

**Cedars International Academy
High School Campus
Minutes of March 8, 2018**

Present: Monsignor Sawyer, Dr. Melissa Biegert, Dr. Maria Seidner, Ms. Earlyne Barrs, Dr. Butland, and Mr. Rick Wallen. Barney Schultz made the meeting for the superintendent interviews.

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

Dr. Seidner called the meeting to order at 8:00. The board went immediately into closed session.

At 8:22, Board is back in open meeting.

Approve Minutes: With Monsignor moving and Ms. Barrs seconding, the board unanimously accepted the minutes from the previous meeting.

Recognitions: Sarah Di Maria is recognized is the Co-winner of the New Tech Teacher Action Research Award.

Director/Board Communications Upcoming Events:

Mr. Zipkes tells board that the High school is approved for giving the PSAT to the 8th, 9th, and 10th grades, while the upper grades have the SAT. The School will pay all the administration fees of the tests.

Enrollment will see a 90 percent return of the current student body. By using television advertisements this has established a current preenrollment of 142.

Report Items

a. Dr. Diaz gave the board a description of the Special Education Corrective Action. This is financial compensatory services to any student since 1984 who is not a recipient of Special Education but may have needed these services.

b. The High Schools attendance is at 162. Total Cedars enrollment is 492. Preenrollment puts the total at 506.

c. Safety Report. APD Detective Pedro Carasco issued a safety report for the elementary campus. The report has a variety of recommendations from enhanced fencing, ring in/out security entry/egress, and more lights. The report does pinpoint that most shooters are disgruntled former employees/students meaning that any improvement will only work to limit casualties.

Dr. Diaz will ask Det. Carasco for a walkthrough and figure what is financially feasible. More later.

d. Charter Revision. The Charter is due for an update. Since the founding, the Campuses do not use International Baccalaureate protocol and changes to the Governance Council requires a Charter revision. TEA would like the charter schools to submit revisions in August.

e. Expansion Discussion. Looking for grants to help financing the expansion. The one presented the board is the Replication Grant. There will be more discussions on April 19th. Discussions seem to be leaning toward purchasing a High School Campus.

Action Items

- a. Dr. Butland moved and Monsignor seconded the motion to accept the resignations and the new contracts for current personnel. Board unanimously approves.
- b. Dr. Butland moves and Monsignor seconds for approving the Instructional Materials allotment and the TEKS Certification 2018 (text books). Board unanimously approves.
- c. Dr. Biegert moves and Ms. Barrs seconds to accept the financial and investment reports. Board unanimously approves.
- d. Dr. Biegert moves and Ms. Barrs seconds the motion to approve the budget amendment which includes items for the Project Based Learning teacher education. Board unanimously approves.
- e. Dr. Biegert moves and Dr. Butland seconds a motion to approve the 2018-19 calendar. There is a possibility the board will have to revisit the calendar due to Spring Break scheduling discrepancies between UT Austin and SXSW. The High school is also considering “late start Monday to early release Friday. Board unanimously approves.
- f. Dr. Butland moves and Dr. Biegert seconds the motion to accept the Federal Report Cards. Board unanimously approves.
- g. The interviews and selection. Please see interview addendum* for the details. Between the two candidate finalists, Mr. Varghese Panachakunnil and Mr. Ashly Blake Schneider, Dr. Biegert and Ms. Barrs moved to nominate Mr. (V)arghese Board unanimously approves, with Mr. Barney Schulz abstaining due to his late arrival.
Dr. Seidner talked of a meeting with Mr. V to negotiate the contract’s remuneration including benefits and number of days expected each school year. It is recommended that Mr. V comes to our April 19th meeting to discuss orientation and starting by June 1st, 2018.

The next board meeting is 8:30 am on April 19, 2018 at Region 13

At 1:26, Dr. Butland moves and Ms. Barrs seconds the motion to adjourn. The board approves unanimously.