

# MEETING MINUTES

Name of Foundation: Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc.

Board Meeting: February 2, 2022

**Schools:**

Bonita Springs Charter School	Gateway Intermediate Charter School
Mid-Cape Global Academy	Gateway Charter High School
Collier Charter Academy	Manatee Charter School
Gateway Charter School	Six Mile Charter Academy

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

Date:	Start	End	Next Meeting:	Next time:	Prepared by:
February 2, 2022	12:01 p.m.	12:38 p.m.	March 11, 2022	12:30pm	M. Llanes/R. Weaver
<b>Meeting Location:</b>					
Schools listed above					
<b>Attended by:</b>					
<b>Board Members:</b> Ken Haiko, Chairman John O'Brien, Vice-Chairman Billie Miller, Director Paul Sallarulo, Director Pat Smith, Director			<b>Other Attendees:</b> Principals and Parent Facilitators at above schools Rita Weaver, Board Governance Director, CSUSA Dr. David Christiansen, Chief of Schools Dr. Eddie Ruiz, State Director of Florida Penny Walcott, Finance Director Maggie Llanes, Executive Coordinator for Board Governance		
<b>Absent:</b> Tom Wheeler, Treasurer Dennis Clark, Director					

**CALL TO ORDER**

- Pursuant to public notice, the meeting commenced at 12:01 p.m. with a Call to Order by Chairman Ken Haiko. Roll call was taken, and quorum established.
- Liza Ferreira, Sr. Manager of Secondary Programming and Performance discussed with the board the goals of the State Directors' Retreat bringing together all CSUSA State Directors to review the Mid-Year Analysis for all states collaborating and making suggestions for improvement mid-year and implementing of strategic initiatives to improve growth and proficiency. Board academic advisor Billie Miller will attend the analysis meeting and report back to the board.

**I. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

- Board Chair Ken Haiko called for public comments. There were no public comments.

**II. ADMINISTRATIVE**

Approval of the January 11, 2022, Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. Board Meeting Minutes

- The board reviewed the meeting minutes.

**MOTION: Motion was made by Billie Miller and seconded by Pat Smith to approve the meeting minutes from January 11, 2022, Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. board meeting, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (4-0, 2 Absent)**

### III. CSUSA REPORTS

#### School Presentation

- Amber Jensen, Principal at Gateway Intermediate High Charter School introduced the board to three students enrolled in their Cambridge Program at the school and they each expressed their feelings about the program and the school itself.
- Thomas Martin (student), shared with the board how he is enrolled in the FECU Program from Cambridge, and his experience has been outstanding. He mentioned that teachers gain a personal connection with the students in the classroom, and they feel like part of a family. It has also prepared him for college life, and he has learned responsibility and how to manage time effectively. He is engaging in the medical field and hopes to be a doctor one day.
- Pily Leon (student), shared with the board that when she started at the school in 8<sup>th</sup> grade, at first, she was extremely nervous since she had just come from Columbia, and she never thought she could get into an exclusive program like Cambridge. She thanked one of her teachers who encouraged her to apply. She got in and now has even received the honor of a granted scholarship. She appreciates the one on one with all her teachers. She plans to attend the University of South Florida in Tampa and engage in international business marketing, and plans to graduate in the year 2025, which is much faster.
- Bailey Siglage (student), a senior in the school who started in 4<sup>th</sup> grade, quickly realized the drastic difference from middle to high school. She quickly learned how to manage deadlines, which will help her in the future to perform satisfactorily.
- Principal Jensen shared with the board that this school is the only high school in Lee County which offers a Cambridge diploma by 2<sup>nd</sup> year in school. Staff meet with students on a one-on-one basis to coordinate their classes. They are provided with a white jacket and when they demonstrate they have passed the Cambridge Exam they have their name placed on a plaque on the wall. The number of students keeps increasing every year. Board Member Pat Smith thanked and congratulated them.

#### State Director Report

- Chief of Schools, Dr. David Christiansen thanked Principal Amber Jensen and the staff at Gateway Charter High School for their work with the children. Dr. Christiansen reported out the agenda for the Mid-Year review and meeting.
- Dr. Eddie Ruiz updated the board that Gateway Charter High School had the best graduation ceremony in the network and thanked Principal Jensen for her mindset and successful Cambridge Program.
- Dr. Ruiz updated the board on the Innovation Pilot Program that several schools are participating in and outlined the parameters of the program.

### IV. FINANCIALS

- There were no Financials.

### V. OLD BUSINESS

#### New School Opening Update

- The board reviewed the management agreement for Lakewood Ranch Preparatory Academy and Board Attorney Levi Williams has reviewed it.
- Jim Lonergan, VP of Development shared some details with the board regarding the site and building for the school and the construction timeline.

**MOTION: Motion was made by Paul Sallarulo and seconded by Billie Miller to approve the management agreement for Lakewood Ranch Preparatory Academy, Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc., and Charter Schools USA, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.**

**VI. NEW BUSINESS**

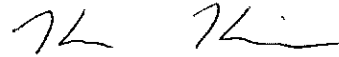
Class Size Appeal

- The board reviewed the FLDOE Memo on class size requirements and the class size appeals that were filed with the DOE (Department of Education).

**MOTION: Motion was made by Pat Smith and seconded by John O'Brien to ratify the class size appeals filed with the FLDOE, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.**

**VII. ADJOURMENT**

- Chairman Haiko thanked the board and staff and reminded them of the next board meeting date on March 11, 2022, at 12:30pm. Hearing no objections he adjourned the February 2, 2022, Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. Board Meeting at 12:38 p.m.



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Ken Haiko, Chairman

Date: 3.11.22