

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS
OF
NEW ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION HIGH SCHOOL OF OSCEOLA COUNTY, INC.
D/B/A MAIN STREET HIGH SCHOOL**

April 30, 2020

A special meeting of the Board of Directors of New Alternative Education High School of Osceola County, Inc. d/b/a Main Street High School was held on Tuesday, April 30, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. In light of Executive Order 20-69 (Emergency Management- COVID-19 - Local Government Public Meetings), dated March 20, 2020, which allows the Governance Board to “utilize communications media technology, such as telephonic and video conferencing,” *this meeting was conducted by the Governance Board via electronic communication and will be live-streamed on Zoom.*

The following directors were present *via Zoom* video conference: Bruce Gillett, Jim McGregor, Belinda Kirkegard, Charles Barnett and Marvin Pitts. (*Note: Mr. Smith contacted Mr. Jackson by phone during the meeting, indicating that he was having problems dialing in via Zoom, and asked Mr. Jackson to convey his vote on the issue of applying for the PPP funding.*)

Also present *via Zoom* video conference were: Thom Jackson, President & CEO, EdisonLearning; Dr. Sherrell Hobbs, SVP Achievement Operations and Results, EdisonLearning; Christine Perez, Principal Academic Officer; Ken Edwards, Chief Financial Officer, EdisonLearning; Jennifer Anglin, Director of Career and Technical Education Programs, EdisonLearning; Shreya Amin, Data Analyst, EdisonLearning; Chatiela Underwood, Regional Project Manager, EdisonLearning; Jeff Wood, Director, Tripp Scott LLP; and Pamela McCoy, President & Director of Compliance, Charter Service Solutions of Florida, Inc.

The meeting was called to order at 4:02P.M.

A quorum was present.

Mr. Gillett chaired the meeting. Due to technical difficulties, Dr. Hobbs, SVP Achievement Operations and Results assisted Ms. McCoy, who serves as the Board Liaison with recording the minutes.

Mr. Jackson explained the Paycheck Protection Plan (the “PPP”) and stated that both for-profit and nonprofit entities can apply. He explained that up to ten million dollars is available for employers who have less than 500 employees. Mr. Jackson stated that, in light of the short deadline for filing applications, EdisonLearning prepared an application for Main Street subject to Board approval.

The following is the discussion that ensued:

Mr. Gillett stated that he did not believe that the school should apply for the funds, because the intent of the legislation is to help small businesses that might fail as a result of the statewide lockdown resulting from COVID-19. He did not believe the school needed the funds financially and did not want to prevent the opportunity for more deserving entities to receive the funding.

Mrs. Kirkegard agreed with Mr. Gillett, and further stated that if the school did not intend to furlough staff, then the school should not apply for the funds.

Mr. Barnett reminded the Board that the school has substantial reserves and that the PPP is for other people who really need it.

Mr. Jackson confirmed that no employee will be furloughed. He explained that the PPP also could be used to assist with the payment of expenditures for health insurance, utilities, etc. However, he reiterated that the ultimate decision as to whether to apply remained with the Board.

Mrs. Kirkegard asked Mr. Edwards if, as an alternative to the PPP funding, the school could pursue the federal tax credit programs.

Mr. Edwards stated that there are two programs:

1. Employee retention credit of up to 50% of qualifying wages up to \$10,000 per employee.
2. Deferral of actual FICA taxes due for the company through end of year, repayable half at December 31, 2021 and the second half at December 31, 2022. He further explained that funding FICA tax in “real time” avoided significant cash payments on the repayment dates. Since the schools had the funds to pay these taxes today he felt it was in their best interest to pay these taxes currently. He explained that the school has an opportunity to benefit from the PPP; however, it was under no obligation to do so.

Mr. Gillett stated that it is the consensus of the Board that it is not appropriate for them to apply for the PPP Loan. Mr. Jackson reported that Mr. Smith had called and that he was having problems dialing into the meeting using Zoom, but that Mr. Smith agreed with the Board’s consensus not to apply for the PPP funds.

Dr. Hobbs provided a report on the school’s COVID-19 protocols. Dr. Hobbs stated that student participation is being closely monitored daily, that teachers are engaging students *via* Zoom, Microsoft Team, and Google Classroom, and that Ms. Perez is reviewing all lesson plans. She stated that students are receiving both direct and online instruction, consistent with the school’s blended learning model.

Mr. Pitts asked whether students are struggling with the virtual environment. Dr. Hobbs responded that the school continues to use the EdisonLearning online curriculum, which is the same curriculum that the students use when they are in the building; therefore, it is not as much of a struggle for either the students or the teachers. Additionally, Dr. Hobbs explained, that EdisonLearning is providing further professional development for the teachers. She indicated that she and Ms. Perez are contemplating a summer school program for students who experience a gap in instruction.

Mr. Barnett asked if students are having trouble with the internet and access to computers. Dr. Hobbs stated that computers have been ordered for all students who did not have access, and that

some students who do not have access to Wi-Fi in their homes are accessing their lessons by using their phones.

Mr. Gillett asked about testing. Dr. Hobbs explained that all state testing had been terminated for the school year by the Governor, and that the school's end of course exams were accommodated by EdisonLearning's eSchoolware.

Mr. Pitts asked how often teachers engage the students. Dr. Hobbs informed him that they engage the students every day. Ms. Perez added that students are "engaged all day every day, five days a week."

Mr. Jackson asked Dr. Hobbs to inform the Board of the new marketing plan for enrollment. She informed them of the various medium's such as social media, radio, TV, etc., and that the school has begun enrolling students for both the current semester and the Fall. Dr. Hobbs also reported that the school is preparing for a virtual 2020 commencement ceremony.

Mr. Barnett asked about approving the 2020-2021 budget. Mr. Jackson stated that the Board would receive the proposed 2020 – 2021 budget in advance of the June meeting. Mr. Barnett inquired whether the June meeting would be *via* Zoom. Mr. Jackson responded that it was too early to tell, but that expected that it would be *via* Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 4:46 p.m.

By: Brenda K. Keenan
Title: 4/15/2020