

Minutes
Imagine at Broward, Inc.
Imagine School at Broward
Governing Board Meeting
September 23, 2019
5:30 PM
Final

Imagine School at Broward

Brian Schlang (Board Member – Chairperson) – in attendance

Christopher Buckley (Board Member) – in attendance

John Gerun (Board Member) – in attendance

Welcome

Mr. Schlang called the meeting to order at 5:35pm with 3 of the Governing Board members in attendance. Mr. Schlang welcomed the Board, Mr. Sasse from Imagine Schools, guests and the public to the meeting.

Public Notice

Ms. Darling indicated that the meeting was publicly noticed by the website, parent newsletter (via email) and flyers posted on the main entry door to the school per the official school policy.

Mr. Schlang states that due to schedule issues Out of Field Waivers and Board Vote for Secretary shall be tabled to 10/28/2019 meeting.

Approval of Minutes August 13, 2019

Mr. Schlang asks that the Board review the minutes and provide any questions on the meeting minutes of the Board Meetings on August 13, 2019. August 13, 2019 meeting minutes had clerical corrections.

Audit Report 2018-2019

Mr. Schlang asks the board to begin review of the 2018-2019 Audit report.

Ms. Sornat from Berman Hopkins CPA presents the Preliminary Audit and a 3 page summary.

Ms. Sornat stated that the documents given to the Board as a draft of the fiscal audit and the auditor was waiting for confirmation from Imagine Schools to finalize. She further stated that the audit considers all funds – General Fund, Capital Outlays and the new Debt Service Fund, as well as Financials and Controls Compliance. The debt service fund was established to service the issuance of 2019 Series A/B bonds in the amount of \$19.175k in June 2019. Further the audit was prepared using GAPP and Government Audit Standards. The auditor prepared the GAAP audit and the yellow-book required due to use of Government funds. Ms. Sornat asks the Board to look at the financials – 3 reports – page 32 contains the government audit, page 34 has the Management Letter – Florida Auditor General.

Ms. Sornat was pleased to state that in their opinion the audit was 100% clean. This is summarized in the Management Disclosure and Analysis.

Ms. Sornat states that \$1.4M are new assets due to the Bond issuance and \$1.362M due to the Bond Reserve requirement.

Ms. Sornat states that the Statement of Accounts shows revenues, expenses and FTE higher due to more students enrolled.

The Board instructs Ms. Sornat that it is their recommendation that the auditor breakout Bond Issuance Expenses in the reporting to ensure clarity of reporting.

Ms. Sornat explains that the Bond Issuance Cost is the difference why the net position is lower at the end of the year, otherwise net position would have increased by \$130k for the year even with the Board approved higher salary expenses.

Mr. Schlang asks for clarification that the Bond Issuance Fees must be expensed – Ms. Sornat states that it is required to expense these fees in the year occurred.

Ms. Sornat asks the Board to reference page 8. He notes that Accrued Payroll Salaries are \$398,406. Ms. Sornat states that this is usually high because salaries are paid over 12 months and leads to a large accrual at the end of the year.

Mr. Sasse stated that Elsa would work on the final Imagine items once she returns from sick leave. Mr. Sasse also thanked April Leonard for achieving a clean audit.

The Board asks the public and others to leave the room to conduct a closed session as mandated by Florida Law.

Safety and Security Assurances, Active Assailant Response Plan and School Security Risk Assessment.
This section was done under closed session as per law, no minutes.

The Board voted unanimously to approve the Safety and Security Assurances, Active Assailant Response Plan and School Security Risk Assessment in Closed Session.

The Board moves back to open session.

Principals Report

Ms. Darling states that 51 cameras were all now installed. Camera software to monitor will be installed on 4 workstations. VPN access is being requested by CSPD and for key staff. The front door changes had to be redesigned to open inwards – fire department would allow as long as the office staff was less than 50 for normal use. This would allow for doors to open correctly with the new design. CSPD recommended registering Imagine Charter on several safety websites.

Ms. Darling states that there is a question on a school Guardian that the Board needs to be aware of. Brian Katz of the Broward School Board Safety office was questioning if having a CSPD officer would be compliant to maintain the requirement of having a safe school officer in the long term. He stated that this question is open to interpretation.

Mr. Sasse states that a school Guardian goes through 144 hours of training, level 2 background screening, drug test, psychological screening and has a concealed weapons permit. Mr. Sasse further stated that Broward County has said that the school Guardian cannot be a teacher.

Ms. Darling stated that Broward County is enforcing the Guardian requirement stringently and has closed one school for non-compliance and put another school on 90 day warning due to a violation of the program.

Ms. Sasse provided 2 security companies that could provide a Guardian for the school, the cost would be \$27 per hour.

Ms. Darling stated that there are multiple reasons to have both the school Guardian and CSPD.

Mr. Schlang asks why the CSPD cannot be the school Guardian.

Mr. Sasse stated that an SRO will not be provided and cannot meet the Guardian requirement.

Mr. Sasse further states that if the school gets a contracted Guardian it would be beneficial because it would not increase insurance rates due to safety concerns.

Ms. Darling states that the school has an excellent candidate to fulfill the Guardian requirement and would want to put him through training – Mr. Johan Betancur. Mr. Betancur is currently providing Behavior Support and is the Athletic Director. Mr. Betancur already has a level 2 background check, concealed weapon permit and is willing to do the Guardian training /program.

Mr. Gerun asks if having Mr. Betancur as Guardian would affect insurance rates in anyway. Ms. Darling states no since he is non-generating for FTE.

Mr. Sasse further adds that if the Board decides to choose Mr. Betancur that Imagine can facilitate trades with other Imagine Schools for coverage in the case a Guardian is absent to allow for coverage and compliance.

Ms. Darling further states that it was a great start to the school year. Additionally that the PTO plans on replacing the yellow playground next year. Further the school had its first Spirit Week and will be holding its first annual trunk or treat event.

Ms. Darling then informed the Board of 4 different areas of needs:

- Staffing that would include:
 - o Additional support staff

- ESE
- On-site Tech support
- Pay for Performance rewards
- Teacher Salaries
- Technology
 - Laptops for staff
 - Touchscreens
 - Computer carts to bring ratios to 1:1
 - Smart Board Mounted on Ceilings
 - Focus on Smart Classroom
 - STEAM
- Facility/Building Upgrades
- Programs

Board states that Mr. Gerun is to work with Ms. Darling to get a more firm proposal that prioritizes needs.

Mr. Schlang/Mr. Gerun ask if any additional analysis was done to see the feasibility of adding 3 additional classrooms for additional funding.

Mr. Schlang states that we need to look at building the school forward for the future and that we have an extra \$200k per year and an additional \$800k in the first two years to be able to establish that due to the school building acquisition.

Mr. Sasse states that getting to 900 students gets additional FTE funds, but also is related to a referendum that is being challenged in Palm Beach County court that excludes Charter Schools from obtaining school safety funding via a recent millage increase.

Public Input:

None.

Mr. Schlang requests to move to Board Input.

Mr. Buckley does not have additional input.

Mr. Gerun states that we have a great opportunity to add programs and set Imagine Broward on a great path forward and praises Ms. Leonard for a clean audit.

Mr. Schlang states that he congratulates Ms. Leonard on a clean audit and that he is looking forward to getting information on a plan to move forward for the school.

Mr. Schlang asks to move onto Board Voting.

Mr. Schlang motions to approve the August 23, 2019 meeting minutes with clerical corrections, Mr. Gerun seconds. All Board members present voted in favor.

Mr. Schlang adjourns the meeting at 6:33pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by John Gerun

Minutes are accepted as a final copy by:



Brian Schlang, Board Chair Member

Date

Upcoming meetings for 2019-2020 School Year:

October 28, 2019

All meetings are scheduled for 5:30 PM.