

**Minutes
Imagine at Broward, Inc.
Imagine School at Broward
August 6, 2018
5:30 p.m.**

Imagine School at Broward

Brian Schlang (Board Member-Chairperson) - in attendance
LuAnn Comes (Board Member) - in attendance
Christopher Buckley (Board Member) -in attendance
John Gerun (Board Member) - in attendance

Welcome

- Mr. Schlang called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. with all Governing Board members in attendance. Mr. Schlang welcomed the Board and public to the meeting.

Public Notice

- Ms. Darling indicated that the meeting was publicly noticed by website, parent update email, and flyers posted on the door of the school.

Minutes

- The minutes from the regularly scheduled meeting of June 18, 2018 and emergency meeting of July 23, 2018 were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes as written for June 18 was made by Chris Buckley and seconded by John Gerun. The motion was carried unanimously. A motion to accept the minutes as written for July 23, 2018 was made by Chris Buckley and seconded by John Gerun. The motion was carried unanimously.

Principal's Report

- Ms. Darling stated Imagine Broward earned its 6th consecutive letter grade of "A" and stated how proud she was of all the hard work put forth by the students, teachers and staff during the year.
- One goal for the 2017 - 2018 school year was to encourage more family participation. The participation rate for the Family Surveys conducted at the end of the year was 84%, which was a large increase.
- As an update for the 2018-2019 school year, the front office hours are from 8:00 - 4:00, Monday through Friday. New teachers had orientation today, August 6. The calendar highlights for staff during the week of planning is:
 - Tuesday - morning Faculty Meeting, Google Drive training in the afternoon
 - Wednesday - Region's Forum with one session on 21st Century Learning and a second session on Collaboration
 - Thursday - Faculty Meeting in the morning, Training in the afternoon
 - Friday - County meeting for Team Leads
 - Monday - Meet and Greet
 - Tuesday - Committee Meetings
- Twelve new teachers have been hired. Interviews are being conducted for a new ESE Specialist and a 4/5 Math Teacher.
- The expectation is for full enrollment on the first day of school.

- Scheduling and class assignments are complete and parents were able to pick up their child's schedule.
- There was an overwhelming number of teacher requests this year. Not all requests were able to be accommodated. There is a policy in place for requests and class changes.
- ColUSA worked diligently to prepare the building for the new school year. Some of the upkeep included stripping floors, touching up paint and replacing baseboards in the main corridors.
- In regards to School Safety:
 - Staff will be assigned electronic key FOBS to be used at designated doors in Building 5. There will continue to be a single point of entry during the day.
 - Every teacher will have immediate access to the front office through a walkie/talkie radio.
 - The process of contracting an on-site security officer is continuing.
 - A part-time Guidance Counselor will continue.
 - All safety rules will continuously be reinforced including proper procedures for locking exterior doors, classroom doors, etc.
 - An Active Shooter training for staff has been scheduled with the Coral Springs Police Department (CSPD)
 - CSPD recommendations will be pursued. This includes keeping blinds open, enrolling in programs such as the Trespass Enforcement Program, the Coral Springs Code Red Notification, and the Broward County Schools Notification System.
 - A speaker system for the front door will be installed. Anyone visiting campus must report to the front office with proper identification.
- Engrade Pro will discontinue its product in June 2019 so options for a new grade book system are being explored. The viability of using Pinnacle for Middle School is also being explored.
- The School Board sent a revised Premium Service Agreement. The basic change is in the change of the term School Board of Broward County to the First Party. The new agreement needs to be signed.

Final Amended Budget 2017-2018

- The final amended budget for 2017 - 2018 was reviewed. The budget must be given to auditors by August 30, 2018.
- After asking for any public input, a motion to approve the final 2017-2018 budget was made by John Gerun and seconded by Chris Buckley. The motion was carried unanimously.

Regional Director Input

- Based on a board request to pursue an endeavor to purchase the building and to bring knowledgeable professionals and possible partners together, Ms. Vernon introduced our three guests. They were Rod Sasse, Executive Vice President of Imagine Schools, Karl Huber who works with Imagine Schools, and Richard Moreno who works with Building Hope.
- Ms. Vernon said the school was ready for the new school year.
- She congratulated Ms. Darling on receiving her Educational Leadership certification and Misha Fletcher on being named Assistant Principal.
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Building Purchase Discussion

- Brian Schlang spoke about the long-term viability to purchase the building. He stated he had spoken to multiple people and reviewed the lease. The owner of the building was asked about selling. The owner stated he was not looking to sell but may be open to the idea. RFPs were put out. Questions Mr. Schlang wanted answered were if there were any additional restrictions and covenants placed on the school, estimated closing costs, timing of the sale, the amount of cash needed to close and the estimated cost each month.
- Karl Huber explained the current situation. Imagine Broward has a long-term lease with School House Lease and School House Lease in turn is leasing from someone else. In order for the Governing Board to purchase the building then School House Lease has to step out of the situation and agree to the purchase.
- Richard Moreno of Building Hope presented a detailed overview and plan for the building to be purchased through a bond, discussed the possible advantages and answered questions about concerns. Building Hope is a private non-profit that provides services to school to purchase their buildings. They are currently working with 38 schools in Florida. He provided information on why bond financing is the most efficient method because it locks in costs and lowers payment increases going further. He discussed the possibility of a bank loan. Often the cost of issuance of a bank loan might be lower, but with the current interest rates he indicated a bond would be a wiser choice. He explained the pros and cons of both a bank loan and a bond issuance. Additionally, a bank would require an equity component which we do not have so a bank loan is not really an option. With a bond, no equity is needed. He recommended going with an unrated bond since rating costs have an initial fee of \$35,000 to \$40,000 with a \$5000 annual fee. He explained a government entity issues the bond and he can look at multiple issuers. He also stated the need for a team of attorneys who work well together since the school would be responsible for the attorney costs. He stated the initial steps were to decide on whether or not to move forward, decide a purchase price, and decide on a financial advisor. The most important first steps are to pick an attorney and a fiduciary. Initially, the school would need a building appraisal and a building condition report. The deal could probably be done within 90 - 120 days. Mr. Moreno answered all questions and explained details of the proposed plan as questioned by the Governing Board.

Public Input

- Public Input was called for but no one requested to speak or chose to ask questions.

Board Actions

- A motion was made to have Brian Schlang sign the revised Premium Service Agreement by LuAnn Comes and seconded by Chris Buckley. The motion was carried unanimously.
- A motion was made by Brian Schlang and seconded by John Gerun to use bond financing to acquire the building with a contingency on the purchase agreement that makes it reasonable for a bond transaction. The motion was carried unanimously.
- A motion to use Building Hope as the fiduciary was made by Brian Schlang and seconded by John Gerun. The motion was carried unanimously.
- LuAnn Comes made a motion to allow Brian Schlang to make a final decision on the choice of attorneys based on the input from the financial advisor. It was seconded by John Gerun. The motion was carried unanimously.
- A motion to allow Brian Schlang to obtain a building appraisal and building condition report was made by LuAnn Comes and seconded by John Gerun. The motion was carried unanimously.

Board Input

- Christopher Buckley stated he thought the purchase of the building was an interesting endeavor with good take-aways for the school. He also thought it looked like the school would have a good year.
- John Gerun said he thought the purchase of the building was a good opportunity for the school. He thanked Brian Schlang for providing so much effort in research and analysis of financial records in this pursuit.
- LuAnn Comes also thanked Brian Schlang for his hard work and extensive efforts. She thanked the guests for their detailed information and explanations. She congratulated Ms. Darling and Ms. Fletcher and said it looked like the school was well-prepared for a new school year.
- Brian Schlang congratulated Ms. Darling on her accomplishment and Ms. Fletcher for being named Assistant Principal. He stated he was excited for the beginning of the school year and for a successful school year. He asked if the school would have an SRO in place for the first day of school. Mr. Sasse responded that the school would have someone in place so the school is covered with an SRO. He asked if there was an update on new Governing Board members. Ms. Vernon replied an ad would be run that the school was looking for another Board member.

Adjournment

- A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by LuAnn Comes and seconded by Christopher Buckley. The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes respectfully submitted by
LuAnn Comes

Minutes are accepted as a final copy by:



Brian Schlang, Board Chair Member

9-24-18

Date

Upcoming meeting for 2018 - 2019 School Year:

September 24, 2018

March 4, 2019

November 27, 2018

May 20, 2019

January 28, 2019

June 17, 2019

All meetings are scheduled for 5:30 p.m.