

Vision: To empower all students with a STEM education which will help them reach their maximum potential and guide them to a promising and successful career.

Mission: To provide a high-quality, well-rounded education for K-12 students in Central Florida by incorporating innovative, proven, research-based instructional methods in a stimulating and nurturing environment which provides a special emphasis on Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics (STEM), and Reading.

DISCOVERY EDUCATION SERVICES INC.,

GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Thursday, August 22, 2024

5:30 PM

at Orlando Science Middle High Charter – Lynx Campus

Schools:

Orlando Science Middle/High Charter School

Orlando Science Elementary Charter School

Orlando Science Charter School K-8

Seminole Science Charter School

Osceola Science Charter School

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Approval of Agenda Items
3. Approval of Meeting Minutes
 - Meeting Minutes of 05.21.2024
 - Special Meeting Minutes of 07.18.2024
 - Workshop Minutes of 08.07.2024
4. Principal's Report
5. Public Remarks

PRESENTATION

- P 01. Presentation of Certificates of Accreditation and STEM Certification by Cognia
- P 02. State of the Schools, August 2024
- P 03. National Charter School Conference & Recognition of 2024 Charter Schools Hero

ACTION ITEMS

Consent Agenda Items

- A 01. Request Approval of Discovery Education Services Inc., 2024-25 Employee Handbook
- A 02. Request Approval of 2024-25 Student Handbooks
- A 03. Request Approval of 2024-25 Safe School Plans
- A 04. Request Approval of Charter School Safety and Security Policy for FSS, and Rule 6A-1.008, 6A1.0019
- A 05. Request Approval of 2024-25 Reunification Plans
- A 06. Request Approval of Internet Safety Policy
- A 07. Withdrawn

Non-Consent Items

- A 08. Request Approval of 2024-25 Budgets

INFORMATION

- I 01. Seminole Science Charter School Campus Development
- I 02. Orlando Science Charter School Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
- I 03. Annual Board Training
- I 04. Board Members Remarks

A 09. Closure of the Meeting

Items Discussed and Voted by Governing Board Members:

The Board Members Mr. Fortna, Mr. Sabuncu, Dr. Brindala, and Dr. Yuksel attended in person, while Mr. Colak was absent.

1. Call to Order

- Mr. Fortna called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda Items

• Dr. Brindala moved to approve the agenda items. Mr. Sabuncu seconded the motion. **The agenda items were approved unanimously.**

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Dr. Brindala moved to approve the meeting minutes of 05.21.2024 with the presented revisions. Dr. Yuksel seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- Dr. Yuksel moved to approve the meeting minutes of 07.18.2024 with the presented revisions. Mr. Fortna seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- No action was taken on the approval of the Workshop Minutes of 08.07.2024.

4. Principal's Report

• Principal Santos provided a detailed update on the school's 2023-24 year-end progress, as well as the new school year's plans and progress, including enrollment numbers, staff updates, and upcoming events.

5. Public Remarks

- No public remarks were made.

PRESENTATIONS

P 01. Presentation of Certificates of Accreditation and STEM Certification by Cognia

• Cognia Southeast Region's Director, Andy Martinez, presented certificates for the Orlando Science Schools system's accreditation and STEM certification. He congratulated the entire team and the board for their dedication to continuous improvement, STEM education, and providing excellent programs for the students.

P 02. State of the Schools, August 2024

• Director of Research, Accountability, and Student Systems from Discovery Science Schools, Mrs. Monahan, presented *The State of the Schools, August 2024*. She provided a comprehensive overview of the system schools' current

and past performance, the opening of Orlando Science Charter School K-8, tasks completed during the summer, and the objectives for the upcoming academic year.

- Board members asked various questions during the presentation and made suggestions.

P 03. National Charter School Conference & Recognition of 2024 Charter Schools Hero

• Board Chair, David Fortna, acknowledged the recognition received at the National Charter School Conference and shared that Dr. Akin was selected as the 2024 Charter Schools Hero by the Florida Charter Schools Alliance.

ACTION ITEMS

Consent Agenda Items

- **A 01. Request Approval of Discovery Education Services Inc., 2024-25 Employee Handbook**
- **A 02. Request Approval of 2024-25 Student Handbooks**
- **A 03. Request Approval of 2024-25 Safe School Plans**
- **A 04. Request Approval of Charter School Safety and Security Policy for FSS, and Rule 6A-1.008, 6A1.0019**
- **A 05. Request Approval of 2024-25 Reunification Plans**
- **A 06. Request Approval of Internet Safety Policy**
- **A 07. Withdrawn**

• Mr. Fortna read all the consent items, and Dr. Akin provided a briefing on each, highlighting changes from last year's documents. Dr. Brindala moved to approve the consent agenda items. Mr. Sabuncu seconded the motion. **The motion was approved unanimously.**

Non-Consent Items

- **A 08. Request Approval of 2024-25 Budgets**
 - Mr. Celik presented the 2024-25 budgets, detailing key financial projections and expenditures. The budgets were compared with the previous year's budgets. Several budget line items were questioned by the members, including general vs. school administration, central services (the Discovery Science Schools fees), revenue from local sources, and contingencies. Dr. Yuksel asked for a presentation comparing with the previous year's budget on the same page.
 - Dr. Brindala moved to approve the 2024-25 budgets. Mr. Sabuncu seconded the motion. **The motion was approved unanimously.**

INFORMATION ITEMS

I 01. Seminole Science Charter School Campus Development

- Updates on the campus development plans were provided, including the project goals.

I 02. Orlando Science Charter School K-8 Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

• Dr. Akin highlighted the details and schedule for the ribbon-cutting ceremony and invited all board members to the event, scheduled for August 29, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

I 03. Annual Board Training

- The date and time for the annual board training were set for Saturday, September 21, from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m.

I 04. Board Members' Remarks

- Board members discussed the ongoing effort to schedule a workshop or meeting to reevaluate the service provider agreement with Discovery Science Schools, which was requested during the July 18, 2024 meeting by Dr. Yuksel when he expressed his concerns. The efforts to find a time to convene all the board members to

discuss the agreement have failed. Hence, the board members discussed how to schedule a time for the planned discussion. Before moving on with finding a time, Dr. Brindala requested Dr. Yuksel to explain his concerns. Dr. Yuksel expressed his concerns again regarding the service provider agreement. Both Dr. Yuksel and Mr. Sabuncu showed interest in having additional discussions to revise the agreement. Meanwhile, Mr. Fortna and Dr. Brindala supported keeping the agreement as is. Since Mr. Colak was not present and he had expressed concerns during the July 18, 2024 meeting, the board agreed to meet again to discuss and finalize the matter. The board members agreed to meet on one of the following dates: August 24th, August 26th, or August 28th. All four existing board members confirmed that they would be available on these dates. Among the three dates, the preference would be given to the date with highest attendance first and then the earliest date.

A 09. Closure of the Meeting

- Dr. Brindala moved to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Yuksel seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:33 p.m.