



June 06, 2024 @ 10:30 am

Mr. Dedesma called the meeting to order.

**Prior Minutes:** Mr. Dedesma reviewed the minutes of the previous board meeting. Prior minutes unanimously approved.

**Opening Session:** Mr. Dedesma introduced this meeting by introducing Mr. Gonzalez and explaining that Mr. Gonzalez has a few policies that need to be reviewed and that end of year assessment scores are available and the Board is anxious in hearing the results.

Mr. Gonzalez introduced the newly passed School Chaplain Policy. The current information received from the State is that charter schools do not have to create a policy regardless of the decision to have one or not. However, the new law allows schools to hire school chaplains for mental health support reasons. The Board agreed to wait for more information from the State before taking this to a vote. Mr. Gonzalez also presented new updates to the school safety laws from the State. This year the locked doors and locked gates language is more aggressive. HIVE already follows all of the requirements necessary, so no action was needed from the Board.

Mr. Gonzalez presented an update regarding the back pay for the local tax referendum. The attorney is saying that the district is looking to settle the first 3 years of the program with all charter schools and include 5% interest. His interest rate is lower than the two recent settlements in Palm Beach and Broward, but the district is agreeing to make the payments this July and next July without hesitation. The question presented is do we ask the attorney to ask for an increase in the percentage due to local precedent? The Board agreed to have follow up conversations with the attorney on this.

**School operations:** The end of year State assessments have been completed and the raw scores are available. Mr. Gonzalez defined "raw" as scores that have not been audited to review if a student counts due to FTE enrollment or LEP level, etc. The overall reading score of the school increased slightly by 1-2 percentage points. The math score decreased by 5 percentage points, science decreased by 10 percentage points, civics increased by 7 percentage points and acceleration increased by 5 percentage points. Mr. Gonzalez explained that science was impacted by the cohort of students that takes the test, which is 5<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade only. This year's group has not scored as well as other groups, thus the drastic difference. The math decreases are centered around 5<sup>th</sup> grade, which was showing throughout all PM data. All other grades met or exceeded expectations. Mr. Gonzalez wanted to highlight the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade math scores where 103 students scored a 98% proficiency! Learning gains and writing scores are not yet available, but the school expects to maintain it's a grade and maintain it position within the top 1% of all Title 1 schools in the State.

The SY23 results have continued to bring accolades to HIVE Prep. The school has been informed that it qualifies for the national Blue-Ribbon Award. The school has submitted all the required documents to the State and the National program and are awaiting the final word. If all goes well, the school will receive an invite to DC to receive the award. HIVE also recently was awarded the Building Hope Impact Award. This competitive award required a 3-day conference where Mr. Gonzalez was interviewed and presented about HIVE's secret Sauce. HIVE won the overall award for the Joe Bruno Leadership Award. Mr. Gonzalez was also invited to participate in the inaugural Founding Fellows program with the State of Florida. This program, in its 1<sup>st</sup> year, selected the top performing "gap buster" schools that display data trends that are significantly better than the surrounding community. Finally, HIVE has been invited by the leaders from the State to join a cohort of charter school leaders that will represent charter school interests throughout the state and the nation.

Mr. Gonzalez introduced the opportunity to hire the True North Classical Leader Fellowship. This program aligns with the Leverage Leadership and Teach Like a Champion program as well as with the True North Classical Schools programmatic model. Mr. Gonzalez expressed having a great working and personal relationship with the leaders of True North and that a lot can be learned from them. The cost of joining this program is 150k and will be for the upcoming school year. The Board expressed concern with the cost of the program and its alignment with the needs of the school. They stated that the school's successes in leadership and sustainability indicate that the need for such a program is not necessary at this time and that more thought is needed for future partnerships.

**Title 1:** Mr. Novoa asked about an update regarding HIVE's Title 1 status for the next school year understanding that we had issues this year. Mr. Gonzalez explained that the February FTE shows HIVE at a 77% F&R Lunch rate. This qualifies the school without issues. He also stated that he did not receive a call from the district about losing Title 1.

**Finances:** Mr. Lopez showed the most recent quarterly financial reports. HIVE has a healthy surplus due to the school meeting its budgeted goals as well as with the ESSER reimbursements still coming in. In addition, the school received a large deposit from the State for capital outlay funds that were not budgeted. Mr. Gonzalez introduced the opportunity to provide the current HIVE faculty and staff with end of year bonuses to show gratitude for their successes and dedication. The board approved unanimously.

Mr. Lopez presented the end of year stipends and asked for approval of executing them. Board approved unanimously. Mr. Gonzalez showed the upcoming summer expenses/projects: door improvements, window replacements, crosswalk installation, PE field shade structure, building remodels. Mr. Lopez presented the SY25 budget. Due to the stability of enrollment and revenue sources, the school expects to have a healthy budget with a sufficient surplus. With the potential funds from the tax referendum backpay, the surplus may be greater. The board discussed ways to utilize this surplus and additional funds and asked Mr. Lopez and Mr. Gonzalez to prepare their best ways to utilize the funds for the next Board meeting.

Meeting Adjourned 12:25 pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Lopez", is written over a horizontal line.