

Doctors Charter School Board Minutes 11-19-09

The meeting was called to order by Chair Bill Heffernan at 5:37PM.

Present were: Board Chair B. Heffernan, E. Bonet, A. Burch, A. Harke, D. Kleinman, J. McCoy, C. Morris, A. Silbert

Also present: Kay Brown, Curriculum Coordinator; Doug Garber, Discipline Coordinator.

Apologies for absence: R. Bernstein, E. D'An, J. Harris-Looby, J. Lutton. Also absent: H. Davis.

Reflection: Kay Brown presented a reflection by Robert Fulghum.

Minutes: The minutes of the October Board meeting were approved.

Executive Director's Report: Kay Brown reported that interim assessments were done on November 3rd and explained how the results are used to yield 'teachable moments'; as of November 12th, the School Improvement Plan was reviewed and updated.

Charter Review: Mr. Garber explained that the changes outlined in the previous Board meeting were presented to the Village Council on November 17th, with two additions that deal with a conflict in wording on student probation, and the rule on earrings. This review resulted in a *motion*, to approve all of the proposed charter changes as presented. All were in favor.

Election of officers: A brief discussion about the absence of many Board members as well as Mr. Meredith, resulted in a motion to table this item until the December meeting.

Finance Committee: There was a brief discussion of our 501c3 status; a volunteer has been found to facilitate the process. The financial reports are positive; however funding continues to shrink. Ms. Brown was asked to comment on faculty morale. Restoring the faculty's financial incentives remains a priority of the Board.

Strategic Planning: Mr. Heffernan explained the possible timing of a Board retreat for planning purposes. The designated group will meet soon to begin selecting a facilitator. College admissions were discussed briefly, and will be a part of future strategic discussions.

Fundraising Committee: Chair Dennis Kleinman explained that the Evening in the Courtyard event was put together by a committee, in which 5 Board members were involved. He presented flowers from the Board to A. Burch and E. Bonet for their assistance with this event. Approximately \$15,000 was raised for the school's greatest needs. There was some 'new blood' present, and over 140 were in attendance. There was great participation by the School's vendors and by faculty. Our next event is the Golf and Tennis Tournament to be held on April 16th.

PTSA: A. Harke reported that the Middle School Dance will be held on December 4th, and that the annual Toy Drive for needy Miami Shores Elementary children is ongoing.

Board comment: Dr. Morris outlined the possibility of having a defibrillator donated to DCS. He is also investigating the possibility of purchasing a bus. Future marketing materials for DCS need to mention North Dade Medical Foundation.

Next Board meeting: The next meeting will be held Thursday, December 17, 2009 at 5:30 PM in the Media Center.

William J. Heffernan, Chairman

Alice Burch, Secretary