

MINUTES OF MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

of

NEW ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION HIGH SCHOOL OF OSCEOLA COUNTY, INC.

D/B/A MAIN STREET HIGH SCHOOL

December 10, 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 Thursday, December 10, 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: Charlie Barnett, Board Chairman; Gary Smith, Treasurer; Jim McGregor; and Marvin Pitts

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; Michelle Schmitt, Senior Controller, EdisonLearning; Jennifer Anglin, Director of Career and Technical Education Programs, EdisonLearning; Dr. Eunice Casey, Director of Specialized Student Services, EdisonLearning; Marines Alvarez, Human Resources, EdisonLearning; Ralph Arza, Principal, Arza and Associates; and Luis Sullivan, Assistant to Mr. Ralph Arza.

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 P.M.

A quorum was present.

The meeting was chaired by Mr. Barnett. Dr. Eunice Casey recorded the Minutes. Mr. Barnett welcomed and thanked everyone for their attendance.

There was no public input.

The first order of business was the Consent Agenda Items. Upon a Motion by Mr. McGregor and seconded by Mr. Pitts, Mr. Barnett reported that all items on the agenda were approved with the exception of the Management Agreement. Items Approved were:

1. Board Meeting Minutes (September 10, 2020)
2. Out of Field Waivers
3. Spring 2021 Education Plan and Assurances - Florida Department of Education

## **Governance Items**

Mr. Barnett shared that the items would be taken out of order as Mr. Pitts had to leave at 5:00 pm. After discussion on the election of Board Officers and terms as stipulated in the By-Laws, the CEO announced that a presentation of the various seats and associated terms is forthcoming at the next Board Meeting. The Chairman clarified that there was the election of Board Officer positions that needed to be completed. The Board took action and approved the following election of Board Officers:

- Vice Chairman – Jim McGregor
- Treasurer – Gary Smith
- Secretary – Belinda Kirkegard

The CEO announced that when the Chairman was elected, he was elected for the remainder of the previous Chair's term which ended in September. Upon a motion by Mr. Pitts and a second by Mr. McGregor, Mr. Charlie Barnett was renewed as Chairman in his own term.

Mr. Smith reported on the Proposal & funding Information for NAE Investments and informed the Board that there was a two-part motion that needed to be completed. The first is that as the new Chairman, the Board needed to approve that Mr. Barnett be an authorized signer on the Center State Bank Accounts and that the Board needed to also approve Mr. Barnett as an authorized signer for the Raymond James Investment Accounts. On a motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. McGregor, the Board approved Mr. Barnett be added on the Center State Account and an authorized signer for the Raymond James Investment Accounts.

On the second issue, the Treasurer stated that with regards to the liquid investments with Raymond James, most assets are now in cash with the exception of one certificate of deposit that will renew in June or July and that there was a need to assess our investment strategies. The Treasurer presented a proposal and motioned that the Board move to an investment that would earn us 1.6% interest in today's environment for one year. This motion was seconded by Mr. McGregor.

Next the CEO clarified and the Treasurer motioned that we needed to have reflected in today's meeting that the PAO of Main Street be issued a debit card for the school. The PAO would be an authorized signer up to a maximum of \$500 and the Senior Controller a Debit Card with a \$5,000 limit to accommodate buying multiple bus passes if and when we get back to full enrollment on campus. Mr. Pitts seconded this motion.

Up for discussion next was the Management Agreement that was included in the Board Packet. The Chairman stated that this item was removed from the consent items as he did not read it and recently learned that it is different from the existing Agreement. The Treasurer motioned and Mr. Pitts seconded that the Board postponed Item C, the Management Agreement until the March Meeting in 2021 so that the Board has an opportunity to review it.

## **Legislative Update**

Mr. Arza presented a Legislative Update in which the Board learned that the main issue to consider is how the election results impact the school. On the Federal level, there will be a new Secretary of Education and that the President-Elect does not support for-profit charter schools. At the state level, the Commissioner of Schools remain and the state senate maintained Republican control and added two seats and that the senate is pro-school choice. Locally, there were three school board members up for elections in Osceola County who are all pro-school choice. The Board was also updated on the *hold harmless* on the school's decreasing enrollment, FTE projections, and the new Executive Order which outlined the requirements for the Spring 2021 Education Plan and Assurances, that is due for Main Street on December 15, 2020.

Next, from a spirit of coaching and support for the leader and using the Florida Principal Leadership Standards, Dr. Hobbs presented The Management Company State of the School's Report. The CEO announced that as opposed to a Principal's School Report, this was a focus on the broader lens of the school from a Management Company's perspective. Dr. Hobbs also informed the Board that in March the Board will be provided with a staff analysis in which they will receive the staff areas of growth and deficiencies. With regards to programming, Dr. Hobbs spoke about the school's average attendance rate of 50%, student engagement, retention, the school's PAO Enrollment Plan, and the importance of meeting the school's enrollment budget. Dr. Hobbs noted that at 271, enrollment is increasing and the school is being supported with the Intentional Pathway to Commendable Plan.

The CEO mentioned that Mrs. Perez brought an issue to his attention that relates to enrollment and attendance that can impact the school. Mrs. Perez summarized that at the last Osceola School County Board Meeting for students to be able to remain virtual, students had to meet 90% attendance, have a minimum of a C in all classes, that they must have a passing score in all standardized testing, and be on schedule. Mrs. Perez cautioned the Board that given our population, these requirements could lead to students leaving as parents are concerned about their students returning to the building. The CEO encouraged Mrs. Perez to revisit the third session of the school-day option, to accommodate students who are required to stay home while their parents work, and make up those hours in the evening.

Next Dr. Hobbs presented on the school's facility and updated the board on Property Works efforts with regards to the plumbing issue and the turning off of the water by the city that happened over the weekend.

Next on the agenda was Mrs. Alvarez from Human Resources, who mentioned about the challenges of the CTE Program and apprised the Board with regards to the employment of additional staffing and the resignation of one employee at Main Street. Mrs. Perez also updated the Board on staffing at the school and the issues surrounding the decrease in the school's graduation rate.

Next up was the Financial Report. Ms. Schmitt reported on the financial affairs of the school and how the *hold harmless* impacts Main Street. Ms. Schmitt reported on the meeting with the State Department of Education with regards to providing clarity on the recent Executive Order and the allocation of funds across the district. Ms. Schmitt also discussed the decrease in the number of students requiring transportation and the associated decrease in transportation funding. Ms. Schmitt, the Chairman and the Treasurer also engaged in a detailed discussion on the Statement

of Revenue and Expenditures, and possible accruals. The Chairman also requested more frequent updates with regards to enrollment. Upon a motion by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. McGregor, the Financials was accepted.

**Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:21 pm.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charles D. Barnett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'C' and 'B'.

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: Chairman\_\_\_\_\_