

JULY 19, 2022
 4:30PM

VIA ZOOM

MEETING FACILITATOR	Leo Pacheco, Chairman of the Board	
ATTENDEES	Nneka Nwakoby Susan Kile Debbie Hart Teecy Matthews	Secretary Treasurer Director Executive Director
NOT IN ATTENDANCE	Kelly Thompson, Co-chair Don Schroeder, Director	
GUESTS		

OPENING

Verification of Quorum

Mr. Leo Pacheco verified that a Quorum of the Board was present.

Call to Order

Mr. Leo Pacheco called the meeting to order at 4:30PM

STANDING BUSINESS

CSP Grant

Mrs. Matthews attended a mandatory Webinar on the CSP Grant.

Facilities Update re: CSP Grant

Mr. Pacheco shared that Building Hope informed him that there was no way OCHS could open in time for the Fall 2022-23 school year – hence the reason for calling this special meeting. This raised concerns about the status of the OCHS charter contract and the timeframes/deadlines established in the charter school application, as well as the CSP Grant for OCHS, and whether or not that would be negatively affected – possibly causing the school to be denied the grant.

Mrs. Matthews reached out to her point person for the CSP Grant, Vicky Panetta, who is the Charter School Program Director for the Dept. of Ed, to get an answer. Mrs. Matthews stated her response from Vicky was to this effect, “I did speak with Adam (Emerson) [the School Choice Director for the State of Florida Dept. of Ed] and the school may receive a planning award this year and then transfer into the implementation next Spring.”

According to Ms. Panetta, the way this would work is that the school would submit a budget to receive the initial \$50,000 now to put toward the planning phase and then transfer into implementation afterwards. The remainder of the \$700,000 would then need to be put to use within the next two years. The award is based

on the projection of 75 students in the first year. If OCHS opens with fewer students, the grant award would be reduced.

Mrs. Kile raised concerns that the postponement of the opening date could very negatively impact student enrollment, particularly with the students who have already pre-enrolled. She stated that postponement could leave a bad taste in the mouths of parents and make it appear the school is disorganized or didn't plan accordingly, albeit this is due to no fault of the school. She was deeply concerned about the optics and message it could send and what long-term effects it may have on the school.

Mr. Pacheco shared that he agreed with her assessment, but also concluded that there is a plan in place to help deter that from happening. Mrs. Matthews shared the plan that Ms. Brown, OCHS' Principal, will meet with every pre-enrolled 9th and 10th grader and their parents to "personally" walk them through their return to their zoned schools, and keep in constant communication throughout the process to hopefully keep them engaged. Albeit the expectation of disappointment is already there, Ms. Brown will foster those relationships with the anticipation those students will re-enroll for the following year, if all goes well with acquiring a building.

Mr. Pacheco made a motion to approve the request to move the opening date of OCHS from August 2022 to August 2023. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Nwakoby.

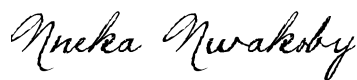
The motion was passed by majority vote.

CONCLUSION

Meeting was adjourned at 5:06PM.

Board Secretary Certificate

I hereby certify that the foregoing Meeting Minutes were adopted by a majority vote of a quorum of the Governing Board of Directors at a duly noticed meeting held on February 3, 2023.



Board Secretary Signature

2/3/2023

Date

Nneka Nwakoby

Print Name