Call to Order
On behalf of Eddie Sanabria, Alan Fidelo convened the meeting at 8:09 am. He began by introducing the guests from Dixon Ticonderoga, Tim Gomez and from Shingle Creek Elementary School, Beth Bowers.

Consent Agenda
The consent agenda was presented by Alan. Kevin Noonan moved to accept the consent agenda as presented. Doug Storer seconded the motion, and it passed by unanimous consent.

Student Impact Story
Beth Bower, reading coach at Shingle Creek Elementary, spoke to the group about how the Read2Succeed program has impacted students at her school. Shingle Creek Elementary is a multi-language, Title I school with 65% of students classified as ESOL. It is 100% qualified for the free and reduced lunch program. She impressed upon the group that the parents love their children very much but many times work two or more jobs in the hospitality industry to make ends meet. Many parents are recent immigrants to the country and some speak no English themselves. Ms. Bower went on to speak about some of the Read2Succeed students at her school.

Amelia started school three weeks late this year. When she had her FAIR (Florida Assessment In Reading) assessment she was at the 1.3 level which had her ability at first grade level work. She needed to be at the 2.1 level to be at her target. She struggled with fluency in particular. She began working with one of our reading assistants in the Read2Succeed program and by the second assessment period of FAIR was at the 2.2 level. She had exceeded her target!

Jessesinia had a low fluency level and used to skip lines of text as she read. Her reading comprehension was low due to this factor. The Read2Succeed program has improved her fluency tremendously already and her teachers are hopeful for her to continue to improve during the school year. Another student, Deph, very recently from Haiti, had very little formal education before moving here to the United States. He has had a lot of improvement with reading and fluency since starting with the Read2Succeed program.

Ms. Bowers, thanked all the board members for their support of this very worthy program. She has seen positive results with the children and has great hopes for their future.
Read2Succeed Update
Jeanne Daly Smith gave an update on the Read2Succeed current numbers. As of this week, we are serving 509 students in 48 schools. We have 109 volunteers and 13 reading assistants. There are only 54 children on the waiting list. This compares favorably year over year. Last year we served 175 children in 46 schools with 102 volunteers and had 244 children on the waiting list.

The Read2Succeed First Grade Vocabulary program is currently in its pilot phase serving 56 students at seven schools: Durrance, MetroWest, Weatherbee, Winegard, Keene’s Crossing, Andover, and Lake George.

Jeanne then gave an overview of the First Grade Vocabulary program. The program was created by Cindy Williams, Jeanne Smith, Ella Shanks (OCPS Senior Administrator, Curriculum Services) and Moira Kelly (FOCPS consultant and 2nd grade teacher at Blankner Elementary). The main focus of the program is to improve the vocabulary of children who are falling behind in this skill area. Research has shown that when a child does not have the vocabulary they should have, they can fall behind in reading fluency and then in reading comprehension. We are making an effort to reach children earlier in their reading development to improve the probability of their reading success. The program involves volunteers and children reading books (15 books in the full year program, 6 books during the pilot) throughout the year and delving into the selected vocabulary words to learn those words and to also learn the skills necessary to acquire a broader vocabulary. Volunteers and Reading Assistants will follow these steps during each session as they work one-on-one for thirty minutes with a first grader:

The Volunteer Session, Step by Step
- Step 1-Connecting with the student
- Step 2-Review the rules of the program
- Step 3-Introduce or review the read aloud book
- Step 4-Introduce vocabulary
- Step 5-Read the book aloud until the recommended stopping point
- Step 6-Review selected vocabulary words and paste into word journal
- Step 7-Illustrate a word in the word journal
- Step 8-Review and Praise

Jeanne shared that the pilot is going very well so far with only positive comments and feedback.

Executive Director’s Report
Cindy Williams presented the Foundation’s “financial dashboard.” All the numbers indicate a solid year financially. One highlight is the success of the upcoming Orange County’s Top Talent event to be held this year on May 18th. To date, Cindy has secured $32,000 in sponsorship dollars as well as in-kind contributions from the following sponsors:

- CFE Federal Credit Union
- Target
- First Southern Bank
- Century Link
- Bright House
- Universal Studios
- Valencia College
- Nova Southern University
- Publix

School Sponsors:
- Seaside National Bank

In-Kind Sponsors:
- MIX 105.1
- FX Design
- Massey Communications
- OUC
- Orlando Tech

Top Talent Auditions Event
- 116 Acts Registered
- 98 Acts Auditioned
- 53 Schools represented (including two charter schools)

Selected 18 Acts as Finalists
- 6 Elementary Schools
- 5 Middle Schools
- 7 High Schools
There are some enhancements to the program this year. The “Fan Favorite,” is a text-to-vote activity that allows the audience to select their favorite act at the end of the show. We have a prize sponsor and will also have our 2012 OCTT winner returning to perform. The judges as of now are: Thomas McClary, lead guitarist and original founder of the Commodores; Robert Hill, Orlando Ballet artistic director; and Erica Dunlap, graduate of Boone H.S. and Miss America 2004. We will also have an auction led by Debbie Clements and a VIP event. Cindy requested that as many board members as possible attend the VIP reception.

Cindy then gave the board an overview of the Consortium for Florida Education Foundations (CFEF). CFEF is the professional association for the local education foundations that serve 2.6 million students and 295,000 educators throughout Florida’s 67 county-wide school districts.

CFEF serves as the conduit for business and philanthropic investment in Florida’s classrooms by creating statewide and regional partnerships that have a direct impact on student achievement at the local level. They provide resources, matching grants and statewide programs that benefit our Foundation. Cindy recommended inviting Mary Chance, president of CFEF to come speak to the board sometime in the near future. Jim Waters spoke about the CFEF’s role in making the Department of Education as well as the House and Senate aware of the impact of government matching dollars that pass through to local education foundations. Joyce Romano asked if the superintendent was supportive of the CFEF mission and was informed by Cindy that Superintendent Jenkins is supportive. Tim Myers asked if there was a form letter the board could use to help inform state representatives and senators about the need for the matching dollars.

The Golf Tournament Committee, chaired by Doug Storer, is hard at work. To date they have $37,000 in revenue committed.

Cindy noted that the board meeting scheduled for May 23rd this year has been moved to May 30th. This move was necessary because Bill Sublette’s Chairman’s State of the Schools event is on May 23rd. She also stated that a July meeting will be scheduled this year and the date will be decided upon soon.

**Philanthropic Strategic Plan**

Alan gave the board an update on the PSP. He noted that Orange County Public Schools formally adopted the PSP at their most recent meeting. There will be an event on April 9th at the Citrus Club to kick off the public campaign. Please RSVP as soon as possible. There will be brief presentations and videos regarding each program within the plan.

**Adjournment**

There was no old business. Alan thanked Eric Dodson for hosting the meeting. The meeting was adjourned by Alan at 9:12 a.m.