

**Orange Grove Charter School**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**February 16, 2023**

**ATTENDANCE:**

Mrs. Amanda Fehr, Mrs. Haley Webster, Mrs. Hattie Wallen, Mr. Steve Arato, Mrs. Rebecca Jones, Mrs. Dianne Probst, Mr. Mark Ables

**Zoom Attendance:**

Mrs. Christy Nickolauson, Prestige School Solutions, LLC

**Absent:**

Mr. Justin Welch, Mr. John Guerry and Mr. Marcus DeBiasi

**VISITORS:**

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

**1.0 Call to Order**

Mrs. Amanda Fehr called the Meeting to Order at 6:02pm.

**2.0 Welcome/Pledge of Allegiance**

**3.0 Reading of Mission Statement**

Mr. Steve Arato read the Mission Statement.

**4.0 Adoption of Minutes**

Mrs. Rebecca Jones made the motion to adopt the Agenda. Motion approved.

**5.0 Approval of Minutes**

Mrs. Dianne Probst made the motion and Mrs. Hattie Wallen seconded the motion to approve the Minutes as written. Motion approved.

**6.0 Citizen Participation**

No one appeared or requested to participate.

## **7.0 Financial Report**

Mrs. Christy Nickolauson, Prestige School Solutions presented the January Financial Report. Mrs. Amanda Fehr made the motion and Mr. Mark Ables seconded the motion to approve the January Financial Report as presented. Motion approved.

## **8.0 CEO's Report – Mr. John H. Clendaniel**

### **Elementary Update**

Third grade performed at the February PTO meeting. With Mrs. Trina Schillo choreographing a fantastic show on forces and motion, which is a big science standard for third grade. The songs will help them remember the material. Third grade teachers wore referee shirts that Mrs. Tanessa Fisher personalized as their coach's gear to tie into the super bowl theme.

OG sold over 4,000 bundtlets and raised over \$9,000 during the PTO Nothing Bundt Cakes fundraiser that wrapped up last week. A huge thank you to Mrs. Sarah Selvidge, Dr. Heather Holmes and Mrs. Lauren Stanley for behind the scenes help. Also, to PTO board members – Mrs. Courtney Irvin, Mrs. Noel Picou and Mrs. Cynthia Bushneck. They did a fantastic job bringing in volunteers to help with the packing, sorting and distribution process.

Tennis tryouts were held for the red ball team, which is our first and second grade students. The orange ball tryouts for third and fourth grade students were rained out Friday but were held on Monday.

Monday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, both the steel drums and chorus groups represented OG at the CofC Game. Over 60 chorus students sang the National Anthem, then our steel drums group performed for the halftime show. Thank you goes to Mrs. Laura Ferderigos and Mr. Brandon Broughton for leading those two groups and Mrs. Terri Neal who was instrumental in making it happen. Good to see so many of our OG families at the game.

Valentine's day was fun at The Grove! Great to see everyone in pink and red. As early as 8:00 am, parents were flipping pancakes and popping waffles for the first-grade breakfast parties. With class parties going on most of the day, it was good to see the excitement of valentines being passed out to their classmates.

### **Middle Update**

The 100<sup>th</sup> day of school was February 2<sup>nd</sup>, it was fun to see middle schoolers dress as 100-year olds.

The fall/winter athletics awards ceremony was held on February 6<sup>th</sup> at Coastal Community Church that Mr. Alex Matos orchestrated. Student athletics all received an OG letter that they will keep and continue to add pins to as they proceed through middle school. After eighth grade, hopefully they will buy a lettermen jacket to put them on as days in the past.

Spring sports are in full swing. Exciting to bring back a golf team this year. Shadowmoss is generously hosting us as our home course. Tryouts will be in the middle of March and the season will run through the beginning of May.

Job shadowing for seventh and eighth graders was held February 7<sup>th</sup>. The vast majority of students were out in the field experiencing different opportunities. Thank you to Mrs. Bronwen O'Shea for organizing this day for our students.

Congratulations to our robotics team for winning first place at the state qualifier this weekend. Mr. Steve Schonveld and Mr. John H. Clendaniel watched them in action at Phillips Simmons High School on Saturday and also the sixth and seventh graders at The Citadel. The sixth graders built an arch bridge that could not be broken and the seventh graders won a robot programming challenge. Congratulations to Mrs. Michelle Comen and Mrs. Andrea Daniels who lead the teams. Kudos to Mrs. Amanda Fehr, Chairwoman, for being a judge but had nothing to do with OG coming in first place.

Excited to host middle school bingo night on Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are sold out with this being a drop off event for students only from 6-8pm.

### **Organization**

We hosted our virtual school choice fair for parents who are interested in applying to Orange Grove. This is something the district started during COVID though we've never had a huge response for this we participate to reach as many families as we can. Over fifty-five families signed up for the three zoom sessions. We do get interested families signed up to come on in person school tours with Mrs. Wanda Colston. The school choice application window is still open and won't close until Friday, February 24<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. We have over 1000 applications with a little over a week left. We sent a mailer to every household in our original attendance zone letting them know about the application process.

The awards ceremonies at the elementary and middle school were well received by all parties. Parents seem to appreciate having the option to be physically present or watch on the livestream. We will continue with the livestream as over two hundred families, consisting of grandparents across the country, parents at work, and even international viewers, viewed the awards.

The bus conversion happens this weekend. Bus number one will operate on Natural Gas on Tuesday, February 21<sup>st</sup>.

SEWE is this weekend and OG will be supplying buses for shuttle services for both days.

### **9.0 Executive Session**

Mrs. Rebecca Jones made the motion and Mr. Mark Ables seconded the motion to go into Executive Session at 6:19pm to discuss contractual and personnel issues.

### **10.0 Action Items/New Business**

Return to open Session at 6:42pm

Motion made Mrs. Rebecca Jones and seconded by Mr. Mark Ables to ratify contracts auditing RFP as presented.

### **11.0 Good of the Order**

Mr. Steve Arato is impressed with our Resource Officer, Officer Batiste, who speaks several languages.

Dr. Laney White is impressed that Officer Batiste knows more students name than she does.

Dr. Holmes is impressed that Officer Batiste helps in the afternoon with car riders.

Mrs. Rebecca Jones is impressed that Officer Batiste knows and can identify her daughter. How admin wears all hats and are very involved in the running of OG.

### **12.0 Adjournment**

Mr. Mark Ables made the motion and Mrs. Haley Webster seconded the motion to adjourn at 6:49pm.