

Minutes of a town hall meeting of the Galileo School for Gifted Learning duly called and held on February 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
- ✓ Joe MacLaren, Member
- ✓ Treva Marshall, Member

Board members absent:

- ✓ Jason Brodeur, Member
- ✓ Rich Margadonna, Member
- ✓ Kevin Miller, Member

Guests present:

- ✓

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

Dr. Gill summarized the duties of the Board. Mrs. Nunez summarized the focus of the new health and wellness committee.

Current initiatives on curriculum were shared by Dr. Gill. Math curriculum is being reviewed at each campus. Consultants for preschool are being brought in. The PEAKS program, which started purely for gifted students, will now be open to all middle school students who are making grade level progress. Increasing inclusivity is another focus, and the school is going through a needs-assessment to determine next action steps. Mr. MacLaren provided an update on the new facility. The committee is hopeful for a move-in over spring break, but that is not a guarantee.

A question was posed regarding volunteer hours. That will be discussed at the Board meeting.

A question was posed regarding why two school facilities were created rather than just one. Dr. Gill shared the philosophy regarding two, rather than one, facility. Both schools have the same mission and vision with the same administrative oversight. Mr. Rivera shared how Galileo is attempting to create community and a central identity.

Question fielded regarding open classroom concept in the new school facility and security. The new site is fenced entirely in. The open classrooms are open to students and allow them to travel throughout multiple classrooms in the interior, but limit exterior access. are not open to the exterior. It is very contained and more efficient than the current campus as there are inner paths. A great deal of funds have been spent on security (e.g., cameras, deputy). The sheriff's office has been a consultant on the plans from the beginning, and they are confident that the plan is designed for school security.

Question fielded regarding a high school. Right now, there are not plans to create a high school. There are very good alternatives in Seminole County. Mrs. Nunez shared how Galileo is gathering information from students who have transitioned to high school to assist in helping direct how Galileo can assist in transitioning.

Praise was shared by a participant regarding the approach for remote instruction and the positive experience her child has had.