



MARCO ISLAND CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

1401 Trinidad Avenue, Marco Island, Florida 34145 Telephone 239 377-3200 Fax 389-4921

WHERE CHILDREN LEARN TO SUCCEED

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING **Wednesday, January 28, 2008** **6:00 p.m. at School** **1401 Trinidad Avenue, Marco Island, Florida**

Statement of Meeting Guidelines and Public Participation:

The School Board of Marco Island Charter Middle School welcomes public comment on any agenda item. When the President asks for public comment on the agenda item to which you would like to speak, please raise your hand and wait until recognized. Once recognized, please state your name for the record. Speakers will be limited to three minutes, unless granted additional time by the President. No speaker shall indulge in personal attacks while speaking. We ask that large groups name a spokesperson whenever possible. Speakers are requested to be concise with their remarks and avoid repetition of the remarks of others. The Board reserves the right to limit the time for public comment. In addition, time is provided at the end of the Agenda for any comments that you wish to make which do not pertain to any published agenda items. Finally, please know that the words spoken and documents distributed at this meeting become part of the public record and, therefore, available to any member of the public who has a right to them.

THANK YOU. THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MARCO ISLAND CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL

MINUTES

I. Establishment of a Quorum

II. Roll

Members Present:

Bill Morris
Jim Reinders
Elizabeth Summers
Tarik Ayason

Jim Young
Cathy Cleary
Jennifer Tenney (via cell phone)

Member Absent:

Lisa Meurgue

Attending Public:

Dr. Mario Sanchez;
Bill Hollowsky;
Wayne A. Waldack;
Dr. Norka Malburg;
Alan Linardich (sp?);
Mark E. Hayden (sp?);

John Watt;
Samantha Malloy;
Jane Watt;
Tom Garousi;
Greg West.

III. Pledge of Allegiance

IV. President's Report - Jim Reinders: Summary; Outcome of Marco's City Council meeting with Collier County Public School Board (CCPSB) members regarding solar panels on Tract K. There was general support for the project among CCPSB and council members. There are clearly competing interests within the community involved, one being the high school initiative, so we (MICMS board) will wait for additional community input to see what our role may be.

V. High School on the Island? – Dr. Sanchez: Dr. Mario Sanchez introduced himself as a Marco Resident, parent of a 6th grade student in MICMS, and tenured professor at Miami Dade College, and also teaches at Florida International University, in Miami.

Purpose: Seek approval/endorsement toward establishing a High School for outstanding education on Marco Island. History - Process started a few years ago with interest building, then tapering off. Tract K issue has brought interest back up recently. Good interest expressed within the community. FGCU has expressed great interest in partnering with a Marco Island High school. Federal and State initiatives are in place, which encourage adopting high schools. A large percentage of US students (75%) require remedial work before taking on regular university level courses. Since last Saturday's meeting, hundreds of responses came in supporting this effort. Challenges include misconceptions of what can and cannot be done, apathy; competing priorities of special interest groups, volunteers (finding active helpers), state budget cuts, Collier County School Board – very opposed.

Public comment:

- Parent; Lack of awareness among families. Dr. Sanchez - articles are going to be coming out in the local papers.
- John Watt, retired principal from Ohio, asked if CCPSB is unanimously opposed, or if one spokesperson was communicating opposition. Dr. Sanchez – Dr. Thompson has expressed opposition. Two board members could not attend. Jim Reinders and George Abounader – CCPSB consists of 5 members. Jim Reinders' response - the school board (Collier County) has a template they go by.
- Parent; Some feel there are too many schools, so why make a new one rather than fix those we have? Dr. Sanchez – empty seats are the result of kids leaving, so where are they going? Enrollment at the university is up. Abounader – Lely enrollment 1,400 approx. Golden Gate enrollment 1,300. Most enrollments are down this year. All schools are worried about this. Is there the same decrease in enrollment for private schools? Abounader – some have acknowledged they are “in trouble” (may be reference to fundraising) Summers – Heard there is an International Learning Academy coming to Marco.
- John Watt – Average age of islanders is getting younger. With our own city, spirit is to have our own stuff (elementary, middle, and high school). Abounader – 110-130 will graduate from MICMS this year.
- Waldack – Suggested exploring partnership with Marco's First Baptist school. They aren't doing so well, maybe something can be worked out w/ them. Tract K probably won't work. Jane Watt – Attends First Baptist Church. Problem w/ program is that it is all on-line. No staff, no instructors. Fundamentals in education are lacking. Not adequate. Originally goal was to keep it private, but maybe the pastor will be receptive.
- Dr. Norka Malburg – Suggested defining *exceptional*. If goals are set clearly, then support will follow. Dr. Sanchez – Goal; Raising the bar at a near university level so students don't need remedial work once getting to college.

VI. Fundraising: Donation of land – (Mr. Vince Magee) Location of parcel –Keewayden Island. Current value 15K. Real estate taxes negligible. Will wait for more information prior to accepting donation. Jim Young will get with Mr. Magee if necessary prior to our next meeting.

Current Fundraisers – (George) See 2008-2009 Fundraising drive flier.

- A couple of grants are expected to help w/ goal for community partners.
- Irish American Club will hold a golf tournament at the Island Country Club which is expected to raise 10K.
- Project together – Dream Raffle for children to write to friends and relatives asking for donations. This is an optional fundraiser for students. Cathy Cleary offered to help George with this.
- **Funds already raised v. our 2008-09 goals** George Abounader - 47K has been raised this year and our goal is to raise 150K by June 30. Normally the bulk of fundraising is coordinated after the first of the year. State budget cuts are expected to be approx. 102K.
- Cash Raffle – each board member has been given 10 tickets to sell. Any tickets bought or sold by parents will be worth 5 volunteer hours. Fliers will be in the next newsletter. Parents will be well aware. Tickets may be worth double hours. Drawing May 29, the last day of school. Jim Young asked if there is a fundraising committee. Jim Reinders – not really.
- Parent contributions – Bill Morris suggested adjusting goals, by increasing parent contributions, and reducing a few others. Cathy Cleary – many parents are struggling to pay their bills and mortgages, not sure if we should keep asking them for more. Morris – Parents stand to benefit most, and some will be able to provide more. Tarik – there is a committee to sponsor parents. Regarding Dream Vacation Raffle - Some incentives – dress down pass. Jim Young – may want to involve some of the TBE 5th graders.

VII. First Draft of Revision of Bylaws Some discussion involved adding the Mission Statement on Page 1; re-numbering some items to correct sequence; debate regarding parent and non-parent designation, as well as eliminating faculty representation on board.

Parent vs. non-parent designation; Cleary - If criteria for eligibility are clear, and background & financial checks are thorough, then potential for conflicts of interest is minimized. Why discriminate between the two. Parents and community members both have potential for conflicts of interest. Summers - There are other areas where parents can contribute – like PTO. Ayasun – Parents don't usually have the time to attend meetings and work on the board. Young - Parents should have the opportunity to contribute on the board.

Faculty representation on the board; Young - Why eliminate? Abounader - In the beginning there was a need (for faculty representation) when establishing the school and curriculum. Now that is in place there isn't the need. Most teachers don't want to serve in that capacity or come to the meetings. They communicate through George (the principal). Reinders – Continued discussion and formal action will occur next meeting.

VIII. Acceptance of Mrs. Meurgue's resignation All approved.

IX. Other Jim Reinders – board member appointment.

Motion: Tarik Ayasun made a motion to appoint Joe Hausauer, Bill Morris second.

Motion: Jim Young – made a motion to appoint Bill Young, Bill Morris second.

Cathy Cleary – why the need to decided immediately? Those eligible for appointment would be dependent upon our decision regarding the proposed bylaws changes.

Motion: Cathy Cleary - Suggested waiting until eligibility of parents/non-parents is determined. Tarik Ayasun stated his motion was presented first, and as a result it should be voted on first, right away. Cleary – Asked if the appointment should have been posted as an agenda item.

After a brief pause, Jim Reinders - contacted Jennifer Tenney via cell phone, placed her on speaker , summarized the previous discussion and asked for a vote on the first motion.

Result: Joe Hausauer appointment voted in 4/2, muting other two motions on the table.

Four (4) Yes votes by Morris, Summers, Tenney, and Ayasun,

Two (2) No votes by Young, and Cleary.

X. Old Business none

XI. New Business none

XII. Adjournment