



PALM BEACH
SCHOOL *for* AUTISM

**Palm Beach School for Autism, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting
September 19, 2016**

Present: Rantee Gabriel - President
Dawn D'Amato - Vice President
Jerry Zel - Board Member
Russ Feldman - Board Member
Steve Carroll - Board Member
Ann Levene-Eisenberg - Executive Director
Louisa Legato - Business Director
Allison Ballin - Associate Director of Education and Behavioral Services
Abby Girton - Director of Marketing and Development
Adriene Fern - Director of Family Services
Juliet Bliss - Principal
Olive Balbosa - Principal
Nick Miles - Principal

Excused: Myra Mahoney - Board Member
Ruth Menor - Treasure

Guest: Samara Johnson, DiCrescenzo and Company, PA

Call to Order: Rantee Gabriel called the meeting to order at 4:00pm

Board of Directors Approvals:

- Board members reviewed minutes from the May 31, 2016 board meeting. Jerry Zel made a motion to approve the minutes, Dawn D'Amato seconded the motion. All board members voted in favor.

Business Manager - Louisa Legato:

- Introduced Auditor, Samara Johnson from DiCrescenzo and Company, PA.
- Samara reviewed audit findings and answered questions. Board approved and accepted the Audit Report as presented. The motion was made by Dawn D'Amato to approve, it was seconded by Russ Feldman.
- Amended 2015-2016 budget was reviewed and questions were answered.
- A motion was made by Dawn D'Amato to approve the amended budget for 2015-2016 and seconded by Russ Feldman. All board members voted in favor.
- Sent Amended Budget around for signatures.
- Stated Sherri would contact two missing board members to get their original signatures.

Executive Directors Report – Ann Levene-Eisenberg:

- Introduced new Director of Family Services, Adriene Fern and new Executive Administrative Assistant, Sherri Gallagher.
- Updated on Case, it is over. Rande signed agreement on behalf of PBSFA. Cannot discuss details.
- Update on expansion. Lost both pieces of land due to flight plan restrictions. Regrouped with executive team and came up with potential plan to expand at current location to add a transition academy program for 18-22 year old.
- Updated on Picasso Einstein curriculum that was presented by Boez Santiago for our future *Unique Center for Entrepreneurship*. It was a good training providing helpful information. However, at this time an adult center for entrepreneurship will be put on hold.
- Spoke of Natalie Ivey, HR Executive, who came to beginning of school training for staff to address how to work more effectively with other staff, how to handle gossip and bullying. She met with all staff without executive leadership and then met with executive leadership to share the information. Thanks to Steve for introducing Natalie to PBSFA.
- Updated on the number of current students (290) and that a 6th pre-k classroom was added.
- Indicated the difficulty in finding and hiring certified teachers. All efforts are being made to recruit certified teachers for autism.
- Renewed SouthTech Agreement, but increased the number to 12 from 8.
- Talked about student who was paid to work a summer internship at Velocity Credit Union and was a great success.
- Talked about hiring staff with Autism to work for PBSFA.
- Updated on FAU program to take two students who were sponsored to attend their summer camp. Huge hit and going to try and find money sponsorships to send additional students next year.

Associate Director of Education & Behavioral Services – Allison Ballin

- Updated on existing curriculum, Unique.
- Indicated that two new curriculums being introduced: Raz-Kids and Headsprout throughout the school.
- Working with PB Atlantic and Lynn University to develop long-term relationship to hire good teachers to come work in our population.

Director of Marketing and Development – Abby Girton

- Updated on current grants being submitted for S.N.A.P. , technology and sunshades for playground.
- New spin on November 19th event: Comedy and Cocktails at Suri West in Wellington. It is a higher level event, tickets are \$100/person, and need Boards help to sell tickets.
- February 11th - Comprehensive Conference, still deciding on keynote speaker(s).
- March 11th - Italian Dinner, Board members encouraged to come.

Future Meetings:

- December 5, 2016 4:00pm
- March 6, 2017 4:00pm
- May 22, 2017 4:00pm

Adjournment:

- Jerry Zel made a motion to adjourn, Steve Carroll seconded the motion. All were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted:
Sherri Gallagher

x  12/5/16