

The Children's Education Center of the Islands

Board Meeting Minutes
September 8th 2023 at 10am
Via Zoom

Board Members Present:

Andrea Murphy
Matt Gaudreau
Laura Gales
Brad Andres
Michelle Keltner

These minutes summarize the discussion and action of items of the CECI Board of Directors on Friday September 8th at 10am

1. Welcome and Roll Call
 - a. Andrea Murphy, board president, called meeting to order at 10:09am and conducted a roll call to determine if there was a quorum present
 - b. Minutes from previous meeting were accepted as written
2. Old Business
 - a. Construction and Architectural needs were discussed
 - i. Board discussed options for expanding the square footage of the school including concerns about enrollment and creating a sustainable expansion
 - ii. Michelle voiced concerns about current functionality of using only Thompson Hall long term
 - iii. Matt informed board that land survey should be available prior to next board meeting and he would provide to board and Benchmark for review
 - b. Budget update was provided by Michelle Keltner
 - i. Currently the school's operating cost are being covered on a month to month basis by tuition without having to use donation funds
 - ii. Michelle brought up the idea of establishing an annual fund to help cover operating expenses in future years without the need to increase tuition as operating costs are expected to continue to increase
 - iii. Matt, Brad, Michelle, and Angi will meet prior to next board meeting to review budget and get Angi feedback
 - c. Establishing Executive Committee for 2023/2024 school year – board unanimously agreed
 - i. Andrea Murphy – President
 - ii. Brad Andres – Vice President
 - iii. Matt Gaudreau – Treasurer
 - iv. Laura Gales – Secretary
3. New Business
 - a. The idea of rebranding was brought up by Board Treasurer Matt Gaudreau
 - i. Board members discussed desire to clarify school's purpose to community while remaining connected to the school's long history

- ii. It was decided that a meeting with the school's Community Advisory Board would be scheduled prior to the next board meeting for additional feedback and guidance.
 - iii. Laura Gales will handle scheduling
 - iv. Additionally the need for increased community visibility was discussed including larger presence at events, community partnerships, and increase press releases
4. Director's Update
- a. Michelle provided the following update to the board:
 - i. Discussed future enrichment possibilities for students including but not limited to: Path to PreK, Art, STEM, yoga, Spanish, and gardening
 - ii. Michelle discussed resumes and interviews for new 3s teacher
 - iii. Provided update on school's readiness for upcoming annual DCF site visit
 - iv. Michelle informed board the first quarter report to the Sanctuary Gold Club Foundation as required by the MOU for the \$250,000.00 resiliency grant that was awarded to the school in July

Next Board Meeting will take place on Friday October 13th 2023 at 10am at the Sanibel Public Library with a virtual option as needed