

**Cedars International Academy
High School Campus
Minutes of November 9, 2017**

Present: Monsignor Sawyer, Dr. Stephanie Ehler, Dr. Melissa Biegert, Dr. Maria Seidner, Ms. Earlyne Barrs, and Mr. Rick Wallen.

Also present: Dr. Mark Diaz; and Mr. Zipkes and Mr. Blalock after closed meeting

Dr. Seidner called the meeting to order at 12:00 and the board went into closed session.

At 12:11, Board is back in open meeting.

With Dr. Biegert moving and Ms. Ehlers seconding, the board unanimously accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.

Recognitions: With only 100 students accepted for ChickTech throughout the Austin High Schools, Cedars has ten (10) of those assignments to the December STEM Camp: Jesselyn Lopez, Joanna Estes, Emmonique Fairley, Aliziana Castillo, Jackie Gonzalez, Aurora Kresha, Nina Pereyo-Lozada, Magda Estrada Alonso, Rajeeia Nichole Marshall, Alexx Felan, Bek Milstead, Andrea Villegas

Principal Zipkes has authored a chapter in a new text book. He has also contributed to two (2) other text books.

Director/Board Communications

Upcoming Events

Mr. Zipkes said the High School will celebrate thanksgiving on November 15.

The coming December graduation will proceed at the Thinkery on 1830 Simond Ave Across from Our Lady Maronite Catholic Church.

Report Items

a. Mr. Zipkes also said Finals are taking place and the students are exempt from finals when they have near perfect attendance. With a 99% attendance record, this means quite a few students are exempt.

b. The High Schools enrollment is already at 116 and Mr. Zipkes says three (3) additional students are entering within the week. Total Cedars enrollment is 501. In addition to the changing enrollment, Dr. Stephanie Ehler has tendered her resignation from the board initiating a search for a new board member.

c. Construction of the outdoor gym is still under consideration. The propane office does not want to sell. Mr. Blalock has been reaching out to the Burlington Coat Factory for a sublease for the unused portion of their building. The local store has no objections but

the approval must come from their Corporate office in Dallas. Mr. Blalock says he is calling.

d. Mr. Blalock is pursuing options for a replacement with JR3. Many of those options involve substantial down payments and monthly maintenance fees. Harris (JR3) is still the cheaper of the other options. This still needs to be researched.

The copier contract is still being investigated. The current provider is offering new equipment and usage fees half of what is now being paid.

e. Policy amendments went through the first reading and await approval for on the second at the next meeting.

Action Items

- a. Monsignor moved and Ms. Barrs seconded the motion to accept the resignations and the new hires in personnel. Board unanimously approves.
- b. Dr. Biegert moved and Monsignor seconded the motion to accept the investment reports for the month and wait till next month to approve the Financials when all the credit card charges will be turned over to the financial advisor. Board unanimously approves.
- c. After discussion on the various search options for the superintendent. Dr. Biegert moved and Monsignor seconded the motion to have Cedars handle the search through Dr. Diaz where his fee is commiserate to the other search agencies. Board unanimously approves.
- d. For the various field trips to Iceland and Washington D.C. needing board approval, Dr. Biegert moved and Ms. Barrs seconded the motion to approve these field trips. Board unanimously approves.
- e. The changes to the Charter Resolution for amending the bylaws are on hold till the next meeting when the board will see how the board terms of office are affected.
- f. With item e. on hold till next meeting, the vote on the permanent board position is on hold till the next meeting where Monsignor is still a permanent position.

The next board meeting is 12:00 PM on December 14, 2017 at the Crowley Campus.

At 1:17, Monsignor moved and Dr. Biegert seconded the motion to adjourn. The board approves unanimously.