



Early Childhood Learning Center

Monday, October 2, 2017 5:00 pm
Early Childhood Learning Center
4309 N. 34th Street
Tampa, FL 33609

In attendance: Board Director Gin Lieberman (GL), Board President Michelle Shimberg (MS)

Guests included: ECLC Principal Frances McCrimmon (FM); Ms. Simmons (School District); Frankie Jones (FJ), Avia Dewar (AD); Evolution Institute, Inc. Executive Director Jerry Miller (JM); Remus Bulmer (RB); Darlene DeMarie (DD); Robert Johnston (RJ); Jerome Lieberman (JL); and Carlye Morgan (CM).

1. Opening Session

- a. Meeting was called to order at 5:00pm.
- b. GL moves to approve the agenda. This was passed by **unanimous consent**.

2. Public Comment

- a. None were submitted

3. Reports

- a. School Progress Report: Principal Fran McCrimmon gave overview.
 - 28 students coming regularly; 29 registered but 1 is not attending; one parent came in to get the forms for admission.
 - Investigating reading curriculum. There are two options under review: Wonder and Superkids
 - New partitions received.
 - Fran will check with Jenna at the district about help in moving others at the district wide meeting this week.
 - We need to make sure all the kids are here next week for the official count.
 - We had an open house last week and did some surveys. People like the small intimate setting, the location; kids get the attention they need; individual attention.
 - 11 families represented at the parent meeting. Ashle will work on summarizing the survey data.
 - We are not sure the kids are ready for a field trip so the teachers asked if we can bring the field trip to school. We are looking for someone that deals with butterflies.
 - Out-of-Field Teachers Parent Notification letter being sent to all parents.
- b. JL suggested Frankie Jones can get more involved with the parents. JL asked if there was any follow up with Potter Elementary liaison. There has not been.
- c. FM asks for business cards. JM said to email Ashle for the design and order.
- d. Open House:
 - Avia Dewar said some parents did not come to the open house due to work schedules. Some did not have someone to watch to kids. She said she



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thought it was a good turnout.

e. Financial Report

- ECLC has about a \$40,000 deficit.
- We have openings and so any new student will help reduce the deficit.
- We planned for the deficit and while we have the money to cover the deficit we would rather have the money for the student achievement.
- JL estimates the loss will be a little higher.
- JL would rather see that the money raised be used to enrich the students experience.
- JL would like a plan to close the deficit for the next meeting.
- MS asked Fran and JM to go over the budget and fine tune it.
- MS was going to ask FJ and Brittany McCloud (ECLC teacher) to reach out for new students.

4. Consent Agenda

- a. Correction to Minutes from previous meeting: GL had a correction on the prior minutes: It should read 'Number World' not 'Everyday Math' at end of the minutes.
- b. Approve Minutes from previous meeting: GL moves we approve the minutes and it was **unanimously approved**.

5. Board Discussion/Actions

- a. Individual Education Plans (IEP): Board discussed students with IEP's and the need to provide such services.
 - Fran reports they are in the system with IEP which already means parents were involved.
 - JL is concerned there may be an open-ended liability. JM reported that there may be since funding is limited but the services are required. It is something we need to watch.
 - JL was wondering if the organizations we reached out to could provide services for no cost. But it was reported those services were not clinical/individual therapeutic.
- b. Contract Approval for Speech Therapy:
 - Fran reported that the speech contract is a good price at \$50/hour.
 - A motion to approve the contract was made and it was **approved unanimously**.
- c. School Finance Report Approval:
 - GL moved to accept the financial report.
 - There were no objections and it was **unanimously approved**.
- d. Expanding Charter School Board:
 - MS reported that JL has left the ECLC board and he can now participate freely in discussions as he is no longer bound by Sunshine Laws.



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- In order to expand the board, the Evolution Institute (EI) made changes to its bylaws to allow a special class of board members to join the EI board solely for the school.
 - DD, RJ, and FJ were all approved for this special class by the board.
 - RJ accepts pending permission from his company.
 - DD accepts the appointment.
 - MS and FJ will talk after the meeting about her joining the board.
 - JM will get the info to RJ and DD for the board training. They will also need to get fingerprinting for the district.
 - MS indicated we would like a parent involved and to continue to expand the board.
- e. Student Progress & Education Quality Meeting Report:
- Discussed were the need to establish annual goals; the use of different types of assessments, including teacher reports and authentic assessment; the social and emotional assessment required by Straz and an executive function assessment.
 - Fran reported that the kids are making real progress.
- f. Early Learning Community Meeting:
- MS attended this meeting organized by the Superintendent of Hillsborough County School District and includes individuals involved in early childhood across the community.
 - The focus is how to improve outcome and quality of their early childhood learning.
 - The individual workgroups are meeting with a collective group meeting next month.
 - The Superintendent asked that if committees want plans to be implemented for 2018-19, they need to be developed in the next 3-4 months.
 - DD knows the Chair of the quality group that JL sits on.
 - Evelyn McFadden from the school district was there and MS spoke with her about setting a meeting up with us to discuss the possibility of a Head Start.
- g. Evans High School Meeting:
- JL reported on a planned meeting at Evans Community School - a high school in Orlando that is considered a national model for incorporating supportive services as part of the school.
 - The meeting is Thursday, Nov 2nd from 9-11 am. If anyone else is interested in attending he would like to know by next week. MS may be going.
- h. Curriculum:
- GL would like to see a process be established in regards to changes in the curriculum. This is to ensure that it adheres to the model as described in the proposal.
 - JM agreed and thought GL and DD could meet with FM and the teachers on the Tuesday's they volunteer at the school so curriculum can be discussed.



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- DD doesn't want to see a lot of worksheets because skills don't generalize but wants more meaningful work.
 - DD Moves to approve purchase of the Wonder reading series. GL seconds. The vote was **unanimously approved**.
- i. Plans for substitutes and additional staffing:
- JM spoke about the need to be able to bring substitutes in and will ask Ashle to check into it.
- j. Summer School Planning:
- The topic of planning for summer, PreK and after-school programming came up and it was agreed that the planning should begin.
 - RB reported that BayCare has community based programs for free, including swimming, bike and bike safety.
 - AD, RB, CM, FJ, and JM will be on the committee for planning for summer programming.
 - JM also agreed to coordinate for the next school year.
 - CM recommend adding one age at a time to make things work smoothly.
- k. Improvements for East Tampa Community:
- JL met with Rep. Shawn Shaw. Rep. Shaw said he would be interested in proposed legislation for the improvement of east Tampa. He will be coming to the center on the 20th to meet with Rainbow Heights, ECLC, and others to improve the physical infrastructure of the community and the economic structure.
 - Ken Reardon will be here - he is a nationally known urban planner and an EI Board Member.
 - Also attending will be a retired Polk County Planner and a member of an engineering firm who may be able to help.
 - The purpose is to come up with a plan that the city, county, and state can utilize in improving the community.

6. Adjourned at 7:02 pm.

Important Dates

October 16 – Non-student Day

November 6 – Board Meeting

November 10 – Veterans Day – No School

November 20-24 – Thanksgiving Break

Future Board Meeting Dates – Dec. 4, Jan. 8, Feb. 5, Mar. 5, April 2, May 7

* Board meetings have been moved to 1st Monday of every month and will be from 5-7pm.