



TRUE NORTH

truenorthcharter.org

Board Meeting Agenda

August 1, 2016 ❖ 4:30pm
9393 Sunset Drive • Miami, FL 33173

I. Opening Session

A. Call to Order & Roll Call

Call to order at 4:42pm

Present: Luis Diaz, Rudy Pages, Ernie Rodriguez, Pete Windhorst

Other: Curt Fuller, Mark Levine

B. Agenda - Approval of Agenda

Moved by Luis Diaz, Seconded by Rudy Pages. Approved unanimously

II. Reports

School Progress Report

School grades have been released for the State of Florida. Calculations were based on student achievement (proficiency) and learning gains in our state-mandated test (FSA). Our school received a very high "A." We scored in the top 1% for elementary schools in the State of Florida. True North ranked 18th in the state out of over 2,000 elementary schools.

True North is fully staffed for the upcoming school year. New teachers were recruited from around the Country from top schools.

New teachers will start Professional Development training on August 1st. A very comprehensive 3 week training that includes overall classical education philosophy, curriculum and teaching practices. Various speakers are contracted with to provide a solid, integrated development plan. Trainers are being brought in for Singapore Math, Junior Great Books, IEW writing, Philosophy of Classical Education and Teach Like a Champion. Returning teachers will start training on August 8th.

New Teachers will have a mentor program that includes weekly and monthly meetings with our current teachers and administration. The Foundation has hired an experienced Classical Education Headmaster from a network of classical charter schools that will provide additional oversight and development of True North. A Teacher social would be held and paid for by the Foundation immediately after the Board Meeting. All teachers and Board members are invited to attend.

B. Finance Report

Written financials were provided to the Board in the Board Packet and year to date and monthly financials were reviewed. Audited financials are in process and should be completed later this month.

We should receive grant approval and disbursements this upcoming week.

III. Consent Agenda

. Approve Minutes from 4/29/16

Moved by Luis Diaz, Seconded by Rudy Pages. Approved unanimously

IV. Board Discussion / Actions

A. Family Handbook Approval

Board reviewed and approved new Family Handbook

B. Parent Contract Approval

Changes were made to the parent contract to family handbook. District feedback was incorporated and changed. Additional changes included changing the volunteer hours from 30 to 10.

C. Budget Approval

School budget for 2016-2017 was approved subject to an adjustment to align budget to GAAP accounting practices.

D. Foundation Consulting Approval

The Foundation hired an additional staff that includes an experienced administrator of classical charter schools. He will be visiting True North twice a month with a focus on developing all aspects of the schools culture, teacher development, and academic achievement. The Foundation is donating the consulting and development expertise and there is no cost to True North. Board approved the operational and consultative service help of the Foundation personnel.

E. Out of Field/ESOL Assignment Approvals

Additional Out of Field and ESOL waivers are needed for the new teachers that do not have ESOL endorsement. Teachers will work on getting their Certifications.

F. Headmaster Review Discussion

Headmaster review was discussed. Mr. Diaz will be presenting final review to the Headmaster.

G. Request District approval for year 2nd student increase

Board approved formal amendment to increase 2nd year enrollment from 248 students to 280 students. Amendment to be submitted to the District within the week.

Motion to approve above items A. through G. Item F modified and approved subject to change in GAAP alignment. Item D approved with added request to research if a formal Foundation agreement should be created.

Approved unanimously.

III. Next Steps

Discussed the board meeting schedule. There was a discussion to move to a quarterly schedule this year. Discussed future meeting dates as the following: September 23, 2016, December 16, 2016, March 17, 2017 and June 16, 2017.

Board members agreed on new dates. Next meeting will be held on September 23, 2016 at 10:00am

IV. Public Comments
None.

V. Adjournment
Meeting adjourned at 6:04pm

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of loops and strokes, positioned above a horizontal line.

Approved by Governing Board November 30, 2016
Signed by Luis Diaz, Governing Board Chairperson