

# ORANGE GROVE CHARTER SCHOOL

## Report of the Board Meeting

January 26, 2023

### **Attendance**

Mrs. Amanda Fehr, Mrs. Dianne Probst, Mrs. Rebecca Jones, Mrs. Haley Webster, Mr. Justin Welch, Mrs. Hattie Wallen, and Mr. John H. Clendaniel

### **Zoom Attendance**

Mr. Mark Ables, Mr. Marcus DeBiasi, Mrs. Christy Nickolauson

### **Absent**

Mr. Steve Arato, Mr. John Guerry

### **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**

Amanda Fehr called the meeting to order at 6:04p.

### **2.0 Welcome/Pledge of Allegiance**

### **3.0 Reading of Mission Statement**

Dianne Probst read the mission statement.

### **4.0 Adoption of Agenda**

Justin Welch made a motion to adopt the agenda. Rebecca Jones seconded the motion. Motion approved.

### **5.0 Approval of Minutes**

Dianne Probst made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 15, 2022 meeting. The motion was seconded by Justin Welch. Motion approved.

### **6.0 Citizen Participation**

There was no citizen participation.

### **7.0 Financial Report**

Christy Nickolauson gave the financial report for FY23 December.

Justin Welch made a motion to approve the financial report as presented and Rebecca Jones seconded the motion. Motion approved.

### **8.0 CEO's Report**

John H. Clendaniel

### **Elementary-**

The Elementary return from break was one that came with a little more excitement than most. The playground was open and the kids had a blast checking out all of the new equipment. By turfing the area we call the 'hill' and the zipline areas, we have really expanded our outdoor play space. What was once dirt, roots and leaves is now plush turf! The students are LOVING their recess time. We have one of the nicest play spaces in CHS.

This month we had our Kindergarteners perform for our January PTO general meeting. We have had AR celebrations for those students who have earned their quarterly goals including 5th grade went to Kickin' chicken for lunch and 3rd grade who hosted a grade level BINGO. We had 3rd grade off campus for a field trip to visit Middleton Plantation and Kindergarten went to a play at Dock Street theater. Mixed throughout the month we continue to see special Style days, crazy sock days and more for grade level Boosterthon rewards.

A huge thank you to our first-grade team who hosted our first OG Bingo night since 2020, last Friday. We sold 475 tickets in about 5 minutes. It was a wonderful family night. Last week, Charleston County hosted the district level Spelling Bee. Orange Grove's Samuel J. represented us as our 5th grader Spelling Bee winner.

Since we met, we had our teachers vote for our Teacher of the Year, such a huge honor to be selected by your colleagues to represent our school. The votes are in and Amy Peak will represent the elementary school and Jodi Lava will represent the middle school for the 2022-2023 Teacher of the Year.

The school choice application window is now open. So far we have about 450 applications, not bad for being open for 3 days! The window will close on February 24th. If you know someone who is looking to attend Orange Grove- now is the time to apply! This Saturday we will have our virtual school choice fair. To register for these Zoom sessions, visit our website it is also available on the CCSD school choice website.

Next week, we will have semester 1 awards to recognize our 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders academic achievements. We will have a livestream option available for our parents who cannot attend.

### **Middle -**

It's been nice getting back into the routine of things after the holiday break. The first semester came to a close last week and we are now more than halfway through the school year. Report cards go home tomorrow and will also be emailed to all families.

The first semester awards ceremony is next Wednesday, February 1st. All three grades' ceremonies will also be livestreamed on our Middle School YouTube Channel for

parent's convenience. The 100th day of school is next Thursday and we're excited to see how our middle school students choose to dress up as 100-year olds that day.

Our Fall and Winter athletics awards ceremony will be held at Coastal Community Church on February 6th. Anyone who played volleyball, basketball, or ran cross country for the school this year will be honored. Basketball seasons are wrapping up next week and then it's off to the playoffs for our Junior Girls and Senior Boys. Good luck to them.

Baseball, Softball, and Soccer teams have been practicing the last couple of weeks and are excited to begin their seasons soon.

Our robotics team brought a lot of pride to the school this past weekend by placing 2nd in their tournament. This is a huge accomplishment for them! The amount of work they put in is paying off and we're very proud of the students, Mrs. Comen, Mr. Fehr, and Mrs. Daniels for everything they do. It's very impressive, especially considering that the majority of the teams they compete against are high school teams. Next up is a tournament at Phillip Simmons High School on February 11th, which is a qualifier for the State Championship.

West Ashley High School counselors will be here on February 9th to help students who are attending WAHS next year sign up for classes. The middle school is hosting a Bingo Night on Friday, February 24th from 6-8 pm. This drop off event is for students of Orange Grove Middle only. 7th and 8th graders will be job shadowing outside of school on February 7th. This is a program we are excited about doing again. Thank you to the parents who signed up to volunteer to host a student that day.

Lastly, the Charleston Police Department will be using the middle school for training this summer. They'll be in the building seven different dates throughout the summer and are thankful to us for allowing them to use the building. If you have a middle school student, you may have seen them in action yesterday responding to a motorist who fled from a traffic stop, near the OG and Oakland campuses.

### **Organization -**

In a couple of months, we will be presenting our draft of the FY24 budget. Next month you will see the results of a per pupil funding change. That rate has increased from \$9,052 - \$9,500.

Bus to natural gas conversion will take the next step on Monday with an installation of the fueling appliance. After that, the bus will be converted over a weekend in February to run on natural gas.

Next month we will have our 23-24 school year openings up on our website and will begin the interview process. An important part of the job and one we like to start before contract issuance which will occur in April.

### **9.0 Executive Session**

Motion made by Mr. Justin Welch to move into executive session to discuss a personnel and contractual matter. This was seconded by Rebecca Jones. Motion approved.

A motion was made by Mrs. Rebecca Jones and seconded by Mr. Justin Welch to leave executive session. Motion approved.

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

There are no action items or new business.

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

Mrs Haley Webster was thankful for all of the new furniture at the middle school. Said the teachers and students were so excited to have furniture that fits!

Mr. Justin Welch- he is in the twilight of being an Orange Grove parent with his youngest son being in 8th grade. Spoke about the accomplishments of Joshua Gladden and his leadership that he has among his class.

### **12.0 Adjournment**

Mr. Justin Welch made the motion and Mrs. Dianne Probst seconded the motion. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:23p.

Next Board Meeting – February 16, 2023