

HARTRIDGE ACADEMY
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

MARCH 5, 2024

The meeting was called to order. In attendance was Principal Richards, Sherry Kelley, Lisa Street and Juan Lopez. Minutes from the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Principal provided the most recent financial reports and bank statements showing fund balances above the required amounts. The Principal reported that there is still much cleanup and renovation to complete to prepare for increased enrollment 2024 2025 and reduction of warehouse space. As expected, and planned, the work will require some staff and contracted labor to work over spring break when students are gone as well as into the summer months. The additional hours are still less costly than additional new staff that would require the hefty benefits package per each employee. Rental vehicle and dumpster will be needed, too. Applications for fall students far exceed the amount desired for the additional class and spaces available from grade five leaving for middle school. The classroom, a/c repair and restrooms will be the priority. Staff working break and summer receives hourly pay, not time and a half. The district will be asked to pick up items they want otherwise items can be sold or trashed at a later date according to state guidelines.

The consent agenda items were discussed. Item 3 and 5 regarding retirement on work beyond annual salary to be or not be included in the future and if sick/personal days can be paid out annually or accrued. Advice will be sought from the charter attorney and or auditor before board approval at a later date thus removed from the agenda. However, the retirement plan can be amended now to allow staff to use their current balances on unlimited number of loans at a total capped by IRS rules. Also, retirement already earned by two teachers could not be applied in June due to their start date thus requires consent to be applied now. The funds are already in the default account but not applied to them personally yet.

The Principal shared that the SAC committee and staff voted on distribution of the recognition funds received from the State of Florida for the positive outcome of the 2022 2023 test results. Funds will be distributed as required for spring break use if possible. All employees received favorable evaluations that must be approved and signed.

Charters must have a plan to comply with requirements regarding restrooms, bathrooms, etc. Our renovations have us in compliance and we have no locker rooms nor do we allow items to come from home except carried lunchboxes and water bottles.

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Discussion took place about the increase in insurance statewide and the insurability of the leased and owned portables. While reasonable coverage is still being sought, it was agreed that our fund balance more than covers the cost of replacement should it be needed prior to finding reasonable coverage. Thus, we will move ahead with purchasing all other required insurance without waiting on the portables' coverage.

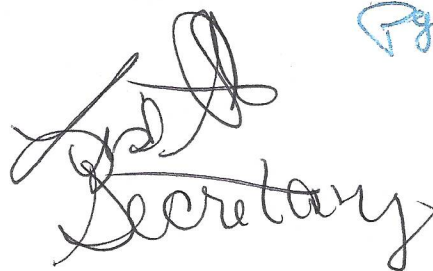
It is time for many staff members to take continuing education classes for renewal of their licenses. The Florida Consortium of Public Charter Schools offers online training for the staff members for a small fee all year online. Hartridge will continue to pay for the training and subject area exams and renewal costs for full time staff from FCPCS and other approved online and in person sites. Will apply any funds from Title 2 that cover the training.

We have remaining Title 1 funds for summer school and additional computers that meet the student testing requirements. We also have ESSR/Federal grants to be applied for new teacher costs. We also have funds left from a prior year play/outdoor area donation that we need to use for the sail shades and playground shade fencing. All these additional grants and extra hours require a budget amendment for the revenue and related expenses.

Mike Brynjulfson will no longer be auditing charter schools. He has offered to provide assistance during the transition period and will provide us a cost sheet for services as we need them in the future. Appreciation for his time and service was recognized.

A motion was made to approve all items on the consent agenda except line item 3 and 5 at this time. Also, line 17 off due to the audit committee would meet later in the year to select a new auditor. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

There was no further discussion by board members and no audience members requesting to speak. A motion was made and second to adjourn. Meeting was adjourned.


Secretary

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