

CONNECTIONS EDUCATION CENTER OF THE PALM BEACHES
BOARD MEETING Minutes
July 19, 2023
Meeting Called to Order at 6:57 PM

1. **Attendance:** Michael Kridel, Steve Padula, Valerie Silverman, Jay Huebner, Orlando Ortiz, Tony Greene, Debi Johnson, Jason Portman, Sonia Kay, Pam Ludwick, Melissa Carman, Bruce Evans, Elinor Siklossy

2. **Public Comments**

Thank you all for coming. Combined meeting is first of many as we plan for the future.

3. **Approval of Minutes from last Meeting on June 23, 2023**

Motion to Accept Minutes- 1st Jay, 2nd Orlando. Motion passed.

4. **Summer Retreat- August 26th**

More details to follow but plan for 4 hour meeting to discuss transition to the future.

5. **Treasurer's Report**

a. Budget Review-Current

Fund balance is seen on budget sent to you. Audit process starting. Auditor contract is for 3 years. Bus expenditure split between deposit for new bus and current lease with rental bus.

When RFP is sent in 2026, Michael would like to send letters to accounting firms to try and understand why they are not responding.

b. Referendum Money (vote)

Receiving \$132,102.987 from district . This is an unweighted number and compares to \$484.000 that we received last year. This year's amount will be designated to teacher stipends (90%) and security. Payments should begin in August. Budget amendment if amount changes.

MOTION to Approve- 1st Steve, 2nd Michael. Motion Passed.

6. **Principal's Report**

a. Opening of School – Open House- August 5- 10-12:30

b.

90 students enrolled. Camp ending, building closed last week of August for refurbishment. Two new hires; still looking for one teacher. Title 1 schedule complete for trainings and tutoring.

New student information system: School Cues. Will allow messages to be pushed to parents by text. Tracks attendance, waiting list, and improved communication with parents.

Grants pending are FI Panther, and United Way. Received Quantum, 100 Women Who Care. Sending LOI's out for next year. Playground funded by private donors.

7. Operations

a. Facility- Building Hope

Waiting on permits for roof. Received elevator and fence design; Waiting on permits.

8. Fundraising/Marketing Update

Current goal is 1.25 million dollars. Push for corporate sponsors. Align fundraising to procure operational funds.

9. Approval of Anthony Greene as Board Member

Motion to approve Anthony as Board Member: 1st Valerie, 2nd Jay. Motion passed.

9. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn at 7:26 PM- 1st Valerie, 2nd Jay. Motion passed.

Submitted by *Sonia F. Kay, Ph.D.* Date: 8/18/23

NEXT BOARD MEETING – Virtual Meeting, August 18 at 9:00 AM by Zoom

