



TRUE NORTH
CLASSICAL ACADEMY

TRUE NORTH

truenorthcharter.org

Board Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, October 7, 2015 ♦ 10:00am
9393 Sunset Drive • Miami, FL 33173

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- I. Opening Session
 - A. Call to Order & Roll Call

Call to order at 10:08am

Present: Luis Diaz, Rudy Pages, Ernie Rodriguez

Others: Marc Snyder, Curtis Fuller, Mark Levine

Letter of resignation was received from Mr. Jeb Bush, Jr. effective immediately, and will be removed from the Board roster.

- B. Agenda - Approval of Agenda

Moved by Mr. Pages, Seconded by Mr. Rodriguez. Approved unanimously.

- II. Reports
 - A. School Progress Report

Enrollment is looking good. Current enrollment is 181. We have some spots in 1st or 2nd grades, but in the other grades we have a waiting list. Word of mouth advertising has been successful. The community is starting to hear positive reputation. Mr. Diaz mentioned he also has been hearing positive things in the community. Maximum enrollment is 188 for this year.

The second grade teacher put in her resignation and we had the part time reading coach/gifted/ESE teacher who is a veteran teacher want the position. We interviewed others but felt she was the best fit given her background, desire to become full time, and she already went through our professional development program. The classroom is going well and in the end she was an upgrade.

The PTO has started very strong. We just had our first event, and had about 400 people show up at the park. The people participating were parents, students, friends, etc. Catered lunch. Games. Not meant to be a fundraiser, just a community get-together.

Oct. 22 the founder of Mason will come to do a presentation on classical education.

Oct. 29 Halloween based event where students dress up as a historical figure.

Nov. 6 will be the first fundraiser which will be an obstacle course event where students get pledges.

Silent and Live auction is in the works for the big annual fundraiser.

The board asked that they be kept apprised of the dates of these events so that they can attend when available.

ESAC committee will oversee the school improvement plan. Consists of about ten people including teachers, parents, student. ESAC = Educational Excellence School Advisory Committee. They are responsible for approving and overseeing the implementation of the school improvement plan. We have decided on a reading goal for our students.

FTE Survey is next week. We are working hard to ensure everyone is coded correctly for funding purposes. Progress reports went out last week. Academically the kids are doing well and as issues come up we address them as soon as possible.

Six students have 504s. 3 Students are ESE students. 40+ students are gifted.

Board asked about how teacher evaluations are occurring. Mr. Snyder explained he has an app on his iPad that he uses for walk through evaluations.

B. Finance Report

Written financials were provided to the Board in the Board Packet.

Financial report indicated that the costs are starting to go down.

There have been numerous unexpected capital expenses in order to get the building up to date.

We are now to the point where the revenue coming from the district will more closely match the expenses.

Building Hope will be meeting with the Principal to review the budget later today to ensure that the budget is representative of the expenditures.

ADP is handling payroll. They have been requiring the school wire the payroll because the school doesn't have a credit history. We are currently working on a corporate guarantee through the foundation so that ADP will be comfortable with doing ACH transfers from the school's account instead of through the wire process currently being used.

We knew that capital expenditures were going to be more. Now that is coming to an end, we need to come up with a more comprehensive budget.

We should receive the first disbursement for the grant this week, which will be just under \$75,000.

We anticipate for the next meeting that we will have a budget for approval.

III. Consent Agenda

A. Approve Minutes from August 21, 2015

B. ByLaws Update to correct typo in Article 5.6 / 5.3

Moved by Mr. Diaz, seconded by Mr. Pages to approve the consent agenda and all items. Approved unanimously.

IV. Board Discussion / Actions

A. Parent Contract

Moved by Mr. Diaz, Seconded by Mr. Rodriguez to approve the changes to the parent contract as defined in the Board Packet to align the contract to the the district requests.

B. Out of Field Teachers

Mr. Snyder explained that the some ESOL students at the school have teachers who do not have ESOL endorsements. Therefore, the teachers need to have a waiver and work on getting their certification.

Moved by Mr. Diaz, Seconded by Mr. Pages to approve the following out of field teacher placements. Approved unanimously:

Jodele Rivera - Out of Field for ESOL and Gifted

Beatriz Roca - Out of Field for ESOL and Gifted

Teryliz Aguirre - Out of Field for ESOL

C. Appoint an individual to facilitate parental involvement

Discussed the requirement and what the law requires for the position.

Moved by Mr. Pages, seconded by Mr. Rodriguez to elect Mr. Snyder to serve as the individual to facilitate parental involvement at True North Classical Academy.

D. Approval of additional operating loans

Mr. Diaz explained that the operating deficits which have occurred have been covered by loans from the foundation, but that has been exhausted, so additional funds may be necessary. Mr. Michael Bileca has agreed to loan funds to the school at 0-percent interest and no fees. Therefore we recommend signing a promissory note so that it is clear that there is the agreement so that it is clear what the relationship is and the repayment terms.

Moved by Mr. Pages and Seconded by Mr. Rodriguez to give Mr. Diaz permission to sign the promissory note on behalf of True North Classical Academy. Approved unanimously.

There was a discussion regarding if additional documentation will be required for the corporate guarantee to ADP. Mr. Diaz explained that there will likely be additional documentation for this coming up.

V. Next Steps

Discussed the board meeting schedule. Discussed canceling the next Board Meeting. There was a discussion of the requirement that we meet 10-months out of the year, and that board members need to commit to the board schedule that was previously agreed upon. To help this there was also a discussion about recruiting an additional Board member. Mr. Diaz asked the Board members to consider individuals who might be effective board members for adding in the future.

Consensus was to cancel the October 16 Board meeting and that the next board meeting on November 20.

VI. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at at 11:13am.



Approved by Governing Board November 20, 2015
Signed by Luis Diaz, Governing Board Chairperson