



East Tampa Academy

Monday, February 5, 2018 5:00 pm
East Tampa Academy
(formerly Early Childhood Learning Center)
4309 N. 34th Street
Tampa, FL 33609

Board members in attendance: Gin Lieberman (GL), Michelle Shimberg (MS), Darlene DeMarie (DD), Robert Johnston (RJ)

Guests: Frankie Jones (FJ), Jerry Lieberman (JL), Fran McCrimmon (FM), Jerry Miller (JM), Remus Bulmer (RB)

1. Opening Session

- a. Meeting was called to order at 5:05pm.
- b. A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda. This was passed by **unanimous consent.**

2. Public Comment

- a. JL reminded that Margarita Roma of Dade County has offered to provide donations of items for our families if needed. This is mostly home goods.
- b. JL wants to share what is going on in East Pasco where an application was submitted for a charter school (East Pasco Academy).

3. Reports

- School Progress Report
 - KRT assessment has finished with the vast majority at or above grade level. Average score is in the 80's and above. All the kids can decode (except for new children).
 - Many E's (Excellent) on the report card this term. 11 students with perfect attendance since the start of the school year.
 - There was a field trip to Florida Aquarium last week. Most of the students were very good - a few had difficulty in that environment. There were different experiences with the boys and the girls in terms of behavior. The kids talked about their visit for several days afterwards.
 - Thursday night, Feb 8, is Spaghetti dinner; Title 1 meeting - 6:30 to 8 pm
 - Michelle is providing spaghetti/sauce/bread/salad. Fran purchasing paper goods and drinks. Borrowing tables from RH Community Room. FJ offered idea about ice cream dessert/math exercise. Michelle will provide supplies.
 - Professional development Friday, the 9th, with Drs. DeMarie and Damjanovic 8:30-12.
 - There will be an Open house scheduled for every month starting on Feb.17
 - All parents of currently enrolled students have signed the intent to return next year; 2 new students have signed up, Brittany has 4 who are interested, Michelle has 4 who are interested, Frankie has one who is interested.

Financial Report

- The most up to date financial report was sent to all board members ahead of meeting.

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- Current deficit is about \$32K prior to Title 1 funding. We are looking at the budget to see what else can be cut.
- Bob Johnston is the Financial Committee chair for the Board.

4. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve Minutes from previous meeting: Minutes from previous meeting approved unanimously.
 - o Michelle moves to amend the Oct 2017 meeting minutes to reflect that the Title 1 letter was sent to parents. The was approved by unanimous consent.
 - o Ashle will amend the minutes.

5. Board Discussion/Actions

- a. Expanding Charter School Board:
 - We would like a larger board. JL suggests we figure out a way to accomplish this since it is important. He asked Frankie Jones to reach out to members of Rainbow Heights. Remus said he would be interested in joining.
 - Meetings for 2018-19 will be held bi-monthly, not monthly.
 - Changing the logistics may help. Parents may be better able to attend it if the meeting was held at 3:30pm.
- b. Student Recruitment/Open House:
 - Open House will be held on Feb 17th, March 24th and in April (TBD).
- c. Community Efforts Update- Rainbow Heights:
 - Food bank made a donation. They provide food for our families and for Rainbow Heights.
- d. Interior Facilities Improvements for 2018-19:
 - To improve the school facilities, it is estimated that it will cost about \$15-18K for the large room to create 3 rooms. The smaller room needs some work as does the outside.
 - JM recommends up to \$5K to improve the facility so we can get a child care license.
 - RJ moves to approve up to \$5K to get things ready for the early childhood license. GL seconds. **Unanimous approval.**
- e. Summer School Planning:
 - Planning has begun for the summer programming.
- f. Headstart/PreK Planning:
 - Planning has begun for PreK programming.
- g. Potter Elementary Visit:
 - School counselor came by. JL will coordinate a follow up.
- h. Partnership update – Tampa Housing Authority, University of South:
 - The Director of the Tampa Housing Authority and program director came to the school and wants to follow up with us on possible projects.



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- We need to send flyer and registration forms to them.
 - Dr. Hahn at Anchin Center may be able to provide student interns to us.
- i. Grant/Funding Updates:
- Valencia community
- j. School/Staff Needs:
- Still can use tutors. Three new tutors starting.
 - March field trip to Cracker Country at the State Fair Grounds.
 - A computer lab will be set up. We do need some tables.
 - JL recommends a teacher stipend discretionary fund be offered to the teachers.
 1. MS recommends a policy on reimbursement for certification:
 - a. reimbursement for certification
 - b. and some sort of discretionary funds.
 2. Remus recommends a reimbursement.
 - We may want to plan an emergency fund for families in extreme emergencies.
 - GL wants us to think about strategies of steps to take to make ETA a model school. Some suggestions from the attendees about important elements include:
 1. FM: consistency, listening, parent engagement, caring for the child.
 2. MS: social-emotional skills are critical
 3. RJ - time to develop, takes a while for a tree to develop, consistency, building trust
 4. JL - development of curiosity, play, peer learning
 5. JM reports that there is planning for project based learning - with a focus on social emotional skills
 6. DD - engagement in the coursework

6. Adjourned at 6:54 pm.

Important Dates

February 5-8 – FTE Count

February 8 – Family Game Night/Spaghetti Dinner/Parent Meeting

February 9 – No School (Fair Day)

May – Children's Museum Field Trip

Future Board Meeting Dates – Mar. 5, April 2, May 7

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