

galileoschool

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

FOR GIFTED LEARNING

Minutes of a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Galileo School for Gifted Learning duly called and held on March 10, 2021 at via Zoom and at Galileo, Sanford, FL.

Board members present:

- ✓ Michele Gill, Chair
- ✓ Javier Rivera, Vice Chair
- ✓ Debbie Hahs-Vaughn, Secretary
- ✓ Caleb Edwards, Member
- ✓ Rich Margadonna, Member
- ✓ Joe MacLaren, Member
- ✓ Treva Marshall, Member
- ✓ Kevin Miller, Member

Board members absent:

- ✓ Jason Brodeur, Member

Guests present:

- ✓

With the approval of the directors present, Michele Gill acted as Chair of the meeting, and Debbie Hahs-Vaughn recorded the minutes.

On motions duly made and seconded, it was voted that the minutes of the meeting of board of directors from February 10, 2021 (Board meeting and town hall) to be taken as read.

- I. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Celebrations/Recognitions
- III. Informational Items
 - a. Joe MacLaren must renew Board Training, April 2021
Michelle Nunez is preparing a video overview of a day in the life of a Galileo student for the board to see in lieu of a visit to the classroom this school year.
- IV. Principal Report (M. Nunez)
 - a. Lottery applications. Nearly 900 applications have been received.
 - b. Staffing for next year. We have very few teachers and staff leaving. Most of these departures were not due to dissatisfaction with the school, but rather relocations and personal aspirations. Dr. Gill mentioned that she would be happy to post any teacher openings at UCF.
 - c. Surveys. Satisfaction surveys will go out to parents tomorrow or Friday
 - d. CSP status- The district has received the invoices for approximately \$650,000 in items purchased with money from CSP. We are awaiting reimbursement.
- V. Consent Agenda
- VI. Committee Reports
 - a. Standing Committee Reports
 - i. Budget and Finance Committee (MacLaren)
 - ii. Update was provided on bonds for purchasing Riverbend facility.
 - iii. Michelle discussed that we were still waiting on getting CSP grant funds and waiting to receive notification that our PPP loan had been forgiven.
 - iv. The Treasurer's Report was unanimously approved on a motion by Javier Rivera and second by Caleb Edwards.
 - v. Curriculum Committee. No updates.
 - vi. Development & Grants (T. Marshall)
 - vii. Update on Science campaign was provided. Galileo has received our first naming rights gift. The science campaign will be emphasized following the Fun Run. We should encourage our parents to find which companies do donation matches. We would love to partner with a company that matches gifts.
 - viii. Update on plans for 10th Year of Galileo School celebration. No updates.
 - ix. Update on Gala for September. A virtual auction and event will be planned rather than an in-person gala.
 - x. Marketing (C. Edwards). There is about 18% less traffic this year compared to last year.

b. Special Committee Reports

i. Facility Committee (K. Miller)

ii. Facility updates: Skyway and Riverbend. Mr. Rivera gave an update on the new facility. Progress is being made, however, the committee suggests planning to be at the old Midway facility through the end of the school year. Per the builder, they anticipate being completed at the end of March however the committee does not see this as realistic. In the event the CO is received soon, Mrs. Nunez suggests having some school events there but plan on moving in by the end of May so that the move can be completed before teachers depart for the summer.

iii. Strategic Planning Committee (R. Margadonna)

iv. Update on strategic planning was provided. Motion made, second, to approve the following to the committee. Dr. Gill provided some suggestions for additional members (e.g., student rep). All in favor to approve.

Member Name	Campus	Title
Rich Margadonna	Riverbend	Board Member
Javier Rivera	Riverbend	Board Member
Michelle Nunez	Both	School Principal
Kristin Ripley	Skyway	Office Manager
Steve Rubly	Riverbend	Teacher Representative Primary
Kelly Brecht	Riverbend	Teacher Representative Secondary
Amber Brownell	Skyway	Teacher Representative Primary
Alex Bravo	Skyway	Teacher Representative Secondary
Carrie Powers	Riverbend	PTA Representative
Dena Pfenning	Skyway	Additional Parent Representative
Eric Huet	Riverbend	Teacher Leadership
Jana Spitalnick	Skyway	Teacher Leadership

v. Health & Wellness Committee (J. Brodeur)

A written update was provided by Mr. Brodeur as follows. He has been coordinating with Shane Michael, the County Extension Director and 4-H Youth

Development agent of our IFAS Extension. He spoke with Kaydie McCormick (their Residential Horticulture Agent and Master Gardener Volunteer Coordinator) and Dr. Morgan Pinkerton (Sustainable Ag and Food Systems Agent) about this project. They both are willing to assist with the project and Mr. Brodeur is in direct contact with them. Based on the timeline discussed (planning in the summer, perhaps planting in the fall) they both feel that a later planting date would be better, late October for planting and September to prepare the area for planting. That gives time to plan for educational programming as well. If the plan is to plant in the late summer early fall, they said we could probably plant okra, sweet potatoes, or black-eyed peas. They suggested using raised gardens which would be the easiest to maintain. They also discussed the idea of introducing a basic hydroponic system later on, but that may be a bit adventurous. When he spoke with Morgan about a potential farmer to add to the team, she said she would need more time to talk with them. Currently most of the larger local farms are at capacity and it would be an investment on their end to add more growing to help support a school program. Additionally, I spoke with Mandy Layman, a local dietician from Nemours. I'm going to be coordinating between her and the County. Next up will be coordinating with the local school board and coordinating with other possible listed stakeholders, such as hospitals.

- VII. PTA/SAC Updates. The Skyway PTA has been very busy, and they meet monthly. Riverbend PTA has been as well. PTA is hosting an event tomorrow, which will be streamed virtually. SAC Riverbend has rolled out a gardening initiative, and 18 garden plots will be maintained by family volunteers. There were more volunteers than plots available. SAC Skyway is working to make sure every classroom teacher has enough recreational equipment so that sharing across classrooms is not required.

OLD BUSINESS

- VIII. None

PUBLIC COMMENT

No comments were fielded.

NEW BUSINESS

- IX. Amiee Hunt, Kindergarten Teacher is asking for an extension to complete her gifted endorsement. Motion made, second, all in favor to approve the extension through September 2021.
- X. Teacher, Jeremy Lucas, is writing a book about his experience teaching this year at

Galileo. This is an informational item.

- XI. Discussion about Law Enforcement not wearing masks when serving outside on Galileo property. Per the Seminole County ordinance, officers are exempt from wearing masks (regardless of whether social distancing can be maintained). Concerns were expressed from a Board member regarding the officer not wearing a mask when outside, and the message it sends to Galileo stakeholders.
- XII. Teacher, Andrea Jimenez, requesting sponsorship for permanent Residency. Currently working at Galileo on a Work Visa. Mr. Miller shared his experience with this, and his recommendation is to reach out to the attorney to see the extent of effort and money that this would require and not to move forward if there is any commitment of time and/or money. Mrs. Nunez has done this but has not heard from the attorney. Both Mr. Rivera and Mr. Miller shared that their organizations have let very good employees go because this process can be very expensive, complex, and time consuming.
- XIII. New Building - Spring Festivities. Should the CO be obtained, Mrs. Nunez would like to offer tours and other events on the campus. Mr. Rivera expressed concern about ensuring any events would be socially distanced.
- XIV. Motion made, second, all in favor to discuss outreach to new Seminole County Superintendent. Mrs. Marshall suggested reaching out to develop a relationship and will draft a letter to invite the Superintendent to the school.
- XV. Important Dates

APRIL 21, 5:30

- Principal Evaluation process: Principal conducts self-evaluation and submits to the Board by the May board meeting. Compile Board members' survey responses via Qualtrics.
- Strategic Planning Retreat
- Budget discussions for next year
- Board discusses Principal contract at a board meeting before discussing it with the Principal.
- (Javier Rivera renew Board training, May 2021)
- April 2021: Need to let Building Hope know if we are pursuing option to purchase building
- Plan gala for fall

MAY 12, 5:30

- Approve next year's budget
- Review of quarterly budget
- Approve teacher and staff contracts
- Approve Principal contract
- Upload final principal evaluation scores

XVI. Adjournment

There being no further business to transact at the time, it was voted to adjourn the meeting.

Dated: March 10, 2021

Debbie Hahs-Vaughn, Secretary