April 11, 2019 Minutes of the Governing Board/SAC/Founding Board Meeting

- 1. Call to order by Mr. Notter at 7:13pm
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance
- 3. Roll Call by Ayesha Edmond

<u>Present:</u> Dan Heller, Russ Feldman, Diane Heinz, Suzanne Nicolini, Carl McKoy, James Notter, Roger Dunson

Absent: Aram Bloom, Jonathan Flah, Carl McKoy

Ouorum

- 4. Open Public Meetings Act Statement The meeting has been properly noticed.
- 5. Public Presentation: Alley McInnis gave a report on the SkillsUSA State Competition in Pensacola. He said that they took 47 students to the event, saving that practically every academy participated. There were 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in just about every one of our academies. Mr. McInnis wished the instructors from every academy were present, because they are the ones who are the real heroes. This school was built on the foundation of vocational education; then we went to technical and now we are in the career academies, which SouthTech is the best. The ESE kids also did well and came in 3rd place. Mr. McInnis said he received a letter from the hotel and they said they would love to have us come back again, because of how well the kids behaved. The teachers also get credit for this, because they make sure that the kids are doing what they are supposed to do, so they get up at five o'clock in the morning and do not go to bed sometimes until 11 or 12 o'clock at night. Mr. McInnis told of how strenuous it was for both instructors and students with the hectic schedule. The kids came back showing their medals and when the other students saw their medals, they were encouraged to go to participate in Skills next year. Mr. McInnis relayed stories about how overwhelmed with emotion one of the kids was who won 1st place in the motorcycle contest. He said that there were more success stories, one after another. We have ten students who will be going to the National Competition in Louisville, Kentucky. Unfortunately, there is no contest for the Hair Weave category, so that students will not be able to go. SouthTech always wins the State contest in Hair Weave, but there is still not a national contest for it, because they have to have at least ten states competing in that category. There was a new rule this year that you had to get 70% of the score, and if you did not receive 70% of the score, even if you won 1st place, you could not go to nationals. He was really close. The good news is that he is a Junior, so he still has another chance next year. All the other students got 80-90% on the score. Mr. McInnis told other stories about the other student victories and said that all of the nursing students, including Basic Health and Practical Nursing won 1st, and we had a winner for the first time for First Aid, the Valedictorian of the graduating class, Loncey Elie. All of the programs that the students competed in and won is just a biopsy of this school, and it is the best. Mr. McInnis said that Mr. Wiglesworth did a fantastic job and he knew that once he got into it, he would be a lifer. He asked him to say a few words. Mr. Wigelsworth said yes, we did have 27 students who placed, but he wanted to put the numbers aside, because they do not always tell the whole story all the time. Mr. Wiglesworth said some kids need a push, some need encouragement, and some need what we unfortunately, cannot give them. When they called the name of the student Mr. McInnis talked about, he did not smile, he did not show any enthusiasm, but just sat there for a minute, went down to get his medal, and when he returned, he just collapsed in Mr. Terry's arms. He told Mr. Terry that he had told him that he would not let him down. So his main thing was that he did not want to let Mr. Terry down. Mr. Wiglesworth said since he is not teaching right now, he had forgotten what that looked like, but to see it first hand, it made everything worth it. That kid had never really experience success, but cared more about what his teacher thought than winning the medal. It made the trip worth it. We quoted him for our newsletter coming out tomorrow, and he is walking with a pep in his step today, wearing a shirt that says "Got Skills?" Mr. Wiglesworth said seeing that gives him a reason to come to school for the rest of the year.
- 6. Approval of the Minutes for the STA/STPA Regular Governing Board/STSC Founding Board Meeting March 14, 2019:

Motion by: Mr. Feldman All in favor. Second by: Mr. Dunson Motion carries.

- 7. Treasurer's/Financial Report: Mr. Heller reported that the STA/STPA Finance Committee met prior to the Board meeting and they recommended approval for STA Items C-1 through C-4 and STPA Items PC-1 through PC-4 and for STSC Item SCC-1.
- 8A. Superintendent's Report:

STA-STPA-STSC Charters: Mr. Kidd reported that a year and six days after the renewal for Prep and application for the Success Center were approved by the Board, these charters were approved by the School

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Board. The STA charter is still a work in progress and the District requested that we give them an extension. Mr. Kidd has been working with Atty. Shawn Arnold and the draft is ready to go to the District. To expedite things, we started doing their charters for them. Mr. Kidd hopes to get it to Joe De Pasquale this week and maybe we could get it knocked out pretty soon.

Odyssey Remodel: Hopefully, the 100% drawings on re-purposing will be ready to go to the State by the end of the month. We are working with the architect and he is frantically moving forward. We met with some of the career academy instructors today and will meet with the others, including ESE, later this week to avoid a holdup on our part. They still plan to compress the construction contract and have us in there in 2020. We need more money on the repurposing and Mr. Kidd is working on trying to get some. After we got into trying to collect the information on what we needed, to see what it would cost to put FFE in it (Furniture, Fixtures and Equipment), we decided that it would be impossible to get it now, but we do have next year to get some type of appropriation. We are also working on some other financing possibilities.

Prep Facility: We met with the building owner and the contractor that built the building. Mr. Kidd has a meeting with the contractor's representative on Monday to work through some issues. We did get to tour the building that Quantum High School is in and they still have a five-year lease with a couple of renewals. They want to stay there, but the good news is that they pay an exorbitant amount of rent. Mr. Kidd continued to describe the possibility of building on a second floor to the building to increase Prep to about 15,000 square feet to include a cafeteria and enough classrooms to get student population up to 750-800. Richard Moreno is working on the financing on it and it looks like we may qualify with the Walton Foundation bonding grant,

4-1/2%, 100% financing for 30 years. Mr. Kidd said these are some of the preliminaries and nothing is cast in stone without a Board Workshop for the Board to make a decision, and he is trying to get a package to bring to the Board.

Success Center: Mr. Kidd is trying to work out something with the District for the seven portables at the back of the campus. There is termite damage on some. He met with Wanda Paul after the School Board meeting and told her that if she, Jay and Mr. Kidd could get together without attorneys, they could possibly work something out. After they agree upon something, they could let the attorneys approve and legalize it. Perhaps we may meet next week to work on it.

Referendum Litigation: Mr. Kidd said he did not any other information on the Referendum Litigation, but that there is a bill floating around out there to amend one of the laws that is in place and there is a possibility it may correct the situation without litigation. Mr. Feldman said that the bill made it out of committee without any opposition from either party. It is looking good and the bill is written in past tense and has a July 1 implementation if it passes. If the District does not give that referendum money, it will come out of their FTE. The Governor will sign that bill.

8B. Deputy Superintendent's Report: Mr. Boggess said that we ended last session with three questions: What are we building. Palm Beach County's Premiere Career and Technical Education Center. Who are we building it with? The Community - anyone who wants to sit at this table and invest in what a vibrant Palm Beach County looks like. And lastly, what are we building it for? The future. We are building it for the next generation workforce, what the next generation in America looks like. When does this actually work? This is the followup piece for you today. It happens with three things and we have been talking with our leadership team about this, so that they talk with the teachers and they talk with their students, and the students talk with their parents and the community. Everyone works together for the common mission. We know what our mission is and we use it constantly, not only for guiding, but for our daily operations. We are creating a student that is ready for work, higher education and productive citizenship. It works when everyone is sacrificial in what they are doing. It is not for Jay Boggess or Dan Heller, Jim Notter, Eileen Turenne, or Nicole Handy, because there is no me in this; it is we. Lastly, everyone works purposefully. At this time of year, the staff will not hear Mr. Boggess talk about big picture concepts, but each one needs to be focused on doing their job. Josh Wiglesworth said it best that this is a difficult time of the year, as it is busy with prom, celebration and graduation and teachers are exhausted and so are the students. The only way to make it happen is to do your job on a consistent basis. Mr. Boggess went through the four pieces of the Strategic Plan, and tell the Board what we have been doing to make sure and ensure that it is happening on a consistent basis.

• Continuous School Improvement:

o SkillsUSA – multiple gold, silver and bronze medals. When we are sending ten gold medalists to National Skills, something is going right on our campuses.

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- o Loncey Elie is not only the Class Valedictorian and Skills Gold Medalist, but she started at SouthTech Prep and is a product of this System of Schools.
- o We received our Industry Certification funding for last year. We had a 98% graduation rate last year, one of the highest in Palm Beach County, while still serving over a 97% reduced lunch rate, and an 87% minority status at the high school. The data that came in today says that we are Number One when it comes to industry certification in Palm Beach County. We received \$477,000 for what we did last year. We beat schools that have 3600 students attending 2600, 2800, 2400, etc. We have around 1100. This is what Continuous School Improvement looks like.

• Program Expansion:

We are the closest that Palm Beach County has been to a real Secondary/Post-Secondary conversation with Palm Beach State College in over 20 years. We are slated to meet with the President, Dr. Ava Parker in the next two weeks to talk about Career Dual-Enrollment for our students, which is very similar to what the Atlantic Technical model in Broward County looks like, where you would Career-Dual-enroll and actually get college credits in your junior and senior year of high school. Mr. Boggess said he cannot think of a better branding/marketing technique than to say, why go to high school, when you can go to college? SouthTech's your place.

• Facilities Improvement/Growth:

o Mr. Kidd spoke about a variety of things going on with SouthTech Academy repurposing and SouthTech Prep. Ted Morse from the Ed Morse Corporation was on the campus and spent almost two hours touring the school. They will be donating various things totaling \$200,000 from Hunter Engineering Corporation. They have set up a meeting with Garmett, from whom we hope to get a paint booth for the new facility.

• Government Relations:

On May 23rd, because of the work that we have been doing legislatively, and lobbyist groups that have championed us, we have the K-12 Chancellor for DOE, Jacob Oliva and Andy Tuck, Vice Chairman of the State Board of Education, coming to SouthTech Academy. The reason for this is that when we were in Tallahassee, we met with 23 legislators and we have received word that the legislation that is being proposed this season is going to go through. What are the priorities? Choice and Career-Tech Education. What Jacob Oliva is already thinking about is that when Glades County or Bay or Jefferson County calls and tells them that the legislators have made this statute, but they do not have that in their counties, and do not know how to do any of it, they will be told that there is a poster child in SouthTech Schools, both in Choice and Career-Tech Ed, and we will show them everything. It all goes back to our three questions and it is about all of us. This is how you change the future and Mr. Boggess believes that Jacob Oliva and Andy Tuck are coming to SouthTech with that purpose.

8C. High School Principal: Eileen Turenne

• Continuous School Improvement:

SouthTech Schools will work towards an "A"-rated system of schools and serve as a national model for career and technical programs.

- o School Day SAT: 3.27.19
- O Great Florida Teach-In 2019 4.8.19
- o College Tour—Informational Meeting: 4.9.19
- o Prom-Non-Negotiable Graduation-Ready Requirement 4.12.19
- o Simulated Code Red during lunch on 4.16.19

• Program Expansion:

SouthTech Schools will create a 21st century learner who is college and career-ready via a K-20 system in Palm Beach County.

- o STA generated \$477,549 in Total Revenue from Industry Certifications→ highest \$\$ amount in Palm Beach County
- O STEM Day activities in the Virginia and Harvey Kimmel Family Lab

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- created circuits
- painted the SECME Team Banner (Southeastern Consortium for Minorities in Engineering)
- o STA competed at the Science Olympiad SECME Competition at Santaluces HS
- PTA Future STA PTA Members attended tonight's SISC Meeting

• Facilities Improvement/Growth:

SouthTech schools will host the most current facilities for career and technical programs relevant to business and industry needs. The facilities will allow for project-based learning in both the academic classroom and career academies for real world learning.

- o Ed Morse Automotive Group
 - playing a critical role in the planning of STA's new state-of-the-art transportation service facility

Government Relations:

SouthTech Schools will increase its involvement in the community, strengthening and expanding community, business and industry partnership, and increasing alumni engagement.

- O City of Delray Beach: Productive Partnership
 - o Rock & Roll Academy Spring Concert
 - o Saturday, May 4th from 4-7pm
 - o Pavilion Amphitheater @ Old School Square
- o Mayor & Vice Mayor invitations to STA's Graduation
 - o Thursday, May 16th

8D. Middle School Principal: Nicole Handy

Continuous School Improvement:

- O Completed FSA Writing portion of ELA test last week
- O Push-in intensive targeted small groups from contracted tutors continues
- O Positive Behavior Reward trips in April and May
 - 6th Grade Boomers
 - 7th Grade SeaWorld
 - 8th Grade Gradventure

• Program Expansion:

- o Full STEM Academy in 2020
- O Student recruitment continues Open House on 4/17/19
- O Currently registered 89 sixth grader students, have about 140 on Wait List or to be processed

• Facilities Improvement/Growth:

- O Hiring Process for next year is underway have a few really strong candidates
- O Current student devices = 370
- o Plan to purchase 160 Chromebooks and acquire 20 Macs in 2020 = 550 student devices 1:1

• Government Relations:

Received an answer from my correspondence with Lori Berman's office and she accepted our invitation to visit campus after the legislative session ends.

8E. SouthTech Success Center Principal: Maynard Harvey reported:

- Professional recognition of Mr. Wigelsworth performance following his participation in recent Skills USA competition.
- Recognition of the recent SouthTech Success Center Charter approval by the PBCSD.
- Summary of current efforts to recruit both students (school visitations) and Staff (public posting through HR office at STS).
- Student applications are at approximately 50% of the target number of 125 as of the April Board Meeting.
- Work on the classroom modular will begin as soon as the details are finalized with PBCSD.

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- Mr. Harvey was invited to sit in on an internal meeting political local legal figure in Palm Beach County, and he established a contact that he hopes will lead to a strong connection to mental health services and juvenile services here in the county, and essentially, help to providing support to our program. He said that they scheduled a follow-up meeting and Mr. Harvey is looking forward to that meeting, as it is a major step to venture into.
- 8F. SouthTech Adult Education Director: No Report.
- 8G. Committee Reports: None.

Mr. Notter took a moment to address Mr. Kidd and said he wanted to give him and his administrative staff kudos and said that what we do and what Mr. Kidd and staff does is very much appreciated by this volunteer Board. This brings us to a very close tie in the day-to-day operations, even though we are not seen physically. He said he clearly respects what everyone does and it is really great to hear some of the things to visualize in our minds what is going on in this model place called SouthTech Schools. Keep doing it.

Mr. Kidd thanked Mr. Notter and said that all he does is hire good staff and get out of the way. He wanted to mentioned that Judge Jim Martz has been working closer with schools this year, working with the juvenile division and they are shaking up the judicial circuit in Palm Beach County. He will be working with juveniles through the next two-four years. He does want to continue be involved with SouthTech. He did ask the question, how to charter schools work together to support each other? Mr. Kidd briefly spoke of the charter school organization he was part of some years ago that tried to work together to support each other. He worked with it four or five years to breathe life into it, but it just did not work. Judge Martz said he had visited charter schools and find that they are much more involved with the students. He recognized SouthTech Academy as the best charter school in Palm Beach County. He has also come to our graduations for the past few years. This says something for this Board and for the staff.

9. Public Comments on Agenda Items – Five (5 Minutes Maximum Each Person)

SouthTech Academy - None.

SouthTech Preparatory Academy - None.

10. Introduction of Consent Agenda for SouthTech Academy - Mr. Kidd introduced the Consent Agenda.

Old Business

None.

Administrative Items

A-1 I recommend that the Board approve the donations for the period from March 14, 2019 to April 11, 2019.

Personnel Items

B-1 I recommend that the Board approve the Personnel actions for the previous month.

Financial Items

- C-1 I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the monthly Charter school bank account reconciliation for month ending February 28, 2019 as required by the Sponsor.
- C-2 I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the Charter school monthly
 Disbursement Report for month ending February 28, 2019 as required by the Sponsor.
- C-3 I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the monthly financial statements for month ending February 28, 2019 as required by the Sponsor.
- C-4 I recommend that the board approve the Food Services Agreement for FY20 with the Sponsor and authorize the Superintendent to sign all related documents.

Emergency Items

None.

- 11. Poll Board for Items to be Pulled for Comment or Questions:
- 12. Approval of SouthTech Academy Consent Agenda with exception of the items pulled:

Motion: Mrs. Nicolini Second: Ms. Heinz

- All in favor. Motion carries.
- 13. Approval of Each Pulled Item (Item-by-Item): None.
- 14. Public Comments on non-Agenda Items: None.
- 15. Introduction of Consent Agenda for SouthTech Preparatory Academy Mr. Kidd introduced the Consent 7: Agenda.

SOUTHTECH CHARTER ACADEMY, INC.

SOUTHTECH PREPARATORY ACADEMY, INC.

SOUTHTECH SUCCESS CENTER, INC. FOUNDING BOARD

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Old Business

None.

Administrative Items

None.

Personnel Items

None.

Financial Items

- **PC-1** I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the monthly Charter school bank account reconciliation for month ending February 28, 2019 as required by the Sponsor.
- PC-2 I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the Charter school monthly
 Disbursement Report for month ending February 28, 2019 as required by the Sponsor.
- PC-3 I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the monthly financial statements for month ending February 28, 2019 as required by the Sponsor.
- PC-4 I recommend that the board approve the Food Services Agreement for FY20 with the Sponsor and authorize the Superintendent to sign all related documents.

Emergency Items

None.

- 16. Poll Board for Items to be Pulled for Comment or Ouestions:
- 17. Approval of SouthTech Preparatory Academy Consent Agenda

Motion: Mr. Heller Second: Ms. Heinz All in favor. Motion carries.

- 18. Approval of Each Pulled Item (Item-by-Item):
- 19. Public Comments on non-Agenda Items: None.
- 20. Introduction of Consent Agenda for SouthTech Success Center Mr. Kidd introduced the Consent Agenda.

Administrative Items

None.

Personnel Items

None.

Financial Items

SCC-1 I recommend that the board approve the Food Services Agreement for FY20 with the Sponsor and authorize the Superintendent to sign all related documents.

Emergency Items

None.

- 21. Poll Board for Items to be Pulled for Comment or Question:
- 22. Approval of SouthTech Success Center Founding Board Consent Agenda:

Motion: Mrs. Nicolini Second: Ms. Heinz

Motion carries. All in favor.

23. Approval of Each Pulled Item (Item-by-Item):

None.

- 24. Public Comments on non-Agenda Items: None.
- 25. Governing Board in the Capacity of School Advisory Council (SAC) for:

South Tech Academy:

School Improvement Steering Committee (SISC) Report – STA SISC – Mr. Feldman, Chairperson; Suzanne Nicolini. Alternate Chairperson.

Mrs. Nicolini said there will be a Recruitment Open House on April 25. Some parents mentioned interest in having a PTA at the school. Mr. Kidd said we did have one in the very beginning. Mrs. Nicolini mentioned that the Boynton Beach Film Festival will be coming from April 30 to May 5. The students worked really hard, so if you have an opportunity, go and see it. Mr. Palardis is in charge of that.

Mr. Boggess mentioned that the film festival is running on CBS12. There is a Boynton Beach Film Festival commercial that is paid for by the Virginia and Harvey Kimmel Foundation.

Introduction of the SouthTech Academy SAC Consent Agenda - Mrs. Nicolini: None.

- 26. Poll SAC for Items to be Pulled from the SAC Consent Agenda for Comment or Questions: None.
- 27. Approval of SAC Consent Agenda Except for Items Pulled: N/A

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- 28. Approval of Each Pulled Item (Item-by Item) Introduction by Chairnerson: None.
- 29. Governing Board in Capacity of School Advisory Council (SAC) for:

South Tech Preparatory Academy

School Improvement Steering Committee (SISC) Report - Ms. Ayesha Edmond, Chairperson

Ms. Edmond said that both she and Backup Chair Diane Heinz were present at the meeting. One of the things regarding School Improvement that was spoken about was the volunteer tutoring. They have decided to do the tutoring in the morning to help students that are unable to stay after school. They had a good turnout and the Math teachers said it was a great success. Ms. Heinz mentioned that she had asked what they really needed for next year, and the response was computer carts, so if someone would like to get them more grants to purchase them, it would be good. Mrs. Handy said they have 370 current student devices, and if everything goes well next year, after the purchase of more Chromebooks, and getting some MACs donated, we will have 550 student devices. One of the parents mentioned that she may have some contact down at the Boca Airport that could donate to the school. It was also mentioned that Meghan Shamdasani does grants for the high school.

Introduction of the SouthTech Preparatory Academy SAC Consent Agenda: N/A

30. Poll SAC for Items to be Pulled from the SAC Consent Agenda for Comment or Questions - N/A

Approval of SAC Consent Agenda Except for Items Pulled: NIA

32. Approval of Each Pulled Item (Item-by Item) - Introduction by Chairperson: N/A

Board Comments:

Ms. Heinz thanked everyone for what they do and wished they had the money to double everyone's salary. She said she is really proud of the students who won at Skills and added that it is an honor for her to serve on the Board.

Mrs. Nicolini said she had the opportunity to work the past two days at Prep. Today was a fun day and they had all the clubs. They even taped a teacher to the wall for a fundraiser. The students are really sharp and what they are doing at Prep is really getting the students ready to come to STA. She commended everyone for the tight schedule they keep with all they are doing. She thanked everyone.

Mr. Feldman said that when he heard Mr. Boggess talking in these last two meetings, he told Mr. Boggess that he is very intelligent in that we are building a vocational technical center. What you are doing is building on and improving and is tremendous, but none of this would have been possible without some tremendous vision and passion that Jim Kidd had, many years ago, when he said that we had to convert this to a charter school, because it saved this school. The District would have closed the school. So we are here because of one man with one vision and great passion, who hired a tremendous staff that were able to get the work done, and here we are. Thank you, Jim.

Mr. Kidd thanked Mr. Feldman and said it has been quite a ride.

Mr. Dunson thanked Mr. Kidd and the staff for their passion and all the hard work they are doing, and the great results they are getting from the students. Just keep doing what you are doing.

Mr. Heller said that he echoes all the comments that were made and there is a vision for the school and the fact that Jim Kidd started it, and it has been supported by many people and staff and having students that want to accomplish things. Mr. Heller congratulated the SkillsUSA team and the support staff.

Ms. Edmonds said thank you for the reminder that as a teacher, you just keep going and doing what we have to do. She said that when she comes here, she gets a little boost and can go in tomorrow do her job with her kids. It is good to hear good news and she congratulated to the Skills team and the students. Her daughter is happy at Prep and that makes her happy.

Mr. Notter said he could not be more honored to serve with everyone, a very special group of human beings and he does not know if they could be found anywhere else. Be proud of how special you are. Every day he tells his wife how great it is to work with a great group of people.

Mr. Kidd said that it has been another love fest and he loves it.

34. Motion to Adjourn:

Mrs. Nicolini motioned to adjourn at 8:27pm until the Regular Board meeting on May 9, 2019 at 7:00pm.

James F. Notter, Chair Chair 5/9/19