



Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School
School Board Meeting
Wednesday, April 26, 2023, 10:30 am
100 East Harney Pond Rd, Okeechobee, FL

I. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 10:37 am by Larry Howard

Invocation given by Lee Zepeda

Present: Larry Howard, Jim Shore, Mariann Billie, Christopher Osceola, Lee Zepeda, Tracy Downing, Michele Thomas, Matthew Galvin, Jeannette Merced, Rosanna Bencosme, Sue Bert, Mike Strader, Brian Strader, and Stephanie Tedders

II. Approval of February 23, 2023, Board Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve 2/23/23 Board Minutes made by Mariann Billie and seconded by Christopher Osceola.

Motion unanimously carried.

III. Public Comment

None.

IV. Action Items

A. Resolution #5- 2023-2024 Student Handbook

1. **Student Handbook Relevant Sections which include changes:**

- a) Bullying Hotline: Rationale: The new phone number for the Bullying Prevention cell phone will be monitored at all times. Page:8
- b) FortifyFL: Rationale: Added the required lawful language that states “anyone who knowingly submits a false tip through FortifyFL may be subject to further investigations by law enforcement and may be subject to criminal penalties under section 837.05, F.S.” Page: 8
- c) Instructional Calendar: Rationale: The new PECS Instructional Calendar was added pending board approval.

Motion made by Mariann Billie seconded by Christopher Osceola.
Ayes- All Present- Motion Carried 3-0

B. Resolution #6 Employee Handbook

1. **Employee Handbook Relevant Sections which include changes:**

- a) Pemayetv Emahakv Charter School Drug-Free Workplace Statement:
Rationale: The document has been added to the Employee Handbook.
Page: 3
- b) Glades County Drug-Free Workplace Policy: Rationale: The document has been added to the Employee Handbook. Page: 4

Motion made by Mariann Billie seconded by Christopher Osceola.
Ayes- All Present- Motion Carried 3-0

- C. Resolution #7 2023-24 School Calendar
1. 10-Month Instructional Calendar
 2. 199 Employee Days
 3. 179 Student Days

Motion made by Mariann Billie seconded by Christopher Osceola.
Ayes- All Present- Motion Carried 3-0

D. Resolution#8 All Hazards' Plan

1. **All Hazards' Plan Relevant Sections which include changes:**
2. Reunification Off-Campus: Rationale: A map was added showing traffic patterns when Reunification Off-Campus occurs. Page: 19
3. Shelter in Place Plan: Rationale: A map was added depicting the 'hard corner' which is located between each two connecting classrooms. Page: 26
4. Elements of Suicide Prevention: Rationale: The Seminole Police Department Brighton Emergency Dispatch Office's phone number was added. Page: 28
5. Attachment A: PECS All Hazards' Plan and Contact Information: Rationale: PECS employees' names and phone numbers were updated. Pages: 37-42

Motion made by Mariann Billie seconded by Christopher Osceola.
Ayes- All Present- Motion Carried 3-0

E. Resolution #9 Mental Health Allocation Plan

1. Mental Health Allocation Plan: In response to MSD Public Safety Act, we continue to provide a mental health plan which allows for additional support, guidance, and resources to students in need of mental health services or crisis intervention. This plan is aligned with the overarching mission of our school, which states, in part, that we will provide "a safe and nurturing learning environment." Mental health services will be provided through a blended service model that includes certified school counselors, community resources, and health providers.

Motion made by Mariann Billie seconded by Christopher Osceola.
Ayes- All Present- Motion Carried 3-0

F. Resolution #10 Ratification: PEI Tax 990 Form

1. Ratification PEI Tax 990 Form: The IRS Form 990 is an informational tax form that most tax-exempt organizations must file annually. The form gives the IRS an overview of the organization's activities, governance and detailed financial information.

Motion made by Christopher Osceola seconded by Mariann Billie.

Ayes- All Present- Motion Carried 3-0

V. Topics for Discussion

A. PECS High School Discussion: There are several possibilities concerning educating 9th - 12th-grade students.

1. 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. Sacrifice FTE.
2. Provide a virtual lab facilitated by highly qualified teachers and allow students to enroll in PLATO. 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. Maintain FTE: Students go out for PE and Specials.
3. Hire a certified teacher in each area and teach students in the traditional classroom setting. This option would require constructing a new building in order to have a room for each subject. 6 to 7 teachers for 9th grade only.
4. Sports at our school, in-home districts, or as a neighborhood team.
5. In 10th Grade, they would select an Academy in order to take advantage of DE, CTE, and AP.
6. Need to make students feel like they are part of a HS (Student Govt, Clubs, Dances).

Board recommends surveying the community and begin gathering data. They would want at least a 65% buy-in from community members before we begin a 5-year plan. Initially, we can possibly think about capturing a small group of at-risk students and offering a program utilizing the space we have now and see how it goes before breaking ground on a new building.

- B. PECS and Ahfachkee Students Sharing Ideas: Mr. Baer and Mrs. Downing met face-to-face following his trip to Brighton last month, and they plan to bring the students together during Summer School. PECS' Summer Program will run this year from June 5th through June 22nd. His visit to our school follows a November 16th visit of our students who traveled to Ahfachkee to participate in a book study hosted by

Ahfachkee. After participating in the book study, Mr. Baer invited us to eat lunch with a group of students so that we could share ideas. It is our intent to continue providing opportunities for our student populations to meet, share ideas, and collaborate.

C. Salary Schedule for Employees

1. The Operating Budget will be submitted for review during the August School Board Meeting. We would like for the budget to contain a staffing salary change that I wanted to bring to your attention now for consideration and discussion. For our employees who are not certified teachers, we would like to match the tribe's starting salary of \$18.00 in order to recruit and retain our highly qualified personnel.
2. We will also submit for your approval a starting salary for our Culture Employees of \$22.00 to match the Tribal Career Development salary so that we can retain and recruit those who can help and support our language revitalization efforts.

The Board would like to see all of the figures to determine how the adjustment in pay for our paraprofessionals and culture staff will affect the budget before a decision is made. They also suggested that the salary schedule for paraprofessionals in the surrounding counties be reviewed and brought to the table as well.

VI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Christopher Osceola and seconded by Mariann Billie.

Motion unanimously passed.

Meeting adjourned at 12:26 pm.