Board of Directors Meeting
8:00 a.m., November 17, 2011
Turner Construction

Host: Eric Houston

Present: Tobi Allen, Betsy Bell, Travis Blue, Renee Burke, Linda Downing, Alan Fidelo, Eric Houston, Joe Losch, Kevin Noonan, Doug Storer, Josh Truitt

Staff: Tracy Eckhoff, Twanna Scroggins, Heath Wells, Cindy Williams

Guests: Ivan Lefkowitz, Kathy Palmer, Michelle Radcliffe


Absent: Eric Dodson, Cathy Hertz, James Lawson, Jennifer Michaels-Gesundheit, Leah Shepherd

Call to Order
Alan Fidelo convened the meeting at 8:15 am. He began by thanking Eric Houston and Turner Construction for hosting the meeting. He also welcomed Kathy Palmer (OCPS Chief of Staff), Ivan Lefkowitz (Lefkowitz, Shaw & Senter) and Michelle Radcliffe (Orlando Health) as guests.

Adoption of Consent Agenda
Doug Storer moved to adopt the consent agenda and Joe Losch seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

School Board Update
Kathy Palmer reported on behalf of Rick Roach. The school board has been in the midst of reapportionment where the board reconsiders and reconfigures the boundaries for its seven districts. This action is taken every 10 years after the latest Census figures are reported. The board has considered several different options and will make their final decision on December 13th.

OCPS Administration/Superintendent Search Update
Kathy also talked about the district’s search for a new superintendent. As OCPS Chief of Staff, Kathy has worked with both the executive search firm and the Superintendent Search Advisory Committee throughout this process. A Stakeholder Report with the results of the superintendent search focus groups is published on the School Board’s website at: https://www.ocps.net/sb/Pages/default.aspx. The site also has a blog where community members can post comments, questions or concerns. The application process will conclude in January and interviews will begin in February. They hope to have the new superintendent selected by the end of March.
**Education Advocacy Committee**
Alan reported on behalf of Jim McIlrath that now is the time to visit our local legislators to advocate for the funding of the School District Education Foundation Matching Grant Program. Our request is to ask the legislature to adopt the $3.4 million budget request by the Florida Department of Education. Alan asked board members to consider visiting legislators before the end of the year and distributed a sign-up form. Everyone received a copy of the flyer explaining the program and the Foundation along with talking points. Heath will email details about schools that have benefitted from Foundation programs specific to the legislator you are visiting.

**2012-2015 Strategic Plan**
Doug Storer presented on the work of the Teaching Quality Goal Team. The committee decided to focus on STEM education and model initiatives like the Biology Lead Teacher (BLT) Program funded by Lockheed Martin. This program provides professional development to lead biology teachers at all OCPS high schools. These teachers attend quarterly workshops designed to provide teachers with the knowledge and resources to successfully prepare their students to engage in higher ordered thinking required for the End of Course (EOC) assessment. The committee recommended continuing the BLT program and expanding to chemistry and physical science teachers using the same model.

To help with this effort, an advisory committee comprised of STEM industry experts will be created. Josh Truitt suggested that we reach out to area professors and STEM advisory groups already in place. Kathy Palmer shared that Dr. Jenkins and her team is also exploring these issues and could be a valuable resource.

Alan shared that the strategic plan was a living document that may change as the goal teams continue to meet to flush out details. Josh Truitt moved to adopt the 2012-2015 strategic plan and Doug Storer seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Philanthropic Strategic Plan**
Alan shared that the resolution to create the PSP committee was approved by the school board on November 8th. This committee will be comprised of 5 superintendent appointments, 5 school board appointments and 5 Foundation appointments. The committee’s charge will be to develop a philanthropic strategic plan (PSP) consisting of an agreed upon list of OCPS district funding and program needs consistent with the current OCPS strategic plan. The plan should be in place by June 30, 2012. Board members were provided a copy of the resolution. Eric Houston moved to approve the resolution and Josh Truitt seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Orange County’s Got Talent**
Cindy Williams reported on behalf of Leah Shepherd. This talent competition will take place on May 12th. We are still looking for a venue, but it will need to hold at least 2,000 people. There will be 18 acts which could include both adults and youth. We are working with Full Sail University to possibly hold the auditions in their auditorium in March. Forty-percent of the proceeds will go to schools to support arts programs and 60% will support Foundation operations. Debbie Clements and her husband have agreed to coordinate an auction. The committee is still working on sponsorship packages, prizes, marketing pieces and other details. Josh Truitt suggested we reach out to the Boys and Girls Club, and Renee Burke suggested we contact Extended Day and Teach-In coordinators to spread the word about the event. Renee also suggested that we do a short video promo (no longer than 90 seconds) that could be included on Channel 13’s community update and distributed to schools to play during morning announcements.

It was suggested that Take Stock scholarships be used as prizes (although there are income requirements for this program). Linda Downing with Valencia said she may be able to get a scholarship donated as a prize.
Chairman’s Comments
Alan thanked Eric Houston once again for hosting the meeting. He also announced that Connie Lorthridge has resigned from the board due to the extensive travel associated with her new position as regional assistant dean at the University of Phoenix. He also reminded board members that the Foundation’s annual mixer is scheduled for January 19, 2012.

Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 9:20 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Cindy Williams
Executive Director

Important Dates
November 23-25    Foundation office closed
December 8    Finance Committee, 8:30 a.m., ELC – E
December 15    Executive Committee, 11:30 a.m., ELC – E
January 19, 2012    Annual Mixer, 5:30 p.m., GrayRobinson