SUNSHINE CHARTER ACADEMY OF BROWARD, INC.

DBA: SUNED HIGH SCHOOL (Oakland Park Campus)

Board of Directors Meeting: 10-24-2014: 3:45 PM

<u>Posting of Meeting:</u> This meeting was noticed by written postings both inside and outside of the school premises, three days prior to the scheduled meeting.

<u>In Attendance:</u> Barry Goldberg, Board Chair; Mark Weintraub, board member, Norma Vasquez-Hirshfield, Board vice-chair, Marion Silver, Board Secretary; Phil Neiss, Facilities Director; Tammy Lara, Lead Principal (and Margate); and DeeEtte Naukana, .Principal (Oakland Park)

<u>Meeting called to order at 3:45 PM.</u> Introduction and welcome by Board Chair, Mr. Goldberg.

<u>Minutes:</u> Read by Phil Neiss; Motion to accept by Ms. Silver; 2nd by Ms. Vasquez-Hirshfield. Passed unanimously.

<u>Lead Principal's Report:</u> Ms. Lara reported on behalf of the Oakland Park school. She discussed attendance improvements, academic improvements, positive FCAT testing, and community recognition. Ms. Lara's report is attached to the minutes submission.

<u>SACS Accreditation:</u> Ms. Lara discussed our status with SACS and AdVanced Ed. She reviewed the Oakland Park school's initial conditional status which we were awarded in 2012 and noted that all requirements for continued and full membership have been achieved.

<u>Facilities:</u> Mr. Neiss noted that at Oakland Park, the building is structurally sound and everything is running smoothly. He indicated that there is an issue on the roof that requires attention as well as the rear wall in located by lab one and that it is being addressed promptly. ZAP Operating Corp. has been notified and the Board of Directors has been in communication with the owner of the facility. The Board of Directors was assured that this problem will be rectified by the end of the Christmas recess.

We recently installed four new 5 ton air-conditioning systems on the roof to replace four units that were 14 years old and at the end of their practical service life. Initially, the plan was to replace one or two units at this time, however it was economically more practical to commit to the four units, as we were able achieve the installation under a single building permit, as well as minimizing the need to hire a crane operator only once, compared to four possible installations. The estimated savings was several thousand dollars.

We are testing replacements for several fluorescent lighting fixtures with new and energy efficient LED lighting. We are strongly considering changing all of the fixtures over time in the building, depending on availability and favorable financing. This is practical from both an energy savings standpoint, as well as consistent with converting our building to be "green". We will keep the Board apprised of the testing.

Old Business:

<u>Cleaning Crew Concerns:</u> Ms. Dee Naukana, school Principal, noted that Pristine Maintenance is not doing a "pristine" job. We have spoken with the vendor on several occasions to bring this to their attention, however, they are not doing an acceptable job. After a brief discussion, the Board recommended that we should seek out a new cleaning company. Ms. Lara noted that the cleaning company that maintains the Margate facility is doing a good job and that we should consider hiring them for Oakland Park as well. The Board will review their proposal as well as seek out additional bids for a contract.

<u>Security Company Concerns:</u> Ms. Dee Naukana, school Principal, expressed to the Board of Directors her dismay of Alcatraz Security. While this is the third year of our relationship, there appears to be a growing number of issues that continue to arise: Tardiness is increasing; the guards are "relaxing" their dress code standard which is unacceptable, and one guard was dismissed for lacking proper ID. The Board is actively seeking bids for a replacement provider.

New Business:

New computers for Oakland Park: As part of our commitment to maintaining a state of the art facility, we are now replacing our earliest and oldest computers in the building. Our original computer purchase was for 20 Dell computers prior to opening our doors in 2012. These units initially served the needs of the school, yet as our demand and enrollment grew, they have quickly become obsolete. We have therefore ordered 50 additional "N" computing systems to replace the 20 aging Dells as well as expanding our internal infrastructure by 30 additional units. This gives us a total of 220+computers at the facility which will now include 180 "N" units, as well as 40 Lenovos (which are used mostly for staff and seniors).

New hires at Oakland Park include: Ms. Lara also announced that Oakland Park, under the leadership of Ms. DeeEtte Naukana is sound. The new staff at Oakland Park include: Ms. Xiomara Jordan, Ms Melani Timmis, Ms. Irma Torres, Mr. Joseph Carlo, and Ms. Naukana. Since the last meeting, Ms. Watkins-Wilkins and Mr. Eugene have left the staff.

Ms. Lara further noted that all required positions are filled and that we are in full compliance with SBBC guidelines.

<u>Certified Accounting Audit:</u> Our annual audit was conducted by the accounting firm of McCready and Hess, CPA. The firm's determination was 100% favorable, with some minor suggestions for improvement hereafter. The Board was polled and unanimously approved the audit results.

<u>School Budget:</u> The Board reviewed the proposed school budget for the school, as submitted by our accountant. The budget was unanimously approved.

<u>Teacher Lead Money:</u> Ms. Lara reported that all teacher lead money has been disbursed. Copies of all receipts have been submitted and documented.

Educational Programs: An approved program for intensive reading is required by the school district. The SBBC has approved the EDGE program for intensive reading. Ms. Lara requested the program for Oakland Park, which the Board unanimously approved at an expenditure of approximately \$3,500.00 for each school. The program includes: Phonics to comprehension, as well as fluency in five parts of reading. There is a required reading teacher present at the school. The early responses are that the students are reacting positively to the program.

Ms. Lara thanked Mr. Weintraub for his input on the EDGE program, noting that the ESOL population generally struggles with reading.

We have implemented a student tracking program at Oakland Park. The BASS program from the school district evaluates students three times per year. At the end of the school year, the District, as well as the school will be able to determine each student's individual progress.

Skoolive Advertising: At the recent national charter school convention we met with representatives from the Skoolive Company. They provide us, free of charge with a large LED display which has the ability to blast out messages to our students while in the building. It also allows students to interact with the sign to view schedules, purchase tee shirts, and other infomercial data. Skoolive earns its revenue by placing small ads on the screen from national advertisers. Mr. Weintraub expressed concern over the potential advertisers as well as their content. Ms. Naukana will follow up to determine whether we have any selection over advertisers, as well as their appropriate content.

FTE and Spirit Week: Both schools had successful FTE weeks which were promoted through our "Spirit Week" events. Ms. Lara reported high attendance as a result of "attendance rewards" for the students (McDonalds, Golden Coral and KFC gift cards, as

well as other promotional gifts). Additionally, we were able to contact almost all of our students and arrange for them to attend school and maintain their student status.

Ongoing attendance at Oakland Park has improved and is hovering around 70%.

<u>Board of Directors:</u> The Board is saddened to report that as of November 1, 2014, the resignation of Ms. Norma Hirshfield, who has diligently served on our Board since inception in 2012. She has done a wonderful job for both campuses, and of course has a standing invitation to all of our events including all future graduations! We wish Ms. Hirshfield all the best!

The Board announced the addition of a new board member: Mr. Steve Cooper. Mr. Cooper was officially installed at this board meeting after unanimous approval from all board members. Mr. Cooper has completed his board training and has passed his security clearance, and will be officially introduced at a future meeting.

Additional Business: Mr. Weintraub requested monthly reports on student enrollment. Ms. Lara will personally send him her monthly Principal's report, which will include new student enrollments, student departures, attendance, testing and general conditions, etc.

Mr. Neiss, Mr. Goldberg and the Principals briefly discussed a holiday staff party. More information will be forthcoming at the next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned: The meeting was adjourned at 4:45 P.M.

Respectfully submitted:

Marion Silver, SunEd High School Board Secretary