

# MEETING MINUTES

Name of Foundations: Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc.

Board Meeting: **August 14, 2024**

Schools and Principals:

Bonita Springs Charter School - Carroll	Lakewood Ranch Preparatory Academy -Cendan
Collier Charter Academy - Thompson	Manatee Charter School - Morris
Gateway Charter School – Wade/Jenson	Mid-Cape Global Academy – Lemos
Six Mile Charter Academy - Laine	

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 14, 2024	12:30PM EST	1:15PM EST	September 25, 2024	12:30PM	R. Weaver/ L. Peake

**Meeting Location: At Each School Above**

**Attended by:**

**Board Members:**

Ken Haiko, Chairman  
 Tom Wheeler, Vice Chair and Secretary  
 Paul Sallarulo, Treasurer  
 Dennis Clark  
 Billie Miller, Director

**Absent:**

Pat Smith, Director

**Other Attendees:**

Principals and Parent Facilitators at above listed schools (or their designees)  
 Levi Williams, Esq. - Board Attorney  
 Dr. Eddie Ruiz, State Superintendent of Florida  
 Rachel Windler-Freitag, Area 2 Deputy Director  
 Nirvani Ramnath Area 3 Deputy Director  
 Lianne Morton, Finance Director  
 Rita Weaver, Sr. Director of Board Governance, CSUSA  
 Leah Peake, Board Governance Manager

## CALL TO ORDER

- Pursuant to public notice, the meeting commenced at 12:00 PM EST with a Call to Order by Vice-Chairman Tom Wheeler. Roll call was taken, and quorum established.
- Pledge of Allegiance – Vice-Chairman, Tom Wheeler led the board in the Pledge of Allegiance
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## I. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Board Vice-Chairman, Tom Wheeler called for public comments. There were no public comments.

## II. ADMINISTRATIVE

Approval of the June 25, 2024, Meeting Minutes

- The board reviewed the June 25, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes for Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc.

**MOTION:** Motion was made by Billie Miller and seconded by Dennis Clark to approve the meeting minutes from the June 25, 2024, Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. board meeting, as presented. The motion was approved unanimously. (5-0,1)

## III. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- There were no committee reports

#### IV. CONSENT AGENDA

1. TSIA Final Expenditure Reports
  2. Principal and Parent Facilitators Adoption
  3. CSUSA Internet Policy
  4. General Knowledge Test Waivers
    - Six Mile Charter Academy
- Board Director, Billie Miller pulled items 1 (TSIA Final Expenditure Report) and 3 (CSUSA Internet Policy) from the consent agenda.

**MOTION: Motion was made by Paul Sallarulo and seconded by Dennis Clark to approve the Consent Agenda apart from items 1 (TSIA Final Expenditure Report) and 3 (CSUSA Internet Policy) for Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.**

#### Pulled Items from Consent

##### 1. TSIA Final Expenditure Report

- The board discussed the TSIA Final Expenditure Report.
- Billie Miller requested an update from Human Resources on the number of teacher vacancies, teacher pay compared to the respective district schools, and a comparison of the Florida Retirement System to CSUSA benefits. She requested to know the number of international teachers for the FY25 school year.

**MOTION: Motion was made by Ken Haiko and seconded by Dennis Clark to approve the TSIA Final Expenditure Report for the Southwest Charter Foundation; Inc. as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.**

##### 3. CSUSA Internet Policy

- The board discussed the CSUSA Internet Policy. Billie Miller asked for a modification to the policy to state "direct communication with students" under the social media section.
- Billie Millie requested an AI presentation to the show the steps being taken in schools surrounding AI.

**MOTION: Motion was made by Billie Miller and seconded by Dennis Clark to approve the CSUSA Internet Policy with edits for Southwest Charter Foundation; Inc. as presented. The motion was approved unanimously.**

#### V. CSUSA Reports

##### State Superintendent Update

- State Superintendent, Dr. Eddie Ruiz provided the board with updates on the start of the school year and school grades. Dr. Ruiz stated that school goals would be discussed at the September meeting.
- Dr. Ruiz stated that the cell phone policy enforcement is slightly different within each school; however, phones are not allowed during academic instruction.

- Dr. Ruiz noted the challenges to the start of the school year including air conditioning issues, and carline procedures. He stated that all issues were minor and would continue to improve over the next few weeks.

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**MOTION: Motion was made by Dennis Clark and seconded by Ken Haiko to accept the State Superintendent Report for the Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. portfolio of schools. The motion was approved unanimously.**

**VI. OLD BUSINESS**

There was no old business

**VII. NEW BUSINESS**

Referendum Lawsuit vs. Lee County

- Board Attorney Levi William provided an update on the Referendum Lawsuit vs. Lee County.

**MOTION: Motion was made by Ken Haiko and seconded by Paul Sallarulo to ratify the Referendum Lawsuit vs. Lee County for Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc., as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

- Hearing no objections, Board Vice Chair, Tom Wheeler adjourned the August 14, 2024, Southwest Charter Foundation, Inc. Board Meeting at 1:15 PM EST



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**Ken Haiko, Board Chair**

Date: 10/28/24