

MEETING MINUTES

Name of Foundation: Florida Charter Educational Foundation, Inc.
Bay Area Charter Foundation, LLC.

Board Meeting: April 09, 2020

School(s): Woodmont Charter School
Winthrop Charter School
Henderson Hammock Charter School
Keys Gate Charter School
Clay Charter Academy
SouthShore Charter Academy
Waterset Charter School

Creekside Charter Academy
Union Park Charter Academy

The minutes of Sunshine Law meetings need not be verbatim transcripts of the meeting. These minutes are a brief summary of the events of the meeting.

Date:	Start	End	Next Meeting:	Next time:	Prepared by:
April 9, 2020	1:01pm	2:05pm	June 11, 2020	1pm	R.Weaver
Meeting Location:					
On-Site Location: Telephonic Meeting pursuant to Governor DeSantis Executive Order 20-69 dated March 20, 2020					

Attended by:	
Board Members: Valora Cole –Chair Eric Johnson – Vice Chair Randy Walker – Treasurer Rod Cunningham – Director Ramdas Chandra – Secretary Dr. Steve Knobl – Director	Other Attendees: Principals of Above-Mentioned Schools Jon Hage, CEO CSUSA Levi Williams – Board Attorney Lane Morris, Area Director Rachel Windler-Freitag, Area Director Dr.Eddie Ruiz, State Director Nate Mariano, State Deputy Director Rita Weaver – Governing Board Senior Manager, CSUSA
Absent:	

CALL TO ORDER

Pursuant to public notice, the meeting commenced at 1:01p.m. with a Call to Order by Chair, Valora Cole. Roll call was taken, and quorum established. Ms. Cole thanked the board for their service and for attending during this challenging time.

Legislative Update

- Mr. Jon Hage, CEO of CSUSA, reported the Florida legislative update which included that the Governors teacher compensation initiative was signed and will be implemented in the 2020-21 school year budget. Mr. Hage advised that that if the legislature is called back into special session due to the COVID outbreak, that the lobbying firm and CSUSA

stand ready to protect the Teacher Pay legislation. This legislation will include Charter teachers.

- There were other initiatives, such as security updates, modified language for due process and, simplifying the dual enrollment payment option as historically, the College would take the FTE payment but now there is a makeup provision that will allow dual enrollment opportunities.

CSUSA Update

- Jon Hage, CEO of CSUSA, updated the board on the state of CSUSA given the COVID 19 Crisis and online learning that the schools have transitioned to. Mr. Hage reported that the CSUSA managed schools have been able to ensure that education rigor will be maintained and while there will be no FSA State testing, CSUSA managed schools will continue to educate as if testing were a requirement. CSUSA will have its own assessment tools that it will use.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE

Annual Meeting

- The Board discussed the election of officers. Ms. Cole called for nominations of Chair.

MOTION: A motion was made by Eric Johnson and seconded by Randy Walker to nominate and elect Valora Cole as the Chair of the Florida Charter Educational Foundation and Bay Area Charter Foundation. Motion was approved unanimously. (6-0).

- Ms. Cole called for nominations of Vice-Chair/President.

MOTION: A motion was made by Dr. Ramdas Chandra and seconded by Randy Walker to nominate and elect Eric Johnson as the Vice-Chair of the Florida Charter Educational Foundation and Bay Area Charter Foundation. Motion was approved unanimously. (6-0).

- Ms. Cole called for nominations of Secretary.

MOTION: A motion was made by Eric Johnson and seconded by Rod Cunningham to nominate and elect Dr. Ramdas Chandra as Secretary of the Florida Charter Educational Foundation and Bay Area Charter Foundation. Motion was approved unanimously. (6-0).

- Ms. Cole called for nominations of Treasurer.

MOTION: A motion was made by Dr. Ramdas Chandra and seconded by Eric Johnson to nominate and elect Randy Walker as Treasure of the Florida Charter Educational Foundation and Bay Area Charter Foundation. Motion was approved unanimously. (6-0).

Conflict of Interest

- The Board reviewed the Conflict of Interest policy.

MOTION: A motion was made by Dr. Ramdas Chandra and seconded by Eric Johnson to approve the Conflict of Interest policy for the Florida Charter Educational Foundation and Bay Area Charter Foundation, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (6-0).

Chair Designee

- The Board discussed the appointment of a chair designee in the event Chair Cole is unavailable to sign for any legal, real estate, or financials transactions.

MOTION: A motion was made by Dr. Ramdas Chandra and seconded by Eric Johnson to appoint Randy Walker as the Chair Designee for the Florida Charter Educational Foundation and Bay Area Charter Foundation, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (6-0).

Approval Board Meeting Minutes

- The Board reviewed the meeting minutes from the March 12, 2020 FCEF/BACF Board Meeting Minutes.

MOTION: A motion was made by Eric Johnson and seconded by Dr. Ramdas Chandra to approve the Florida Charter Educational Foundation and Bay Area Charter Foundation Meeting Minutes from March 12, 2020, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (6-0).

II. CSUSA REPORTS

COVID Response

- Dr. Eddie Ruiz update the board on the status of CSUSA and the COVID Response. CSUSA has a COVID Response team that meets daily to discuss the issues with all the functional departments. Ana Cordal has been heading up the COVID Response team from the National team and Dr. Ruiz and Mrs. Cordal meet daily to discuss what the leadership is reporting out. Dr. Ruiz also participates in the FLDOE State Superintendent call.

Online Learning Update

- Dr. Ruiz expanded on the COVID Response report that the Online Learning Instructional Continuity Plan that the board received has been implemented across all the CSUSA managed schools for the Board. The plan includes feedback from all Stakeholders and was drafted with the Principals of each school. Dr. Ruiz advised that the plan is continuing to evolve based on the decisions of the FLDOE.
- Eric Johnson reported out to the board that he has personal experience with Winthrop Charter School and has been impressed with the roll out of online learning.

III. FINANCIALS

Audit Engagement Approval for the 2019-20 Audit

- The board reviewed the audit engagement letters from Keefe McCullough, the independent audit firm, for the audits of the Florida Charter Education Foundation, Inc.

and Bay Area Charter Foundation, LLC. portfolio of schools for the 2019-20 school year financials.

MOTION: Motion was made by Eric Johnson and seconded by Dr. Ramdas Chandra to approve the Audit Engagement Letters of Keefe McCullough for the Florida Charter Educational Foundation, Inc. and the Bay Area Charter Foundation, LLC. portfolio of schools and the Foundation, as presented. Motion was approved unanimously. (6-0)

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Winthrop Charter Prep Academy Management Agreement

- The Board reviewed the Management Agreement for Winthrop Charter Prep Academy. This is the same management agreement as the board has for its other schools.

MOTION: A motion was made by Dr. Ramdas Chandra and seconded by Eric Johnson to approve the Management Agreement for Winthrop Charter Prep Academy by and between Charter Schools USA at Winthrop Charter High School and The Florida Charter Educational Foundation, Inc., as presented. Motion passed unanimously. (6-0)

V. NEW BUSINESS

2020-2021 School Year Calendars

- The board reviewed the 2020-2021 School Year Calendars for their schools in Hillsborough, Dade, Clay, and Pasco counties which included specific calendars for Innovation Prep Academy in Pasco County and Winthrop Prep Charter Academy. The board noted the differences within the district calendars.

MOTION: A motion was made by Eric Johnson and seconded by Dr. Ramdas Chandra to approve the 2020-2021 School Year calendars, as presented. Motion passed unanimously. (6-0)

VI. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Eric Johnson wanted to say he appreciates the move to digital marketing for enrollment given the current situation in the state with COVID-19.
- Lane Morris wanted to let the board know that UPCA was able to virtually interview and finish the application for Cambridge and said that Principal Morales and her team were well prepared for the interview.
- Mr. Morris also wanted to thank the board for its service, and specifically wanted to thank Ms. Cole for her contributions to engaging Farm Fresh for food distribution at Woodmont Charter School to ensure that the most vulnerable of that student population had access to food and meals. Ms. Cole has worked tirelessly with various agencies including Farm Fresh to feed student. The board thank Ms. Cole as well.

VII. ADJOURMENT

MOTION: Motion was made by Eric Johson and seconded by Dr. Ramdas Chandra to adjourn the FCEF/BACF April 9, 2020 board meeting. Motion was approved unanimously.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Valora Cole', is written over a horizontal line.

Valora Cole, Chair of the Board

Date: 6/11/2020