

Cedars International Academy

Elementary Campus

Minutes for February 14, 2019

Present: Dr. Melissa Biegert, Dr. Maria Seidner, Dr. Sharon Frederick, Msgr. Don Sawyer

Also present: Mr. Varghese Panachakunnil

Dr. Seidner called the meeting to order at 12:05 PM

The Board went into closed session at 12:07 PM

At 12:50 PM, the Board came out of closed session. Dr. Biegert moves and Dr. Frederick seconds to accept the January 10th minutes and the special January 25th minutes. The Board unanimously approves.

Dr. Kamil A. Jbeily, nominee for the Board Member Seat #6, was interviewed.

Superintendent Report

Mr. Varghese reported that we lost 10 students and we must keep at a minimum within the 340-345 enrollment range. We did well on the Report Card at the “Meets” Level as well as the “Approaches” Level, however, we need improvement in the “Masters” Level. Board training will be scheduled the last week of May or first week of June 2019. The required number of Board Member Professional Development hours was distributed.

Principal Reports

High School

- Graduation will take place at the new Central Public Library (for 50% discount) with **100% GRADUATION RATE!!!** The 1st Prom is scheduled for April 20th
- The 1st High School dance, hosted by the Student Council, was a success!
- Benchmark testing is completed and the T-Stem renewal application is completed and signed off on by ACC and 117 Media
- Three teachers (2 Math/1 Science) move forward as **Faculty Fellows at Stanford!!!**
- The High School was chosen as a **Spot Light School and Finalist, Office of Technology!!!**

Elementary School

- Joined the **National Junior Honor Society**
- In the process of securing grants for expansion
- Currently at 390 students and enrollment is now all online
- Benchmark ends the beginning of March and focus will be on closing the achievement gaps

- A partnership with Sylvan will begin mid-February with a reduced rate of \$18 per hour compared to \$50 per hour.
- A Valentine Dance is scheduled for Friday, Feb. 15th
- A “Trust Badges” system with pillars such as Core Values is in place.
- A Project Completion Showcase is scheduled at the High School for April 4th

Budget and Finance Report

Mr. Blalock provided the following budget amendments:

- An increase in Food Services due to the lowballed numbers
- An increase in Instruction with proposal to move funds from other areas
- Project funding for replacement of lights with LED’s and replace the Balance. Rebate from the City at 80% - huge savings!
- Payback within four years since above the \$10,000 threshold but not to exceed \$17,000
- Decision needed whether to purchase additional Bonds.
- Slight drop in enrollment is normal during the beginning of the spring semester.

Technology Report

- Networking issues at the High School and Elementary School resulted in a lot of downtime but a huge improvement will be seen with the proposed Fiber Optic Cabling in progress.
- The **Enrollment Marketing** plan is underway with Email and Facebook Ads, Telemundo TV advertisement with 15-second commercial video spots in English/Spanish. We now have something to show our partners and potential partners, to include advertisement of our new Project-Based Learning.

Nutrition and Food Service Report

Audit responses completed and waiting on results. Secured \$25,000 plus free food & produce from the Food Bank and other resources to save money.

Action Items

- a. Father Don moves and Dr. Biegert seconds the motion to approve the Student Safety Policy. The Board unanimously approves.
- b. Dr. Frederick moves and Dr. Biegert seconds the motion to approve the Miscellaneous Provisions Relating to Students. The Board unanimously approves.
- c. Dr. Biegert moves and Father Don seconds the motion to approve the New Hires. The Board unanimously approves.
- d. Dr. Biegert moves and Dr. Frederick seconds the motion to approve funding for the Lighting Replacement Project

The next board meeting is 12:00 PM on March 14, 2019 at the High School.

At 2:05 PM, Dr. Frederick moves and Dr. Biegert seconds the motion to adjourn. The Board approves unanimously.