

January 5, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the **CHARTER ELEMENTARY MIDDLE SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD** was called to order by Chair McGovern, on Tuesday, January 5, 2021, at 6:05 P.M. in the City Clerk's Conference Room at the Charles F. Dodge City Center, 601 City Center Way, Pembroke Pines, Florida. The Charter Elementary Middle School Advisory Board is holding a "virtual" meeting using communications media technology ("CMT"). On November 18, 2020 the City of Pembroke Pines passed **EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 1952**: Commission is hereby authorized, during a declared public health emergency, to arrange for the City Commission, and all Boards and Committees to meet electronically. In accordance with this order, and due to prohibition on public access to City Hall because of the risk to public health, the city is holding the meeting virtually.

2020-2021 CHARTER ELEMENTARY/MIDDLE SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD:

PRESENT: Chair McGovern, Vice Chair Dawkins, Members Crute, Laljie, Gill, Siddiqui, Perez, Sabniveesu, Osorio and Baranwal, Alternate Members Cambry, Phillips and Sylvester

ABSENT: Members Laljie and Osorio

ALSO PRESENT: Aner Gonzalez, Assistant City Manager; City Comptroller Jonathan Bonilla; Principals Augustin, Chance, Castellano and Libidinsky (all via WebEx); Board Secretary Katherine Borgstrom

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Assistant City Manager Aner Gonzalez spoke about the budgeting process for 2021-2022 which begins in January. He asked the board to consider meeting on Tuesday, June 1 to hear the full budget presentation and give board approval to send to

the City Commission for final approval. He introduced Matt Kefford, Director of Technology Services Department.

Mr. Kefford spoke about the improvements and up-grades the City has implemented in recent years in the technology are for the charter schools. Mr. Kefford also reported that the school has provided over 2000 laptops to students.

Jonathan Bonilla, City Comptroller, spoke about fundraising efforts and the issues with the Covid and CDC health restrictions. He thanked the parents for their response to the parent donation, which has raised over \$27,000 to date. He reported that \$1,400 has been raised through the Amazon Smiles website. He stated that even in these difficult times, there is still strong support from the business sponsors, which has raised over \$24,000 to date.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion by Member Crute, seconded by Member Siddiqui, to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2020 meeting as received, passed unanimously.

EXCUSED ABSENCES:

There were no requests for excused absences.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

Principal Augustin introduced Maria Garcia, who spoke about the Elementary Guide to Proactive Discipline and Alan Pfau, who spoke about the Middle School Guide to Proactive Discipline and the Middle School Parent Student Handbook. The board discussed the three documents. Dr. Libidinsky presented the Wellness Policy for 2020-2021 and the board discussed. Dr. Libidinsky recognized Chair McGovern for serving

on the Wellness Committee for the Elementary Middle School Board and also Mr. Javier Diaz, from Chartwells.

Principal Augustin spoke about the third parent survey that was just completed and the results are being gathered which will allow the schools to plan for the third quarter and to see which students will be in person learning and which will continue with e-learning. She reported that the Charter School System did present the 2021 Spring Education Plan, with Assurances requested to the Broward School District and the state and is awaiting their response to the plan. Principal Chance gave a report on the spring sports for middle school. He reported that the county had just approved opening football season tryouts for next week and there will be information forward to parents concerning health guidelines and how the health regulations will be handled. The county will consider basketball and soccer seasons after there is a determination on how the football season was handled. Principal Augustin provided a QR code for parents to use to sign in for meeting attendance/volunteer hours and stated the code would be available on Wednesday, January 6 from 7am to 5pm only for parents to sign in for the meeting tonight.

A motion by Member Gill, seconded by Member Siddiqui, to approve the 2020-2021 Elementary School Guide to Proactive Discipline and to send to City Commission for final approval, passed unanimously.

A motion by Vice Chairman Dawkins, seconded by Member Siddiqui, to approve the 2020-2021 Middle School Guide to Proactive Discipline and to send to City Commission for final approval, passed unanimously.

A motion by Member Siddiqui, seconded by Member Gill, to approve the 2020-2021 Middle School Parent Handbook and to send to City Commission for final approval, passed unanimously.

A motion by Member Gill, seconded by Member Crute, to approve the 2020-2021 Charter School Wellness Policy and to send to City Commission for final approval, passed unanimously.

OPEN FORUM:

Parents spoke concerning the physical classrooms. Questions centered around testing and assessments, students returning to in class learning for third grading period, tutoring or additional help for students struggling with learning situation, how and when FSA will be administered by the State, and what other options for volunteer hours are available. Principals answered questions, some answers are still not known even by the administration and parents were encouraged to virtually attend parent seminars that are being offered to qualify for volunteer hours. During the Open Forum the 2021-2022 School Lottery was also discussed. It will run from January 10 through March 10 and parents of current students will need to use the lottery to re-enroll for the following school year. Those who spoke were Scarlie Monestime, Kendra Merchant, Neree Jean, Robert Zelaya, Leslie St. Surin, Inez Rohrer, Barbara Wright, Sandra Diaz, Donna Escel, Gisella Cabrera, Shirley Andreades, Ceci Albornoz, Sarah Gutierrez, Mariapolas Yodice and board member Ana Perez.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion by Member Gill, seconded by Vice Chair Dawkins, to adjourn the meeting at 7:39 PM passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

Katherine Borgstrom

Katherine Borgstrom
Board Secretary

ADJOURNED: 7:39 P.M.

APPROVED: 2/2/2021