

Advantage Academy of Miami, Inc.
d/b/a
Advantage Academy of Math and Science at Waterstone
Everglades Preparatory Academy
Everglades Preparatory Academy High School
Palm Glades Preparatory Academy
Palm Glades Preparatory Academy High School
Summerville Advantage Academy
Santa Fe Advantage Academy

Doral International Math and Science Academy (f/k/a Advantage Academy of Math and Science at Summerville)

Governing Board Meeting Minutes
March 3, 2016

Location: Summerville Advantage Academy

Present at Meeting

Nathaniel Grasch – Chairman

Bassema Iskandarani - Board Member

Shirlynn Webb – Board Member

Dalila Ruiz – Board Member

Mike Strader – CSA

Victoria Ramos – Principal

Archalena Coats - Principal

Aimee Leyva – Principal

Cristina Socas – EPA, Dean of Students

Virginia DiMichele – Waterstone, Dean of Students

Margarita Curiel – EPA, Dean of Academics

Jeannette Merced – CSA

Jeanette Reyes – Administrative Assistant, Summerville Advantage Academy

Maggie Milian – Administrative Assistant, Charter School at Waterstone

Meeting called to order at 4:38 p.m. by Nathaniel Grasch.

A. Opening Exercises

Nathaniel Grasch, Board Chairman, asked if there were any changes or revisions to the prior meeting minutes. There being none, Nathaniel Grasch requested a motion to approve the Governing Board meeting minutes and run both meetings (Advantage Academy of Miami and The Charter School at Waterstone) simultaneously. Bassema Iskandarani made the motion to approve the meeting minutes and run the two meetings simultaneously, Shirlynn Webb seconded the motion and all were in favor. Motion passed.

B. Public Comments

There were no public comments.

C. Principal Reports

Everglades Preparatory Academy – Principal, Aimee Leyva – reported the school is preparing to host the upcoming carnival and partnering with the Charter School at Waterstone. The kids are excited about all the activities especially the horseshoes and sea urchins in the touch tank. Ms. Leyva is excited the school ranked 5th out of 20 for the mock trial and are now known as “the school to beat. Re-enrollment is in the 900’s and they are focusing on tours at the school. Mr. Strader said the focus next year has to be on enrollment and said eventually he would like to take the property in front of Everglades to make it K-5 so the school would be a K-12 school.

Summerville Advantage Academy – Principal, Victoria Ramos – Ms. Ramos reported the school enrollment is at 543 with 7 under due to families moving. Ms. Ramos was happy to report the re-enrollment numbers for next year are positive. In February they held a testing information night where they talked about the FSA and showed examples of test questions so the students would be prepared. The kids were excited to visit the zoo last month and they are preparing for the end of year field trip at Busch Gardens and Legoland.

Advantage Academy of Math and Science at Waterstone – Virginia DiMichele - reported total enrollment for FTE is at 1128. She is currently conducting school tours on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Ms. DiMichele was happy to report they had 100% attendance for FTE week. The school celebrated Dr. Seuss’ birthday this year by dressing up in costume. Ms. DiMichele was excited the school was awarded an “A” school grade for 2014-2015. Mr. Strader brought a cake to celebrate at a recent faculty meeting. Ms. DiMichele was happy to share that FSA parent night was a huge success with standing room only and they also had a huge turnout at the 2nd quarter honor roll assembly. Ms. DiMichele is excited about the upcoming registration night on March 17 and tutoring continues on Saturdays.

Palm Glades Preparatory Academy - Principal, Archalena Coats reported amazing things are happening at the school. The garden club received a grant for two raised bed gardens and garden classes will be offered. Ms. Coats said the curriculum fair was awesome and they were happy to work alongside Summerville Advantage Academy. They showcased many of the school clubs that night with hands on activities. The seniors bonded in their game night where they took part in team building activities.

Many clubs participated in take your child to work day. Ms. Coats said she is working on the low re-enrollment but is positive with the direction of the school. Ms. Coats said the first tackle football game is in the spring and the student government is sponsoring a water drive to help families in Flint, Michigan.

D. Information Items

Mr. Strader informed the board that any financial related questions may be directed to Jeannette Merced. Each board member receives a comprehensive monthly financial report.

Each board member received a revised Advantage Academy of Math and Science at Waterstone FY15 Audit report. King and Walker, CPA's prepared the revised FY15 Audit. Mr. Strader said the sponsor needed the school to clarify items without changing the bottom line.

Mr. Strader will have the board approve a principal for the new school, Doral Academy of Math and Science soon. The construction on Doral is 75% finished with 650 applicants and they expect full capacity at 900 students.

Mr. Strader informed the board that Ms. Cantillo resigned from Santa Fe Advantage Academy and they have asked Teresita Nieves to finish out the remaining school year.

E. Consent Agenda Items

The purchase orders and agreements were received by the board. Mr. Strader asked the board to approve all consent items as one vote. Ms. Webb asked for a motion to approve the consent items. Bassema Iskandarani seconded the motion and Nathaniel Grash said all were in favor and the motion passed.

F. Items Scheduled for Action & Discussion

Mr. Strader approved Title 1 reports for Summerville Advantage Academy, Palm Glades Preparatory Academy/Palm Glades High School and Everglades Preparatory Academy/Everglades Preparatory High School.

G. Board Member Reports

Mr. Strader distributed the Federal single audit today. He explained that once there is more than \$500,000.00 in federal funding the auditor is directed to have a consolidated audit. Mr. Strader passed these out and will put the audit on the agenda for the next board meeting for approval.

Meeting adjourned at 5:25 pm