

Marco Island Charter Middle School  
Board Meeting Minutes  
August 19, 2009

All board members were present.

First, George Abounader made a presentation on the school grade. He handed out a worksheet explaining how the state scores the schools. We got an A! To get an A grade, a school has to score 525 points-last year we scored 614, this year we scored 650! We are the only public middle school in the county to achieve the Annual Yearly Progress (very hard to do for a consistently A school-we just have to get better and better!!)

Our opening number for enrollment this year is 369, this is a pleasant surprise since we budgeted for 360.

In addition, George discussed class size. Schools were supposed to no longer only have to meet the class size only by averages, but actually meet it in each class this year; however, due to the reduction in funding from the state, Florida will allow averages this year again.

The soccer field has been completed.

George discussed the swine flu scare, and explained that the school was going to try and stay ahead of it through cleaning and disinfecting the facilities, as well as encouraging hand washing.

George also announced his new "Parents and Principal" program which he devised in order to set up a time in the evening each month for parents to attend and discuss openly any questions or concerns they have with George.

George also presented the possibility of a joint fundraiser with the YMCA which would be a carnival or festival, complete with rides and games vendors. This could be a big money maker for the school. Cindy Love, CEO of the YMCA, was present and stated that they are still in the stage of trying to find a venue and getting city approval to see if we can use Vetrans Park. The YMCA already applied and was denied on the first round for concerns of the weight of the rides. The board expressed interest in pursuing it. Bill moved to give Jim R authority to pursue the potential fundraiser on behalf of the board, Tarik seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

The 2008-2009 audit was presented for approval.

There was no major deficiency found.

Tarik motioned to approve the audit, Joe seconded the motion, the motion was approved unanimously.

The Amended Bylaws were presented for approval. A lengthy discussion on the proposed amendment had already occurred at prior meetings. The minutes were opened

for discussion. There was no further discussion. Bill moved to approve the Amended Bylaws, Joe seconded the motion.

For: Tarik Ayasun, Joe Hausauer, William Morris, Jim Reinders, Elizabeth Summers, Jennifer Tenney

Against: Cathy Cleary, Jim Young

The amended Bylaws were passed by more than 2/3rds of the members, as required by Article VII of the Bylaws.

Jim Young raised the question of whether it was legal for the President to vote. The Bylaws read “The Board shall have the power to make, alter, amend and repeal the Bylaws of the Corporation by affirmative vote of a super-majority of the Board (two-thirds of the members).…”

Article VI states that the President shall only be a voting member in the event of a tie or due to a lack of quorum.

Jim R stated that Roberts Rules of Order contained an exception for when a supermajority is necessary.

In any case, Jennifer pointed out that there was either a vote of 6/8 in the affirmative if the President was permitted to vote, and a vote of 5/7 in the affirmative if the President was not permitted to vote; in either case, the changes to the Bylaws passed by more than 2/3rds.

The Fundraising Goals were discussed for the 2009-2010 school year. The Board set the goal of raising approximately \$120,000.00. The events the Board committed to do (a non-exclusive list which may be added to) are: Band Concerts, Battle of the Bay, Cash Drawing, solicitation of civic groups, community partners, holiday dance, parents contributions, project together, wreath sales, and the silent auction.

Jim Y explained that the auditors suggested a board member be responsible for making suggestions on where to invest the school’s money. Tarik motioned that Jim Y be appointed to work with Maria Hayden to ensure that all the school’s money is safe and FDIC insured and to pick out CDs when the current CDs expired. Joe seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Cathy Cleary passed out a nutrition policy to be reviewed by the board and discussed at the next meeting. In addition, Cathy passed out a flyer on a potential grant opportunity with NASA. George agreed that grant writing is a great way to raise money for the school and offered his services in reading through the requirements to ensure the school qualifies before writing the grant applications. Cathy explained that there were a few parents with experience and interest in grants. Jennifer moved to develop a grant committee, headed by Cathy Cleary, to investigate and find grant opportunities, Tarik seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Jim Y asked that the volunteer policy regarding who does or does not need fingerprinting be forwarded to Vee.

The next meeting was set for September 24, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned.