

MEETING MINUTES

Name of Foundation: Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc.

Board Meeting: August 11, 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:
August 11, 2021	12:30pm	1:24pm	September 8, 2021	1130am	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 John O'Brien, Vice-Chair Absent: none			Other Attendees: Rita Weaver, Board Governance Manager, CSUSA Levi Williams, Board Attorney Dr. David Christensen, Chief of Schools, CSUSA Dr. Eddie Ruiz, State Director CSUSA Dr. Patrick Galatowitsch, Area 2 Deputy Director Dr. Sara Capwell, Area 3 Deputy Director Principals and Parent Facilitators at above schools		

CALL TO ORDER

Pursuant to public notice, the meeting commenced at 12:30 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 June 25, 2021 Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. board meeting.

MOTION: Motion was made by Dennis Clark and seconded by Pat Smith to approve the August 11, 2021 meeting of the Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. board, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (7-0)

II. CSUSA Reports

State Director Report

- Dr. Ruiz advised the board that summer bridge programs wrapped up in July and that the schools have had successful IMPACT events with positive feedback from teachers. Dr. Ruiz also reported out to the Board that the first day of school at most of the schools were this week. Dr. Ruiz was visiting multiple schools and enrollment is looking good at those schools he visited.

School Accountability Data – Opt In

- Dr. Christiansen updated the board on accountability and assessments within the cohort of schools for Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. and across the state of Florida.
- Rita Weaver reviewed the FDOE Order No. 2021-EO-02, issued on April 9, 2021, and the FDOE Memorandum dated July 29 20221 and State Board of Education Rule 6A-1.09981, Florida Administrative Code issued that outlines the process for opting into grades. The DOE will not be issuing grades, and CSUSA reviewed the data released and after an analysis of the data which included a decision tree, has recommended the following schools opt into receiving a grade:
 - Gateway Charter School
 - Mid-Cape Global Academy
 - Manatee Charter School
- Billie Miller and the board asked that the messaging be consistent and is important regarding the opting in of school grades.

MOTION: Motion was made by Billie Miller and seconded by John O'Brien to approve opting into school grades as per Florida Administrative Code Rule 6A-1.0998 for Gateway Charter School, Mid-Cape Global Academy, and Manatee Charter School, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (7-0)

III. FINANCIALS

- There were no Financials.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

ESSER II Purchase Orders

- The board reviewed the ESSER II Purchase Orders over \$50,000 included in previously approved budgets.

MOTION: A motion was made by Dennis Clark and seconded by John O'Brien to approve the ESSER II Purchase Orders, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (7-0)

Lakewood Ranch Charter Contract

- Dr. Eddie Ruiz updated the board that the Manatee School Board had approved the charter contract earlier in the day unanimously. Dr. Ruiz and Dr. Christiansen outlined the development and school plan for this charter.

MOTION: Motion was made by Billie Miller and seconded by Tom Wheeler to ratify the Lakewood Ranch Charter Contract between Manatee School Board District and Southwest Charter Foundation, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (7-0)

Parent/Student Handbook Addendum

- The board reviewed the parent/student handbook welcome back addendum and discussed COVID protocols, as well as the guidance given in the Florida DOE memo regarding masks. The board also discussed the staff mask mandate.
- Billie Miller was conflicted regarding rising COVID cases, but does not support a mask mandate and asks that language is "strongly recommend the wearing of masks for students".

MOTION: A motion was made by Dennis Clark and seconded by Pat Smith to approve the FY22 Parent/Student Handbook Addendum, with the requested edits, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (7-0)

V. NEW BUSINESS

Out of Field Waivers

- The board reviewed the Out of Field Waivers and discussed the process of completing the waivers. The board requested that to the extent possible, the board wants teachers to be certified in the subjects they are teaching.

MOTION: A motion was made by Tom Wheelerr and seconded by Billie Miller to approve the Out of Field Waivers, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (7-0)

Principal/Parent Facilitator and Conflict Designee Approval

- The board reviewed the list of Principals and Parent Facilitator/Conflict Designees.

MOTION: A motion was made by Dennis Clark and seconded by John O'Brien to appoint the Principal an Parent Facilitator/Conflict Designees, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (7-0)

Evaluations

- The board reviewed the CSUSA Instructional Evaluation Plan and the CSUSA Administrative Evaluation Plan for the FY22 School Year. The plan meets the statute requirements.

MOTION: A motion was made by Billie Miller and seconded by John O'Brien to approve the CSUSA Instructional Evaluation Plan and the CSUSA Administrative Evaluation Plan, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (7-0)

Student Progression Plan

- The board reviewed the CSUSA Student Progression Plan for the following district:
 - Collier
- The board reviewed the County District student progression plan for the districts not mentioned above.

MOTION: A motion was made by Billie Miller and seconded by John O'Brien to approve the CSUSA Student Progression Plan for the Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. portfolio of schools in the following county: Collier, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (7-0)

CSUSA Compensation Performance Plan

- The board discussed the CSUSA Compensation Performance Plan. Several board members expressed their dissatisfaction with the amounts for the average salary and adders for graduate degrees. The board discussed the consequences of not approving the plan which included the schools being out of compliance on this benchmark for the districts. Rachel Windler-Freitag outlined the statutory requirements met within the plan.
- The board requested that CSUSA use creativity to increase teacher compensation as a way to recruit and retain teachers. The board was reluctant to approve.
- The board discussed the influx of residents to Florida from other states and wanted to be able to entice quality teachers.

MOTION: A motion was made by Paul Sallarulo and seconded by Pat Smith to approve the CSUSA Compensation Performance Plan, as presented. Motion was approved. (4 yay-Haiko, Smith, Sallarulo, Clark to 3 nay-Miller, Wheeler, O'Brien)

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 August 11, 2021 Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. meeting at 1:24pm.



Ken Haiko, Chairman

Date: 9-30-21