

MEETING MINUTES

Name of Foundation: Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc.
 Board Meeting: June 25, 2021

School(s):

Bonita Springs Charter School

Collier Charter Academy

Gateway Intermediate Charter School

Manatee Charter School

Cape Coral Charter School

Gateway Charter School

Gateway Charter High School

Six Mile Charter Academy

The minutes of Sunshine Law meetings need not be verbatim transcripts of the meeting. These minutes are a brief summary of the events of the meeting.

Date:	Start	End	Next Meeting:	Next time:	Prepared by:
June 25, 2021	12:18pm	12:44pm	August 24, 2021	1230p	R. Weaver
Meeting Location:					
Schools listed above					
Attended by:					
Board Members: Ken Haiko, Chairman Dennis Clark, Director Billie Miller, Director Paul Sallarulo, Director Tom Wheeler, Treasurer Pat Smith, Director Absent: John O'Brien, Vice-Chair			Other Attendees: Rita Weaver, Board Governance Manager, CSUSA Levi Williams, Board Attorney Dr. Eddie Ruiz, State Director CSUSA Dr. Patrick Galatowitsch, Area 2 Deputy Director		

CALL TO ORDER

Pursuant to public notice, the meeting commenced at 12:18 pm with a Call to Order by Chairman Ken Haiko. Roll call was taken, and quorum established.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE

Meeting Minutes

- The board reviewed the meeting minutes for the April 15, 2021 Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. board meeting.

MOTION: Motion was made by Tom Wheeler and seconded by Paul Sallarulo to approve the April 15, 2021 meeting of the Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. board, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (6-0, 1 absent)

II. CSUSA Reports

State Director Update

- Rita Weaver, CSUSA, reported to the board CSUSA has had some staffing changes and discussed the the staffing of other staff member, Steve Epstein, David McKnight, and April Williams who will be Directors of School Support supporting talent acquisition specifically targeting the goal of 100% certified teachers at schools. Additionally, Nate Mariano will be the Director of ELL. Dr. Ruiz announced also that CSUSA is expanding Areas and adding a 5th Deputy and those Area Deputies will be as follows: Area 1 Rachel Windler-Freitag, Area 2 Dr. Patrick Galowtowitsch, Area 3 Jodi Evans, Area 4 Dr. Sara Capwell, and Area 5 Christina Hamlin.
- The Board had a robust discussion regarding certified teachers and ELL students/teachers and asked to bring back the following: Julie Alm to present, Certified Teacher Report: those teachers with a 4-year degree, statement of eligibility, fully certified, and out of field.

Innovative Education Model

Innovative Learning Pilot

- Rita Weaver reviewed with the board the new legislature from the session which should be signed by July 1, 2021, by Governor DeSantis. Senate Bill 1028 provides for curriculum changes to align with what is being done under the current Executive Order. Senate Bill 1108 creates the Innovative Blended Learning and Real-Time Student Assessment Pilot Program, which involves the combination of in-person and remote students in the same classroom environment. Mrs. Weaver outlined that CSUSA intends to leverage its best teachers and Principals to implement blended learning to enhance its core curriculum.

MOTION: Motion was made by Tom Wheeler and seconded by Pat Smith to approve and education model that has a blended learning element, for the Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. portfolio of schools, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (6-0, 1 absent)

MOTION: Motion was made by Tom Wheeler and seconded by Pat Smith to direct CSUSA to apply on behalf of Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc., for the Innovative Blended Learning Pilot with the Florida Department of Education, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (6-0, 1 absent)

Spring Surveys

- Yolanda Thomas, Director of Strategy, reviewed the Spring Survey results for CSUSA as a network, and the Renaissance Charter School, Inc. portfolio of schools. The board requested year to year comparison percentages in the survey results moving forward.
- The Board reviewed the surveys, and all questions were answered by Ms. Thomas.

III. FINANCIALS

Q3 Financial Review

- The Board reviewed the Q3 Financial Review with Penny Walcott.
- Ms. Walcott reviewed the financials with Treasurer Dennis Clark at a separate meeting and Mr. Walker reiterated he met with the finance team and they reviewed the financials line by line item, discussing revenue and expense, and the shortfall in enrollment by school, and all questions were answered by Ms. Walcott.

MOTION: Motion was made by Paul Sallarulo and seconded by Billie Miller to approve the Q3 FY21 Financial Review of the Southwest Charter Foundatoin, Inc., as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (6-0, 1 absent)

FY22 Budget Review

- Penny Walcott reviewed the FY22 Budgets for the Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. portfolio of schools. Mr. Clark, the Board's Treasurer, reviewed the budgets in a prior pre-call and reviewed the projections and assumptions for each school, as well as capital outlay and teacher salaries.

MOTION: Motion was made by Billie Miller and seconded by Tom Wheeler to approve the FY22 Budget Review for the Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. portfolio of schools, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (6-0, 1 absent)

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Charter Growth Funding Memorandum of Understanding

- The Board reviewed the MOU and GEER School allocations for their schools and discussed filing the MOU on time.

MOTION: Motion was made by Dennis Clark and seconded by Tom Wheeler to ratify the Charter Growth Funding Memorandum of Understanding for Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. eligible schools, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (6-0, 1 absent)

Teacher Certificate Extensions

- The Board reviewed the extension letters for teacher certificates that were expiring to determine warranting an extension of the expiration date.

MOTION: Motion was made by Tom Wheeler and seconded by Paul Sallarulo to ratify the teacher certificate extension letters for the Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. portfolio of schools, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (6-0, 1 absent)

ESSER II Grant Budgets

- The Board tabled the ESSER II Grant Budgets item.

Litigation Update

- Board Attorney, Levi Williams, updated the board that there is a hearing on the 30th regarding the litigation and Bonita Springs Charter School.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Prodigy ELC Enrollment Agreement

- Rita Weaver updated the board of legislation, Senate Bill 1028 that allows for and enrollment preference with a contracted ELC (early learning center). The board reviewed the enrollment agreement with Prodigy ELC.
- The Board discussed University authorizers also in Senate Bill 1028.

MOTION: Motion was made by Dennis Clark and seconded by Paul Sallarulo to approve enrollment agreement with Prodigy ELC and Southwest Charter School, Inc., portfolio of schools, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (6-0, 1 absent)

Mental Health Plan

- The board reviewed the mental health plan and the updates in accordance with 2021 legislation.

MOTION: Motion was made by Tom Wheeler and seconded by Billie Miller to approve the Mental Health Plan for the Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc., portfolio of schools, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (6-0, 1 absent)

Parent/Student Handbook

- The Board reviewed the Parent/Student handbook and the policies contained within.

MOTION: Motion was made by Tom Wheeler and seconded by Pat Smith to approve the Parent/Student handbook for the Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc., portfolio of schools, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (6-0, 1 absent)

Security Policies

- The board reviewed the security policies which include threat assessment policy, which includes compliance with the involuntary evaluation language in FS590, requirements, and documentation, the mobile tool (Alyssa's law-using AT&T Mutualink, one of the state's pre-approved vendors), School Environmental Safety Incident Policy, and Active Assailant Policy and the Master Security Policy which meets and exceeds the requirements set forth in FS1006.12 (MSD Legislation).

MOTION: Motion was made by Dennis Clark and seconded by Billie Miller to approve the Security Policies in accordance with FS1006.12 for the Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc., portfolio of schools, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (6-0, 1 absent)

Reading Plan

- The board reviewed the CSUSA Reading Plan.

MOTION: Motion was made by Billie Miller and seconded by Pat Smith to adopt CSUSA Reading Plan for the Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc., portfolio of schools, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (6-0, 1 absent)

2021-2022 Board Meeting Schedule

- The Board reviewed the 2021-2022 Board Meeting Calendar.

MOTION: Motion was made by Tom Wheeler and seconded by Billie Miller to approve the 2021-2022 Board Meeting Calendar for Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc., as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (6-0, 1 absent)


VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- The board chair called for public comments. There were no public comments

VII. ADJOURMENT

- Paul Sallarulo thanked Ken Haiko for his tireless efforts for the Board.

MOTION: Chair Haiko adjourned the June 25th, 2021 Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. meeting at 12:45pm.



Ken Haiko, Chairman

Date: 8-11-21