



Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School
School Board Meeting
Thursday, February 23, 2023, 10:30 am
100 East Harney Pond Rd, Okeechobee, FL

- I. Call to Order
Meeting called to order at 10:36 am by Chairman Marceulls W. Osceola
Invocation given by Lee Zepeda
Present: Marcellus W. Osceola, Jr, Mitchell Cypress, Mariann Billie, Christopher Osceola, Lee Zepeda, Tracy Downing, Michele Thomas, Matthew Galvin, Jeannette Merced, Rosanna Bencosme, Sue Bert, Mike Strader, Brian Strader, Stephanie Tedders, and Jimi Lu Jamison.
- II. Approval of November 09, 2022, Board Meeting Minutes
Motion to approve 11/09/22 Board Minutes made by Christopher Osceola and seconded by Mariann Billie.
Motion unanimously carried.
- III. Public Comment
None.
- IV. Topics for Discussion
 - A. School Update
 1. Pemayetv Emahakv's Employees of the Year
 - a) **Culture Employee of the Year:** Ginger Jones is our Middle School Creek Teacher, whose class is designed to preserve the native traditions, cultural beliefs, and the Creek Language by integrating the Seminole Language and Culture in a classroom setting.
 - b) **Employee of the Year:** Terry Griffin was also the District Employee of the Year. Ms. Griffin is a 3rd-grade paraprofessional who interacts with many people, and her friendly, approachable manner makes it easy to talk to her.
 - c) **Teacher of the Year:** Doni Barnhill is a middle school teacher who teaches ELA and Math. Her dedication is evident by her hard work and her devotion to our students, staff, and community.
 2. Culture/Immersion & Cafeteria Construction Update

- a) Meeting next week to discuss the bronze busts of our founding mothers, monument sign, Native American Murals, and the options of three colors for the exterior of our cafeteria, and our Beam Signing Party. Details of the signing party will be sent out once they are finalized.
- b) Cafeteria should be completed in late summer
- c) Culture/Immersion Building soon after the completion of the cafeteria.

3. PEI 990 Tax Form

- a) Email sent to Board of Trustees that contained an attachment PEI 990 form tax year 2022.
 - (1) Please review for accuracy and reply with any corrections or additions.
 - (2) Once all members have replied, Ms. Downing will submit it to Mr. Shore's office for review and approval.
 - (3) Once we receive approval from Mr. Shore, we will send it for Mr. Howard's signature as school president.
 - (4) Finally, we will send it as a resolution for ratification.

B. PECS High School: Recent approval of expanding to include grades 9-12 initiated the following:

1. Ms. Downing consulted with Jeannette Merced at Charter School Associates, Brian Greseth, the Deputy Superintendent of Glades County School Board, and EAO.
2. A survey was drafted and administered to our current middle school students and parents.
 - a) Current middle school students in favor of attending high school at PECS: $37/67=55\%$
 - b) Parents of our current middle school students in favor of their child(ren) attending high school at PECS: $15/25=75\%$
3. Options explored and Presented to Board
 - a) Provide a virtual lab facilitated by highly qualified teachers and allow students to enroll in FLVS. This option would allow for housing students in the portables on-site beginning the 24-25 school year after the completion of the new building in September of 2023. Begin with 9th grade and add a grade each year.
 - b) Hire a teacher certified in each area and teach students in the traditional classroom setting. This option would require constructing a new building to have a room for each subject.
 - c) Designate our high school to support our at-risk students.

4. Board recommendation based on data:
 - a) Survey the entire student body and current high school students in the community. Include Tribal members, descendants, and current non-tribal students.
 - b) Conduct a meeting on the school property to encompass all families and discuss, per Chairman Osceola: Cost, Dual Enrollment, Athletics, and where the building will be located.
 - c) Research an estimated total cost of the project and determine grant or state funding available.

C. Fusion Center Accessing PECS Cameras

1. Calvin James, the Public Safety Administrative Director, reached out to request access to our cameras. The following actions were taken to make the determination.
 - a) Ms. Downing reached out to GCSD, and discovered that nothing prohibits our public charter school from allowing STOF Fusion Center access to our cameras
 - b) Ms. Downing informed Mr. James that at one time access was possible but that Mr. Lockett explained they no longer have access due to the security risk of us being on different networks.
 - c) Security Camera Access: EMAIL to Foo, Matthew, Bryan, and Laurie Gagner
 - d) Downing recently spoke with Calvin James, STOF Public Safety Administration Director, about the possibility of the Fusion Center gaining access to our security cameras.
 - e) Downing reached out to Matthew Galvin, Staff Attorney with STOF, and Bryan Granie to seek approval of granting access to STOF Fusion Center.
2. Chairman Osceola's recommendation:
 - a) Contact STOF Informational Technology (I.T.) and determine how to proceed with granting access to cameras.
 - b) Have I.T. assess safety and firewall protection to ensure there is no vulnerability if access to PECS cameras is granted.
3. Comprehensive Threat Assessment Guidelines
 - a) Threat assessments guidelines were established to ensure a fair, rational, and standardized method of evaluating threats.
 - b) Threat Assessment Team: Administrator, School Resource Officer, LMHC, Guidance Counselor, Dean, and a Teacher.
 - (1) Team members are trained annually
 - (2) Team convenes regularly for monthly meetings: Discuss and review Safety and Care Plans created as a result of a previously conducted threat assessment.
 - c) Threat(s)
 - (1) is a communication of intent to harm someone that may be spoken, written, gestured, or expressed in some other form, such as via text messaging, email, or other digital means. An

expression of intent to harm someone is considered a threat regardless of whether it is communicated to the intended target(s) and regardless of whether the intended target is aware of the threat.

- (2) Threats may be implied by behavior that an observer would reasonably regard as threatening, planning, or preparing to commit a violent act. When in doubt, the team must treat the communication or behavior as a threat and conduct a threat assessment. The administrator or another team member makes a preliminary determination of the seriousness of the threat. The student, targets of the threat, and other witnesses should be interviewed to obtain information using this protocol.
- (3) Two types of threats:
 - (a) A transient threat means there is no sustained intent to harm.
 - (b) A substantive threat means the intent is present (or not clear) and therefore requires protective action.

d) Recent Threats on Campus

- (1) Death Note- January 11th posted to Snapchat. The 2nd Death Note was presented on February 2nd. A Death Note is in reference to a Netflix Show that is based on supernatural, paranormal activity. In the show, if a person writes someone's name on a Death Note, then they will die of a heart attack or in the way the person writes the death on the Death Note.

e) Call to action due to the rising fear and concern of students, parents, staff, and the community.

- (1) Meeting in the gym inviting all PECS Stakeholders on February 15th. The following topics were discussed:
 - (a) Bullying/Harassment- During interviewing all of the students involved in both death notes, the threat assessment team uncovered bullying/harassment which was a catalyst for the anger and frustration that resulted in the Creation of the Death Notes.
 - (b) Threat Assessments Guidelines and Procedures
 - (c) Baker Act Procedures
 - (d) Head Lice Protocol
- (2) Tony Bullington met with all students in grades 1-8 to discuss the following topics:
 - (a) Appropriate social and emotional interactions.
 - (b) Mental health
 - (c) Student-centered wellness
 - (d) Building positive relationships

- (e) Promoting problem-solving skills
- (3) Larry Howard pulled all departments together for a meeting, and as a result, all departments together are walking our students to Boys and Girls Club, the Library, the Gym, and Community Culture.

4. Mental Health Specialist Position

a) Approval requested due to the following needs:

- (1) Provide support for students who need one-on-one or small group mental health or social emotional assistance
- (2) Serve as the Mental Health expert on the Threat Assessment Team in assessments and meetings
- (3) Conduct Safety Plan meetings with the TA Team to develop safety plans and monitor student safety plans to ensure compliance
- (4) Serve as the liaison between the AWARE program project team/facilitators and school staff
- (5) Assist AWARE protect team in providing social emotional learning to students campus wide
- (6) Work closely with the Dean and/or Behavioral Analyst team to oversee the MTSS RtI-B process to provide support for struggling students
- (7) Work with teachers to gather universal screening data to determine the need for interventions (during MTSS/Data Chat Meetings)
- (8) Work with Dean to provide bullying prevention/intervention education to students
- (9) Assist Dean and Admin team with bullying investigations and other incidents which can be damaging to a student's social and emotional development or mental health
- (10) Oversee VPK program enrollment and assist parents/families with VPK registration
- (11) Support the implementation of FBAs which have been developed by CBH, help train staff on the FBA and research-based practices used to implement the FBA

b) Feedback from Chairman Osceola and Board

- (1) Chairman Marcellus Osceola recognizes the need and is in support of the Mental Health Specialist Position allocation.
- (2) Mariann Billie, Larry Howard, Christopher Osceola, and Mitchell Cypress all offered their support in hiring a Mental Health Specialist as well.

D. Announcements

- 1. Teacher Appreciation Week- Food Trucks will be brought out each day during Teacher Appreciation Week. Mrs. Thomas asked if any board member would volunteer to sponsor a Food Truck. The following School Board members agreed to support this initiative.

- a) Chairman Marcellus Osceola
- b) Mitchell Cypress
- c) Larry Howard
- d) Christopher Osceola

V. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Larry Howard and seconded by Christopher Osceola.

Motion unanimously passed.

Meeting adjourned at 11:23 am.