

Pemayetv Emahakv, Inc.
Board of Trustees Meeting
December 09, 2016

Florida Seminole Veterans' Building
Brighton Seminole Indian Reservation

Minutes

Present: Mitchell Cypress, Cicero Osceola, Andrew Bowers Jr., Christopher Osceola, Jim Shore, Agnes Motlow, O'Hara Tommie, Suresh Geer, Brian Greseth, Michele Thomas, Shawn Ray, Lewis Gopher, Marcus Briggs-Cloud, Jade Osceola, Helene Buster, Dixie Houston, Pete Hahn, Noella O'Donnell several parents and community members.

Mitchell Cypress called the meeting to order. Michele Thomas conducted a roll call. Mitchell Cypress asked board members to review minutes from the August 12, 2016 meeting. Mitchell asked for a motion to approve minutes. Cicero Osceola made a motion to accept the minutes, seconded by Andrew J. Bowers, Jr. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

Mitchell Cypress introduced agenda item number five, discussion items and turned the meeting over to Mr. Greseth.

Discussion Items –

Mr. Greseth reported current student enrollment is 304 students. He stated enrollment this school year has been as high as 313 and as low as 301 students. Two hundred eleven students are elementary students and we currently have 93 middle school students. Of that we are at 77 % tribal students, 87 % tribal / tribal descendent. Currently the grade level with the lowest enrollment has 26 students, the highest has 39 students.

PEI Independent Auditor's Report

Please to report the annual auditor's report had no findings. A copy of the report was presented to each board member.

Budget

Mr. Greseth reported a new bus was purchased; it has Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School on the side. The bus is handicap accessible and can accommodate up to three wheelchairs. PECS currently has three students in wheelchairs. The cost of the bus was more than expected because handicap buses cost more than a regular school bus. The bus was put on the road yesterday, December 08.

We started a new program, Voluntary Prekindergarten (VPK). Our Pre-Kindergarten enrollment had reach capacity. Our original plan was to have two classrooms with 15 students, for a total of thirty students. When enrollment reached capacity we decided to seek funding from the Voluntary Prekindergarten Program (VPK) in hopes of adding an additional prekindergarten

class. Funding was approved and we were able to add an additional class, teacher, and aide. Cicero Osceola asked if the prekindergarten students were mostly tribal students. Mr. Greseth responded it was mixed with the majority of the students being tribal / tribal descendent. Michele Thomas explained she felt the larger number of tribal students was due to the Brighton Preschool's four-year-old class being at full capacity with a waiting list. O'Hara Tommie asked how much funding the charter school was receiving from VPK . Mr. Greseth responded we receive \$4.71 per child, per hour, 3 hours a day. If all students attend everyday State funding would be approximately \$75,000.00 per year.

We replaced the playground rubberize tiles at a cost of \$57,000.00. We will be replacing approximately 45 cameras that are not working due to lighting strike. We will also be replacing and updating our server capacity. We will be receiving \$90,000.00 State technology money so this will help pay for the cameras and servers.

Mr. Cicero Osceola asked for an update on the discipline issues we reported at the previous Board of Trustee meeting. Mr. Greseth gave a quick update on the three young men. One transferred to Okeechobee, the second young man began school at PECS and we immediately had issues with him so his guardian transferred him to Sandy Pines, and the third young man is currently enrolled at PECS and doing well.

School Calendar Change

Due to Hurricane Matthew we had to cancel school for two days. Like most school districts we will be making those days up. Students will return to school one day early from Christmas break and one day early from Spring break.

Drug Testing Middle School Athletes

Mr. Greseth asked the Board members their thoughts on drug testing middle school athletes. Would this be something they would like to see or should we leave things as they are currently. Mr. Andrew Bowers asked if this would be in line with FHSAA. Mr. Greseth responded yes and went on to explain high schools currently have a drug testing policy for athletes and some middle school do as well. Mr. Greseth explained our policy could be set up for random testing or could require all athletes to test. Currently the Tribe's recreation policy requires any athlete traveling out of State to drug test. Mr. Cicero Osceola expressed he has no problem with drug testing. Mr. Andrew Bowers stated this will only prepare them for high school sports.

School Update

We had our 1st Annual Winter Festival. Students and their families very well attended it. We had games, pony rides, and pictures with Santa. We sold tickets and used this as a fundraiser for our positive behavior intervention system (PBIS). This money will be used for rewards and field trips for qualifying students.

Our parent, teacher, student, organization (PTSO) hosted the children from Real Life Children's Ranch foster group home again this year. This is the fourth year for this event and it is a great event for their children and our students. The kids play on the playground, shoot some hoops,

and are treated to a traditional Seminole meal. Our children perform a Christmas program for them and this year their children performed for us.

Middle school students departed for Washington D. C. today. Student/families are required to pay for the trip. Several fundraisers are held to help offset the cost.

Traditional Language & History Program

Jade Osceola reported -

- Student council elections, inauguration and clothing were held
- Planted in the garden / soil samples
- Student Council sponsor the Halloween parade
- Demonstrated at Indian River State College
- Real Life Children's Ranch event
- Student Council implemented a recycling program
- Morning announcements

Marcus Briggs-Cloud reported they are currently revising the Creek curriculum. Working with a linguist with curriculum mapping. Every Thursday the teachers attend language classes. Elders from the community attend and assist with training each week. Marcus Briggs-Cloud presented the video of the Immersion Program. Mr. Christopher Osceola stated he thought the work at the Immersion Program is wonderful. Mr. Mitchell Cypress shared his thoughts on how the Charter School came to be with a big push from Louise Gopher and how many children are benefitting. Many folks have come to visit the Immersion Program.

Cicero Osceola motioned to adjourn, seconded by Andrew Bowers.