HIVE Preparatory School
Friday, June 19, 2020
Special Board Meeting
MINUTES

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Pedro Dedesma, Victor Giorgini, Joaquin Novoa, and Jenny Maya-Munne.

- Meeting was called to order at 3:00pm

- Mr. Gonzalez explained that the purpose of this special meeting was to address two time-sensitive situations that have been recently brought to the school’s attention.

- Threat Assessment Policy and Procedures
  
  o State statute requires that all District and Charter school threat and behavioral assessment policies and procedures be reviewed by Aug 1, 2020. HIVE created its original policies and procedures back in 2018 with the guidance of a training provided by MDCPS and noted that the school will adopt the district’s policies and procedures in order to remain consistent and to maximize the support and resources that are made available when utilizing district programs. However, the district has recently updated its policies and procedures by releasing a document titled “Miami-Dade County Public Schools Threat Assessment Procedures Guide”.

  o Mr. Gonzalez presented that the newest guide clarifies the roles and responsibilities of the threat assessment team, provides instructions on how to use the CSTAG instrument, provides specific resources for mental health support, and provides specific instruction on student transfers to and from HIVE.

  o Mr. Gonzalez explained that everything in the document is familiar to the school and that the school’s own policies and procedures align well to the District’s. In addition, Mr. Gonzalez presented a Threat Assessment Procedures Review document that must be submitted to the state showing the alignment of the policy and procedures with all state statutes.

  o Mr. Dedesma proposed that the school continue to follow the school district’s threat assessment policy and procedures, including the newest information provided. The board unanimously approved.

- Virtual Education Resources Loan
  
  o Mr. Lopez presented a loan offer from the CSGF that is intended to support schools through the virtual transition due to COVID-19. The school submitted an application indicating the uses of these funds a few weeks ago and was just notified of approval. The one remaining requirement is a board resolution indicating the agreement to the loan and its terms. The loan is an interest free loan with a complete payback by Nov 2021. Mr. Gonzalez presented that the school indicated the need for audio-visual equipment in the classrooms and the need of devices for students should virtual
schooling continue. The plan is to equip each room with the ability to teach in-person and virtual students at the same time and to provide take home devices to each student so that the rigor of a standard classroom may be maintained throughout virtual education.

- Mr. Giorgini expressed concern with the size of this investment compared to the outcomes and that a loan with a short maturation date requires funds available. He expressed concern with funding in the upcoming year, due to COVID-19, and that the school needs to be sure that the funds are available to pay back this loan despite of the economic conditions. Mr. Lopez presented the budget and explained that payback should not be a concern due to the school’s fund balance and the recent grants awarded to the school from other sources.

- Mrs. Maya-Munne asked for a long-term use plan. She asked how the use of these devices and the audio-visual equipment will extend past the crisis. Mr. Gonzalez showed how the devices will replace the current devices the school has that are at the end of their usage life span. He also explained that the audio-visual equipment will allow for teacher training, classroom support, and the sharing of resources by creating a cloud inventory of instructional lessons.

- Mr. Dedesma asked the school to contact the lawyers to ensure that the school does not violate any FERPA or other laws because of this plan. Mr. Gonzalez stated he will contact the lawyers immediately.

- The board approved, unanimously, to apply for the loan.