

February 2, 2021

The Regular Meeting of the **CHARTER ELEMENTARY MIDDLE SCHOOL ADVISORY BOARD** was called to order by Chair McGovern, on Tuesday, February 2, 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").

CITY HALL IS CURRENTLY CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC DUE TO THE COVID 19 CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC AND HEALTH ALERTS FROM THE CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL (CDC). GOVERNOR RON DESANTIS' EXECUTIVE ORDER 20-316 EXTENDED THE FLORIDA STATE EMERGENCY ORDER FOR ANOTHER 60 DAYS EFFECTIVE DECEMBER 29, 2020. PEMBROKE PINES EMERGENCY ORDER 1952 WAS ADOPTED NOVEMBER 18, 2020 REGARDING THE CONTINUATION OF CONDUCTING PUBLIC MEETINGS ON AN ELECTRONIC VIRTUAL PLATFORM USING COMMUNICATIONS MEDIA TECHNOLOGY ("CMT"). THE CITY OF PEMBROKE PINES UTILIZES THE CISCO WEBEX VIRTUAL PLATFORM. 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, Members Crute, Laljie, Gill, Osorio, Siddiqui, Baranwal, Alternate Members Cambry, Phillips and Sylvester (all via WebEx)

ABSENT: Vice Chair Dawkins, Members Perez and Sabniveesu

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

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Jonathan Bonilla, City Comptroller, stated there was no City Manager's Report for this meeting. He spoke about fundraising efforts and the issues with the Covid and CDC health restrictions. He reported that the fund raising effort of January 31 at Just Salads was a success and that each Sunday through April, Just Salads will donate 25% of proceeds from orders from the Charter System and each order will also give the

family one credit volunteer hour. He also told parents to be watching for information concerning another fund raising event on February 15 at Tijuana Flats.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion by Member Crute, seconded by Member Siddiqui, to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2021 meeting as received, passed unanimously.

EXCUSED ABSENCES:

A motion by Member Osorio, seconded by Member Baranwal, to excuse Vice Chair Dawkins and Member Sabniveesu from the February meeting passed unanimously.

PRINCIPAL'S REPORT:

Principal Castellano introduced Matt Kefford, IT Director for the City of Pembroke Pines, who spoke about the concerns over the students using their school email accounts to log on to other software, some that is not education focused. He explained why the City cannot put restrictions on the school email as it is a system wide platform and offered alternatives. Principal Castellano also informed the parents that at one of the upcoming workshops Mr. Kefford will be speaking about internet safety to help address parents' concerns. Mr. Castellano did emphasize that some platforms, such as YouTube were needed in order for students to be able to access certain videos for learning purposes. Mr. Castellano also spoke about the upcoming Raising Positive Children Seminar in March and the workshops, indicating these will be online and parents will receive volunteer hours for attending. He displayed the QR code for parents to report their attendance at the meeting and the link for reporting attendance on the school website was also listed in the chat. The link will be good through February 3 at

6:00 PM. A revised middle school sports schedule was shared with the parents and rules for attending and participating were discussed.

OPEN FORUM:

Many parents' questions centered on testing and assessments, students returning to physical class learning, how and when FSA will be administered by the State, and what other options for volunteer hours are available. Protocols for informing parents of a positive COVID student were discussed, as well as how the school will handle information to parents for students who are falling behind in their grades. Parents were reminded that if they have an individual situation with their student, the best first step was to reach out to the teacher and then administration if the situation is not resolved. Principals stated that the FSA is not the only assessment used for promotion, that there are constant assessments ongoing that the teachers use for assessing the readiness of the child to promote to the next grade and that always the parents are contacted and the situation is discussed so that the best possible solution can be worked out for the student's progress. 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. Parents were reminded to re-enroll using the 2021-2022 School Lottery, which will run through March 10, and that parents of current students must use the lottery to re-enroll for the following school year. Many parents also complimented the school and City staff for their hard work, tireless efforts and availability to the students and parents through these difficult days. Parents who spoke during the Open Forum were Aditi Quadri, Chae Kim, Rose Laure Mathews, Essa Kennedy, Shirrey Noel, Giselle Gonzalez, M Osturan,

Janna Galvin, M. Henry, Crystal Mizell Nemorin, Octivia Jacob, Shirley Andrades, Cheryl Camara, Genevieve Heniquez, Juliet Henry Pitter, Vamshidhar Dudi, Marc Rodriguez, Leslie Ann Clark, Roxana Fonseca, Yacsel Tejidor, Carlos Avila, Derry & Nicole Jones, Anand Acharya, Sandra Vanessa Guevaza, Keillyn Powell, Joseph Williams, Ambreen Suhail, Sheetal Agache, Shannon Evans, Denis Coutinho, Member Ron Osorio, and Member Gahodery Cambry.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

There was no new business.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion by Member Osorio, seconded by Member Siddiqui, to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 PM passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted

Katherine Borgstrom

Katherine Borgstrom
Board Secretary

ADJOURNED: 7:46 P.M.
APPROVED: 3/2/2021