MINUTES
NEW DIMENSIONS BOARD OF DIRECTORS
10/22/25

Time: 7.30am

In attendance: Mike Alfers, Jeremy Mezzina, Wendy Farrell, Kulsoom Khanani, Luciana Oliver (new board member)
Via Zoom: Sandie Martinez, Lyun Sparrock plus Jessica Vazquez (SDOC)

The meeting was called to order by Wendy. No members of the public were present so no public comment.

Approval of minutes: Minutes were approved with 2 amendments - Wendy Farrell was in attendance physically not via zoom at the June meeting and the minutes were headed Agenda instead of Minutes. Motion Sandie, second Wendy, all in favor.

Auditor Presentation - moved to future meeting as was a no show

New Board member Luciano Oliver from SouthState Bank introduced herself. A motion by Sandie, second by Wendy, all in favor to add Luciano Oliver to the board. Motion by Wendy, second by Sandie, all in favor to remove Martha Moyano from the board for non attendance. Motion by Sandie, second by Kulsoom, all in favor to officially make Wendy Farrell Board Chair from Vice Chair. Mike will check that Chair can also be Parent Liaison.

A motion was made by Lynn, second by Sandie, all in favor to make Luciano Oliver Treasurer following her board training. Sandie Martinez agreed to consider becoming Vice Chair.

Motion was made by Sandie, second by Wendy and all in favor to approve Teacher salary increases as presented - $500 for highly effective, $350 for effective, this mirrors SDOC. We are not offering the 2% retention supplement that the district is offering as we don't have it in the budget. What we pay in benefits has increased, we spend $11,000 in benefits versus $8,700 district. Staff understand things are tight. We will see where we are at the end of year and if we have money we can do retention bonuses at that time.
We pay so much in benefits because of small group purchasing power. Mike shopped 3 brokers this year and got the best deal. Our insurance is not as good as the district but as good as we can get at the price point. Mike is looking at offering a monthly stipend

for employees that opt out of our insurance to go to the marketplace. Mike is exploring this for the next fiscal year and will bring information back to the next board meeting.

Bank Account consolidation: we have 5 different banks. A motion was made by Lynn, second by Kulsoom, all in favor to close Chase account and either move money to a new account or transfer to one of the other existing accounts.

A motion was made by Lynn, second by Sandie, all in favor to add Treasurer to signatures on checks and that Treasurer will be Luciano. Currently it is just either Mike or Jeremy. It was felt to safeguard the school a board member should also be able to sign checks if necessary. SouthState senior management will come and present to Mike to see what they can offer by way of accounts, services and returns.

Budget Review. Mike explained that the current fiscal year is tight, hopeful to meet the budget. Last fiscal year was $18,000 positive which wasn't expected having done renovation. Variables - local capital outlay allocation hasn't been disclosed yet. The number of students can change income. Enrolment is down a little due to homeschooling, private schools etc as parents get vouchers. Mike's calculation worksheet has 430 students plugged in, but it's hard to pin down numbers because of modifiers based on student performance.

Bylaws - A few minor updates need to be made - subcommittee of Wendy and Kulsoom will review and amend bylaws and bring back possible amendments to the next board meeting for review.

<u>Five Year Plan</u>
Mike and Jeremy have come up with a workable and very forward thinking 5 year plan with an emphasis on All Students, All paths, One future. Excellent powerpoint presented details in all areas.
A focus on:

1. Leveraging the small school environment (safe and comfortable), individualizing academic pathways (no pigeonholing, flexibility, built from student out).
2. OTEC and post secondary pathways (looking to partner with OTEC, expansion of both OTEC and Valencia career technical education programs - suggestions Electrician, carpentry, plumbing and HVAC). Ensuring more students apply for State-funded Bright Futures Scholarship Program.
3. Developing Booster Clubs to support athletics and extracurriculars (family involvement, parent volunteers and raising money). Build more connections before games. Current clubs are all teacher driven.

4. Also pursuing a comprehensive Marketing Plan - Better branding of school, saturation mailers, social media posts. Sandie suggested using student to student messaging using Instagram, Youtube, Facebook and Tik-Tok (Mike to check on usage rules for Tik-Tok). New website video (current one is 2 years old). More engagement in community events. The school has a free table at PoincianaFest on 11/7, Kulsoom offered a table at HCA Fall Fest on 11/15. Already partnered with Crunch Fitness. Other suggestions - car magnet signs and reaching out to get more business partners for the school to help in sponsorship etc. HCA and SouthState to both now be involved in Career Evening on 11/13, 4pm
5. Technology plan - establishing a rolling replacement plan on a yearly basis to keep tech up to date. Have a team of people in the school that help identify needs and when laptops etc are starting to possibly slow/fail.

Revision of Mission and vision statement - Jeremy is going to get students involved in this, maybe in a competition format and also maybe incorporating All students, All paths, One future. Will be brought back to the Board.

Renaming of Auditorium ‘Founders Auditorium’ - 4/23/26 - evening 5.30pm same evening as academic achievement awards. Mike to get with Lynn on past board members to invite. Past Founders Dr. Grimm and Dr. Cafiero will attend.

Other Operational and Instructional updates.
Campus improvements completed. Just a few small things that we will get a credit on. Awnings to be replaced, one paid by the construction company who damaged one, other by school. Stucco is definitely making the school cooler so we will see how this translates in power bills.

Graduation is set for May 19th, 6pm at Living Water Fellowship Church in Poinciana. The Civic center in Kissimmee will be under renovation/construction.

Future Board meeting dates: January 18th 2026, 7.30am
April 22nd, 7.30am
June 24th, 8.30am

Motion to adjourn 9.20am
MInutes prepared by Wendy Farrell - 12/27/25