed Care in August. She will be the keynote speaker at Fall Leadership in October.
- Just about finished with the joint charter agreement with Santa Clara County Office of Education.

D. Student Representative Report

- Earth Day – students and staff created a tree and invited everyone to put a leaf on the tree telling what they would do to help Earth Day.
- Staff and students had a year-end goodbye banner for Ms. Parker who was going out on medical leave.
- The last day of school students helped with cleanup of the school and helped teachers take items to their cars at the end of day.
- On August 15, 2016 students returned to school. The 2016-2017 will be a successful year for the students. Mr. Painter, Ms. Huddleston, and Ms. Hines moved to other endeavors in their career. The will be missed by all.
- Hope for the future/personal goal for Jackson: he has many ideas for the student body this year that involves community service and believes that with the team and staff – anything is possible.
- Flag Pole Project: Ms. Blue was not able to get permission from the landlord before the end of last school year and will work on this again this year. Prof Zag offered the services of the VVFW Color Guard to perform at the ceremony.

E. Community Remarks – Prof. Zag

Prof Zag was traveling most of the summer and recovering from an illness. He will be lining up events for recruitment that are coming up soon including the Fall Festival. Homecoming is October 14.

F. Florida Update – Joy Baldree

- FTE – need to enroll 12 students a week to meet the 250 FTE goal.
- Opening of 2 new schools that we acquired over the summer in Duval.
- Upon Board approval, Danita Eatman will serve as a part-time Regional Director and provide additional support to Pinellas and SIATech Gainesville.
- Trauma Informed Care training was held in August for all Florida staff. They were trained on strategies to help students who have suffered great trauma, including referral to outside agencies.
- Submitted two new charter school applications – meeting with Pasco went well – should hear something by October.

G. Corporation Update

- SCCOE partnership up and running and about 200 students enrolled – providing the curriculum & profession development in partnership with the county office - could be an incredible opportunity for us and the students 18-24 years old.
- Fall Leadership/Policy Forum in San Diego - October 27-29, 2016

6. BOARD BUSINESS

A. Discussed Board Vacancies

Mr. Mortlake Nembhard was not in attendance today. Ms. Lawson will reach out to him and see if he is still interested. She will also contact Ms. Lewis, the new Academic Manager, to see if she is interested in serving on the Board.

B. Acknowledgement of Board Service – 10 year pins were presented to Alena Lawson, Tony Jones and Prof. Zag for their service on the SIATech Gainesville Board of Directors and to Vivian Covington for her service years with SIATech Gainesville.

C. Proposed Agenda Items for Next Board Meeting - Location to be announced

7. REMARKS FROM BOARD MEMBERS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Stokes expressed concerns about the security of the school. He visited the school one day after there had been a fight. He is concerned that staff, which is all female at this time, may get injured trying to stop a fight between male students. The Board questioned Mr. Trainor if the school could afford a security officer and Mr. Trainor stated not at the present time without making cuts elsewhere.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Convene to Executive Session Time: 10:15 am

a. Principal's Evaluation

Reconvene to Regular Meeting Time: 11:23 am

Announcement of Action Taken (if any): no action taken

8. ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business the Board agreed to adjourn at 11:25 a.m.

Minutes Recorder: Vivian Covington/Debra Anderson

Steven Schwab, Board Secretary

11/10/16
Date