

Minutes
Imagine at Broward, Inc.
Imagine School at Broward
Governing Board Meeting
November 20, 2023
5:30 PM
In Person

Imagine School at Broward

Brian Schlang (Board Member – Chairperson) – in attendance
Christopher Buckley (CO-Secretary/Board Member) – not in attendance
John Gerun (CO-Secretary/Board Member) -in attendance
Esme Maldonado (Board Member/Secretary) – in attendance
Lori Rine (Board Member) – in attendance
Debra Darling (Principal) – in attendance
Julienne Winninger (Assistant Principal)-in attendance
Melanie Cardona- (Assistant Principal) -not in attendance
Rod Sasse- not in Attendance
Susan Onori (Regional Director) – in attendance
Elsa Forthmuller (Regional Finance Director) – in attendance
Shakira Taylor (Business Manager) – in attendance
Brooke Davidson-London (Parent Liaison) – in attendance

Welcome

Mr. Schlang called the meeting to order at 5:34 p.m. Mr. Schlang welcomed the Board and the public to the meeting. Ms. Darling announced the meeting was being recorded.

Public Notice

Ms. Darling indicated that the meeting notice was publicized on the website, parent newsletter (via parent square), and flyers posted on the main entry door to the school per the official school policy.

Tax Referendum Lawsuit-Past Referendum Retro Pay

Shawn Arnold, an attorney, discussed the Tax Referendum Lawsuit, and how Palm Beach County, and other counties won their lawsuit to include charter schools in the first round of referendum money. There are four years' worth of referendum that was not paid to charter schools. Shawn discussed how much money Imagine School at Broward would receive, as well as the legal fees involved. It was noted the school would pay all legal fees. He also advised that other charter school companies in Broward County filed law suits as well. Broward County Public Schools will not settle with all charter schools unless they come forward and sue.

Approval of Minutes – September 21, 2023

Mr. Schlang asked if any of the Board members had any corrections or questions for the September 21, 2023 minutes. They were reviewed and minor changes were made.

Financials

The Actuals and Projections were discussed. November thru June are just projections based on what they think Imagine School at Broward will receive. They are waiting on FTE counts and payments to be released from the district. Local revenue was discussed. Teacher salary increases and how the referendum would work with the salaries were discussed.

Principals Report

Since our last GB meeting in September, we have many updates to share. Imagine Broward had lots of great events in October and November. Our families enjoyed the Fall Festival, annual Trunk or Treat event, character parades, honor roll assemblies, and the dedicated parent teacher conferencing day. We are happy to officially welcome Mrs. Julienne Winninger as our Assistant Principal. With the new tax referendum funding, Imagine Broward has welcomed Mrs. Sara Jones as a social worker. She is working closely with Mrs. Reale our guidance counselor. Mrs. Jones has jumped right in and is actively working with students. After assessing our 1st quarter DESSA, she has created social squads where students meet together to work on life skills. She is being trained to be our 504 liaison and is also monitoring student attendance.

We are so proud of our teacher Mrs. Stefanie Shaw as she was voted our 2023-2024 Teacher of the Year. She has been with Imagine for 10 years. She was our 2nd/3rd grade Math and Science Team lead and has created and grown our STEM Lab. She is our Advanced Reading Challenge Coordinator and currently she has 46 students participating.

Our Registrar, AP and Principal have begun training on FOCUS which is the new SIS replacing TERMS. It will fully be implemented next year.

Reporting on Middle School:

We had a successful basketball season. Our MS athletics department was able to host home games for the first time in Imagine Broward history. It was heartwarming to have so many of our past students return to cheer on the teams. Volleyball kicks off the week of December 13th. The boys and girls teams are practicing hard in the gymnasium.

Our Middle School Drama students competed in the District Thespians competition on November 11th. Our Thespians earned 16 Superior ratings, which is the highest rating possible and 14 Excellence. We had our first ever Critics Choice award for the duet by Daniella Abadir and Franceska Escobar which was the judge's top performance of the day. Eight (8) of the Superior acts will be going to the State Competition in Orlando in January.

Academics

Our 2nd progress monitoring window opens on Monday, December 4th. All grade levels will be taking the STAR Math and Reading assessments. In addition, 3rd-8th grade will be taking the Cambium assessments in Math and Reading. Our second round of data chats will occur when we return from Winter Break.

Imagine Broward has purchased the IXL science program for 5th and 8th grade science classes so

the school can properly progress monitor the science standards for the 5th & 8th grade state assessments. In addition, we expanded the IXL Math program to K and 1st.

Enrollment

Our budgeted enrollment for the school year is 1050 students. Our current enrollment is 1053. We have a 1st & 2nd grader enrolling next week. We continue to call in students from our waitlist. The lottery for the 2024-2025 school year opens tomorrow Friday, December 1st. The lottery will take place on March 8th.

Finance

We exceeded our budgeted enrollment for the first FTE Week on October with 1061 students.

For our first Book Fair, we had over \$22,000 in sales. Now that we have a gymnasium and can host home games, we have been able to sell tickets earning the school about \$2,000.00 from just hosting 4 home games.

Tax referendum monies are being distributed to teachers and staff starting on December 15th.

Session Two Enrichments began with over 20 classes being offered.

The STEM Lab furniture has been installed for our wonderful *Teacher of The Year* to enjoy with her classes. We received furniture pricing to continue upgrading our classrooms and the conference room and front office.

Health and Safety

The permitting for the perimeter fencing is complete and we are now waiting for the installation dates from the builder.

The Principal, APs, ESE Specialist and Counselors are all being trained on the new Florida Threat Assessment Model being used by the District starting in January.

Shared Values & Character Development

Canned Food Drive in November donated to the Broward Pantry.

1st grade partnered again with Aston Gardens (senior living community). 1st grade classes are making blankets and will go to the center to sing carols and gift the blankets in-person to the residents.

Parent Choice committee is collecting new pajamas to help give to the company called *In Kind Donation*.

Shared Values is organizing a snowflake tree where proceeds will fund a family in need from our school community.

Upcoming Events

- PTO's holiday shop starts tomorrow
- Drama performance of the Wizard of OZ Dec 8 & 9

- Middle School Dance Dec 15th
- 2nd Quarter Spirit Week Dec 18th
- VPK Holiday Show Dec 18th
- Band Concert Dec 19th

2 year refresher course is done every 3 years:

Gerun and Buckley - 8/2021

Esme - 8/2025

Lori - 10/2021

Adjunct Teacher Certificate:

The policy adopted by Imagine School at Broward (the "School") and pursuant to section 1012.57 Florida Statutes provides the policy for the School to allow for the issuance of an adjunct teaching certificate to any applicant who fulfills the requirements of section 1012.56(2)(a)-(f) and (11). Florida Statutes and who has expertise in the subject area to be taught.

Internet Safety Policy:

Imagine School at Broward (the "School") recognizes the value of electronic devices and the internet to improve student learning and enhance school administration and operations. However, the internet is an unregulated vehicle for communication, information, and interactions on the internet can pose certain risks to students and staff members. Therefore, the Governing Board adopts this policy governing the use of school networks to comply with Florida law and State Board of Education rules, and to provide rules for students and employees accessing such networks.

Name Deviation Policy:

This policy adopted by Imagine Broward, Inc (the "School") provides the procedures for a student to be called a name other than the name on their birth certificate. The School will abide by all laws and administrative rules concerning student records, as they are amended from time to time. Parent notification or procedures can be found in the school's Student & Parent Handbook.

Special Magistrate for Teachers:

This is the policy on complaints related to a teacher being directed by Imagine School at Broward (the "School") to violate general law or State Board rules as described in Section 1015.06, Florida Statutes. This policy is implemented to comply with the requirements of Rule 6A-1.094127, Florida Administrative Code, Section 1015.06, Florida Statutes and other relevant laws. A special magistrate will only consider disputes where a classroom teacher alleges that he or she has been directed to violate general law or State Board of Education Rule by the School or the School District.

Threat Management Policy:

Imagine School at Broward (the "School") shall establish a threat management team in accordance with Section 1006.07(7), Florida Statutes. The primary purpose of a threat management team is to minimize the risk of violence at the school. The threat management team

is responsible for the coordination of resources and assessment and intervention of individuals whose behavior may pose a threat to the safety of school, staff or students.

Teacher Evaluation System:

Imagine School at Broward will continue to utilize Florida Consortium of Public Charter Schools' *Observe4Success* as an evaluation tool. This evaluation system is state approved.

SIP Review-Students with Disabilities:

Broward County Public Schools require schools to complete a SIP plan if the school is a title 1 school, or if a sub group did not meet specific proficiency. The ESE students at Imagine School at Broward has not met the 41% proficiency in the last three years' worth of state testing. The report is data based, and contains area of focuses with goals to achieve at least 42% or higher with the ESE subgroup at Imagine School at Broward.

TSIA Preliminary Expenditure Report:

The signature needed to be updated even though it was approved in the last meeting. Nothing is going to change content wise, just a signature.

Employee Compensation Plan:

The base salary for Imagine School at Broward is \$48,925.00. The school will be using a one-dimensional Merit Grid to determine the pay for performance component. Teachers in identified critical shortage areas or who assume additional academic responsibilities may receive addition compensation up to \$1,000.00. All bonus performances are subject to funding. Tax referendum funding will be used as a supplement to be distributed to all full time-certified teachers and full-time staff based on years of experience and employment.

Grant Opportunities:

Imagine School At Broward is opting out of two grants, and a governing board chair signature is required. The grants that are being opted out of are a Music Grant for Early Childhood and Supplemental Improvement Grant.

Public Input:

There was no public input.

Board Input:

Mrs. Maldonado is very happy about the tax referendum lawsuit because it will help the teachers, students and school. The Principal report was very informative as always with lots of good things happening. Very excited for second semester, and thanked the entire school and staff for their amazing leadership. Mr. Gerun welcomed Mrs. Wenninger. He is also very happy about the tax referendum. He also congratulated both Mrs. Shaw for Teacher of The Year, and his daughter's accomplishments. Mr. Schlang advised everyone was doing a great job. He also discussed about having future board meetings in the new building.

Board Vote

Mrs. Maldonado motions to tentatively approve the Tax Referendum Lawsuit with Shawn Arnold with a threshold of legal fees of \$10,000.00. Mr. Gerun seconds and all present board members voted in favor.

Mrs. Rine motions to approve the September 21st minutes with the minor changes discussed. Mrs. Maldonado seconds and all present board members voted in favor.

Mr. Gerun makes a motion to approve the Adjunct Teacher Certificate. Mrs. Rine seconds and all present board members voted in favor.

Mrs. Maldonado motions to approve the updated Internet Policy. Mr. Gerun seconds and all present board members voted in favor.

Mrs. Rine motions to approve the Name Deviation Form Mr. Gerun seconds and all present board members voted in favor.

Mr. Gerun motions to approve the Special Magistrate for Teachers. Mrs. Maldonado seconds and all present board members voted in favor.

Mrs. Rine motions to approve the Threat Management Policy. Mr. Gerun seconds and all present board members voted in favor.

Mrs. Maldonado motions to approve the Florida Consortium of Public Charter Schools Teacher Evaluation System for Imagine School at Broward. Mrs. Rine seconds and all present board members voted in favor.

Mr. Geron motions to approve the SIP Plan (Review) for Students with Disabilities. Mrs. Rine seconds and all present board members voted in favor.

Mrs. Maldonado motions to approve the TSIA Preliminary Expenditure Report. Mrs. Rine seconds and all present board members voted in favor.

Mr. Gerun motions to approve the Employee Compensation Plan. Mrs. Maldonado seconds and all present board members voted in favor.

Mrs. Rine motions to approve the opting out of the Music Grant for Early Childhood. Mr. Gerun seconds and all present board members voted in favor.

Mrs. Maldonado motions to approve the opting out of the Supplemental Improvement Grant. Mrs. Rine seconds and all present board members voted in favor.

Mr. Schlang adjourns the meeting at 7:13 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Esme Maldonado.

Minutes are accepted as a final copy by:



Brian Schlang, Board Chair Member

4-18-2024
Date

Suggested Upcoming Meetings

Thursday, February 15, 2024

Thursday, June 13, 2024