

ORANGE GROVE CHARTER SCHOOL
Report of the Board Meeting
August 17, 2023

ATTENDANCE:

Mr. Justin Welch, Mr. Alex Matos, Mrs. Erin Wilson, Mr. Mark Ables, Mrs. Sharon Dillon, Mr. Mac McSwain, Mrs. Brenda Bianchi, Mrs. Hattie Wallen, and Mr. John H. Clendaniel

ZOOM:

Mrs. Christy Nickolauson, Prestige School Solutions, LLC

ABSENT: Mrs. Rebecca Jones and Mr. Marcus DeBiasi

VISITORS:

Mr. Steven Schonveld, Principal, middle principal
Dr. Laney White, Principal, elementary campus
Dr. Heather Holmes, Assistant Principal, elementary campus
Mrs. Sarah Selvidge, Executive Assistant

1.0 CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Justin Welch called the Meeting to Order at 6:01pm.

2.0 Welcome/Pledge of Allegiance

3.0 Reading of the Mission Statement

Mr. Mark Ables read the Mission Statement.

4.0 Adoption of the Agenda

Mr. Mac McSwain made the motion and Mrs. Hattie Wallen seconded the motion to adopt the August 17th agenda. Motion approved.

5.0 Approval of Minutes

Mr. Mark Ables made the motion and Mrs. Hattie Wallen seconded the motion to approve the June 15th Minutes. Motion approved.

6.0 Citizen Participation:

No one appeared or requested to participate.

7.0 Financial Report

Mrs. Christy Nickolauson, Prestige School Solutions, LLC presented the June Financial Report. Mrs. Sharon Dillion made the motion and Mrs. Hattie Wallen seconded the motion to approve the June Financial Report as presented. Motion approved.

Mrs. Christy Nickolauson, Prestige School Solutions, LLC presented the July Financial Report. Mr. Mac McSwain made the motion and Mr. Mark Ables seconded the motion to approve the July Financial Report as presented. Motion approved.

8.0 CEO Report – Mr. John H. Clendaniel

Mr. John H. Clendaniel thanked the 2022-2023 returning Board Members (Mr. Mark Ables, Mrs. Hattie Wallen, Mrs. Rebecca Jones, and Mrs. Hattie Wallen) and welcomed the new 2023-2024 Board Members (Mrs. Sharon Dillon, Mrs. Brenda Bianchi, Mrs. Erin Wilson, Mr. Mac McSwain and Mr. Alex Matos).

Mr. John H. Clendaniel gave an overview of Orange Grove Charter to the new Board Members.

OG had the one of the best openings on Monday, August 13. Teachers had the morning to work in their rooms, then enjoyed lunch with staff and a brief faculty meeting. Afterwards, teachers teamed up for a campus-wide scavenger hunt, tie dyed t-shirts, and were dismissed at 3:00pm.

All openings have been filled including the late summer nursing position at the middle school. Nurse Westall moved to the middle school and two of our substitute nurses (who worked with CCSD as nurses) will job share at the elementary school.

Many projects were accomplished this summer: a new playground, numerous campus beautifications, updated technology, all new countertops at the elementary school, three new AC units, pressure washing both campuses, tree work at both campuses, a new bus, floors refinished, and the hallways, the parking lot, the kitchen, and the outdoor basketball courts all were repainted.

Professionally, admin attended a charter school conference in Austin, Texas in late June and a CCSD symposium conference in late July. A few teachers were sent to Las Vegas for an education conference also. This week we've had both in house PD's available for staff and district opportunities for them to attend.

LEAP meetings at both campuses started today. OG is the only school in the district that does this. LEAP – Learn, Evaluate, Assess and Plan, has been a great thing for

teachers and hopefully for parents also. This is an opportunity to meet and discuss one on one with parents and students. Compensation to staff is possible by using ESSER - Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funds category funding.

Teachers received their first checks on the new salary schedule on the 15th. Those pay increases included \$5,000 and a 2.5% step increase. The district will most likely include an additional \$5,000 bonus for teachers later in the year. The bonus will be made possible through the use of ESSER III funds and would be a one-time addition not a change to the salary schedule. If approved by the state, I will amend our ESSER fund plan to stay consistent with the district without having to tap into what we've already budgeted for compensation.

The grant that was submitted to CCSD for robotics was granted and we received \$14,000 back to cover Houston Nationals costs.

Middle School

Inside and outside is clean, and we are thrilled with all the new hires this summer. Everyone has hit the ground running and we are ready to educate.

Elementary

If you rode by the elementary school this summer, it may have looked like school was still in session and for many students it was! We were blessed once again to be able to provide a free summer tutoring program for many of our students who qualified for the service. We served over 160 rising first through eighth grade students. The most wonderful part is these students were taught skills that students may have needed more practice with by our very own OG teachers in a small group setting. A huge thank you to Mrs. Chandler Perryman for being the leader of this project!

The Summer Camp program was also in full swing serving over 160 students. This program was led by Mrs. Neen Citizen and Ms. Sarah Larsen. We are thrilled that Ms. Larsen is taking over as our full-time extended day director this year. These kids had a fantastic summer with field trips off campus, jump castles, ice cream, crafts and games!

All teachers reported back and we are excited for a fabulous year.

9.0 Action Items/New Business

a. Election of Officers

Chair – Mr. Mac McSwain nominated Mr. Justin Welch as Board Chair and Mrs. Hattie Wallen seconded the nomination. Nomination is closed and Mr. Justin Welch is approved as Board Chair.

Vice-Chair – Mr. Justin Welch nominated Mr. Mac McSwain as Board Vice-Chair and Mr. Mark Ables seconded the nomination. Nomination is closed and Mr. Mac McSwain is approved as Board Vice-Chair.

Secretary – Mr. Justin Welch nominated Mrs. Brenda Bianchi as Board Secretary and Mr. Mac McSwain seconded the nomination. Nomination is closed and Mrs. Brenda Bianchi is approved as Board Secretary.

Treasurer – Mr. Justin Welch nominated Mrs. Rebecca Jones as Board Treasurer and Mrs. Sharon Dillon seconded the nomination. Nomination is closed and Mrs. Rebecca Jones is approved as Board Treasurer.

- b. Meeting Calendar - Mr. Mac McSwain made the motion and Mrs. Brenda Bianchi seconded the motion to move the March 21st meeting to March 28th. Motion approved.

10. Good of the Order

Mr. Mac McSwain – his daughter Drew loved the Summer Scholars. Great program. Athletics at WAHS last year no seventh graders made teams and this year seventh and eighth graders are on the WAHS athletic team.

Mr. Justin Welch and Mac McSwain thanked Mrs. Wanda Colston for being the recording secretary of the Board.

Mrs. Wanda Colston thanked the Board for allowing her the opportunity to be the recording secretary for the last 17 years.

Mr. Justin Welch thanked Mr. Mac McSwain for being on the Board for his third time.

Mrs. Sharon Dillon – was thankful being a part of the board and will be available to sub.

Mr. John H. Clendaniel – thanked Mrs. Sharon Dillon for always encouraging his daughter Brinley. After a recent mission trip to Kenya, Africa, she is leaning heavily on becoming a teacher. Mrs. Sharon Dillon remembers giving Brinley her first overhead projector to teach her dolls.

11. Adjournment

Mrs. Hattie Wallen made the motion and Mr. Mark Ables seconded the motion to adjourn at 7:15pm. Motion approved.