

**Inlet Grove Community High School
Governing Board Retreat
August 16, 2022**

Call to order was 9:30 AM

Determination of Quorum: Board Members present: Dr. Woodard (Chair, (Via Google Meet), Clarence Williams (Secretary), Crystal Atkinsons (Treasurer), Lavoise Smith (Board Member), Danny Jones (Board Member)

Staff: Dr. Emma Banks, Guarn Sims, Anita Williamson, Lynn Barnes, Monica Banks

Others: Annette Gardner, Consultant

The City of Riviera Beach:

Present were:

City Manager, Jonathan E. Evans, Louis Johnson, Randy Sherman and Richard Blankenship, and Terrance Bailey.

Mr. Evans thanked the Board members for the opportunity to share with them what they believe in. They are looking at opportunities to make improvements that are going to change the life of residents and persons that live in the community, but those that also attend school at Inlet Grove.

This particular concept was derived from conversations that occurred going back to probably early 2016, 2017, but there wasn't a situation where there was that symbiotic relationship with inlet Grove as to, Hey, how do we look to be inclusive of what's happening on the campus?

One of the things that we will all agree is that when we look at taxable taxes and resources, why is it make sense for the city to build a football stadium and the school to build a football stadium? Is there a situation where there can be that synergy and look to that partnership? Because we are utilizing the same resources and we have the same taxpayers.

The City staff has been working on this for many years and most recently look to have an opportunity to have the discussions with the Board. How we can work collectively to breathe life, to what would be a new Wells recreation campus? As well as athletic facilities on the footprint here at Inlet Grove.

You will see the design that's provided here, looks at the contemplation of a new Inlet Grove campus, but also looking to move all our recreational assets over to the campus as well and work together in a shared collaboration, similar to what the district has done over. I believe with the Town of Wellington. One of the things that we wanted to make sure that the Board is aware of as well as the community is that these facilities will be world class facilities.

These will not be facilities that will be comparable to what you would see at another high school campus. We want to build it similar to what you would see at a small college campus. So, as you'll see, there's aquatics elements, a community center, there's gymnasiums, there's tennis sports, there's basketball courts.

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happening at the school, as well as what's happening at the state. And so, there is a situation whereby when there's things that are not going on this campus, you can host Semi-pro teams. You can host proteams that are going to bowl games. You can host AA tournaments. And then one of the things that Dr. Banks eloquently stated that their priority is how do we address some of the students that are having issues with regards to homelessness? Where are they living? Where's there an opportunity.

There is an opportunity to activate this particular parcel off of the school district's property on City property that can create an opportunity like a dormitory. So, we can really look to create a campus or something special, similar to IMG Academy in the branding area. That is the formidable, powerhouse when it comes to athletics and academics and those.

So, there are opportunities on this campus on city property, because we know there's a little bit of restrictions that the district will put in place. I did provide this concept late last night to Joe Sanchez, just to let him know that we were having the discussion with you all. And we do also have our finance director and our parks and recreation director here with us today.

We'll talk about how do we anticipate facilitating and funding this and bringing this to the light, the quicker we can get commitments and move through the process. The quicker we want to move on this particular campus because this will be the home for the Riviera beach parts and recreation department.

Bailey, our city engineer, and then Mr. Blankenship, our parks and recreation director walk you through some of the concepts here. And then obviously the finance, how do we make this work? Because we didn't want to show you pretty pictures and not be able to pay for it. And so that's one of the things that we'll conclude with.

And then if there's any questions that the board may have, but we're all in, we're committed. And we're also going to be having a conversation with our board members on the meeting here on the 17th, about a solicitation document that we're going to put out concerning a new city, all campus, and the activation of the 37 acres that the city has adjacent to you all.

And what we would look for is a developer that would come in and partner with us to build this campus concurrently when we look to move forward. So, there's a lot of moving parts associated with this, but we are hitting the accelerator to move this thing forward and really looking for a partner.

Obviously, we know there's going to be some heavy lifting at the district level to get the district, to buy into the concept if you all love it. And so, the more we work together and create that synergy, I think we can breed life to this.

Terrance Bailey – City of Riviera Beach Engineer:

Dr. Banks, recall when we met two months ago you and some of the board members who had the opportunity to meet with us had some suggestions and we've incorporated them specifically the tennis

and basketball courts, putting them approximate to your operations so that you can use them during the day.

This is going to be a marriage. We're going to come in 50 50, and we're going to have to make a life for our community out of this project.

So, nothing is set in stone. Nothing is locked in to its location. We are taking all suggestions. Again, you all know your students the way we know our residents. All of this can move to facilitate the shared dream of being able to provide a world class facility experience for the residents and students of Riviera beach.

We know that the auditorium is fixed and it will probably stay in its location. And with any modernization you put the building on the parking lot and you flip it and how they do modernizations. This will be generally the task of Joe Sanchez's team and the school board.

This is just a, if you did it this way, and it's, I think two or three, two stories, you can get 175,000 square feet of building space. We're not saying you're going to build 175. We're just telling you that's what this looks like, proportionally. And that's what you could have if you stayed inside the box.

As we discussed before, the goal of identifying the area that Mr. Sanchez would take dominion over and figure out with his team and then leaving the City the rest to work with on our design people on what is the best for the portion that we would take care of. Again, we move this wellness community center directly adjacent to the gym, but it is on the other side of the security line that would give you the closest proximity to it, to use it during the day, but not potentially cross any of the security that's required, under the statutes and the school board.

In that sort of joint use concept, some of these elements that are out here on the periphery would be used during the day for residents and the normal activities. And then as we get into the shared agreement, when you need it a night and how it flows for your school operations, those are all to be determined, but the big elements that we've placed in here, obviously as a community park, we've got playground areas as Mr. Evans stated there would be an aquatic center.

Mr. Evans: With regards to the aquatics, we know that Barracuda Bay right now is limited. And when you have those types of facilities, if you don't modernize those facilities, they don't operate as they should.

And we thought, Hey, Inlet Grove, how great would it be to have a very vibrant, active swim program that can be a part of the curriculum and part of the experience for the students in the community. And then it creates synergy where we can have an appropriate staff to be able to accommodate it during the week.

And then in the weekends, it becomes an area where families can recreate and all that. They definitely feel more comfortable here than going out to the ocean or what have you. And so, this is a situation to create the synergy and really create an all active. So where, mom can be playing tennis, dad can be, at the basketball courts and grandma could be at the pool with the kids because we want it to be a situation where there's always something to do and always bring the community.

We believe this, public service saves lives, but parks and recreation make lives worth living. these are such important things that the more we give our community access to this, the more, we don't have a situation where we're dealing with it on the law enforcement side.

Mr. Bailey: We're really looking cradle to grave from, the two-year-old splash pad up to swim lessons for the youth to all the other water activities, middle aged adult sports. And we're actually we came out of a meeting this week where we'll be moving our senior services to this facility.

So, Mr. Blankenship and all the feeding seniors in the feeding program that happens currently at another site that's undersized, that program has grown will come here.

Mr. Evans: One of the things, if you look, if you do the research AARP says, if you're building senior centers, you're missing the boat.

They said, seniors are more active. They want to hang out with boomers. They want to be where activity is. You need to have trips, you need to have activities. You need to have dinners. You need to have. So, we want to create a situation where it's an intergenerational facility where multiple people can interact.

So, it's not something that's your static, quintessential senior ship, it's something that's more robust and something that's more active similar to what you would see at a fitness club or a sports club. So, we're thinking with that in mind. So, the whole family pulls up in a big vehicle and everybody goes in a separate direction.

Mr. Bailey: They come back together and there's something for every level of age activity need, use case. All of it, right here in this, the core of this facility again, you've heard it say we're trying to break new ground with this in all aspects and actually bring something to Riviera Beach that nobody else in the County has.

You're not going to find this at Okeeheelee. You're not going to find this at any of the other large municipal parks because they don't have our population. They don't have our need and they don't have our vision.

The dream and the vision are to do something that nobody else has done and to serve a community that nobody else is serving.

Mr. Evans: We want our kids to stay home, right? We have kids that are bust to so many different high schools that are going, and if we create a campus, as we would all hope to envision, it's a no brainer. This becomes the de facto home for all Riviera Beach, high school students, and so we want to have the athletic campus and the municipal facilities marry with the academics and what you all have doing. So, if you have an, a plus school, you should have a plus facilities, and that's what we want. We want to be able to have people coming to tour your campus to see how they can duplicate what we have going on here.

it is something that we anticipate the cost probably to be over about 45 to 50 million in expense, because we want to make sure it is something that is up top quality, that you can have a wedding or banquet. And then the coaches can have a situation where they can be in their offices or in the community center that overlooks the football field or the multi-purpose field to really give those

students, Hey, this is something that is preparing me for that next step in my life, whether it's straight school or college, or what have you, they're used to going to be on the campus.

We even talked about since it's such a fairly large campus, the ability for some autonomous vehicles that where you can jump in and you're shuttle to different areas. So, this is going to be something that is going to be unique to, what we're trying to do.

Mr. Sims: If I may very innovator, especially the cradle to the grave concept, and I definitely like the fact that particularly with our urban minority population, there's more things other than the basketball in the football. So, bringing the swimming, the softball, the baseball, and I would even, further encourage parks and recs to even look at some other activities that roller blade and hockey things that are urban kids only see on television.

But those are some athletic sports that meet scholarships now that are very prevalent. Yeah. The second thing is, and Joe Sanchez probably will bring this up where it says bus drop off. So, the bus drop off and the parent drop off are two separate locations. So, you may have to factor that in, it says bus drop off, but there's no area for parent drop off two separate, but I do see you have a space over here, to the south, that gray area to the right of that.

Mr. Evans: One of the things also we know the district had talked about the investment that they made in the auditorium, or what have you and their desires. But we also have a concept that removes that, but we can duplicate that space in the community center.

So, there's a situation where, Hey, can we, if we, if this goes away, what can we do to upsize and create the situation where now you have additional property to do other things. So, it is a free-flowing process, we're limited based on the corners of the property and the financial elements associated, but we are open to any ideas or solutions that makes it work to see what we want.

the thing is we don't want to continue to discuss it because planning without implementation is hallucination. And so, we want to get this thing moving forward in the direction that it needs to. So, we can go ahead and bring this thing to light a big problem.

Dr. Banks: We have been told we move into the new school in 2025.

Mr. Sherman: the manager alluded to it a little bit earlier. So, if you're not aware of it, city is looking to move city hall, right? And develop north side, south side of B. Okay. Based on everything that we've looked at, that project will be what we in essence, choose to fund re imaginary Riviera Beach.

So, whether it's city hall, a new library or this complex. That's what we think will be generating sufficient dollars to be able to do all this. Okay. Now I will tell you I got my lecture before I left the house this morning. So, whether it's city hall, a new library or this complex. Okay. That's what we think will be generating SU dollars to be able to do all this. Okay. Now I will tell you I got my lecture before I left the house this morning. My wife is a retired teacher, so I cannot take one penny out of education. So, we're not looking at certain money here.

But to give you a comparison, you know what Curry Park is in West Palm beach, you're doing a 30 million project there. It's more passive than this one. This will be more an active part. But 20 million of their 30 million budgets. So again, we will be, going down that grant avenue.

We think, again, if we can partnership in some of those grants, it only makes it stronger. So again, we're not looking to the school for money. We have to, in essence, replace what's at Wells anyway really what we're looking for is the land. We need, a place to put the land put the parks.

So again, it's, as we design it and we tighten up those numbers and everything, and we issue our RFP for the city hall and Blue Heron site, we are putting all of those pieces together to ensure to pay for it. Okay. So, it can breathe easy to not be looking for cash.

Mr. Evans: But to the principal's point as well, the more diversity we have on what's going on.

So, the field hockey, the lacrosse, those are grants and opportunities that folks are looking Ingulf that people are looking to say, you know what, in an Urban Community, these, so forth are not prevalent. So yes, we'll assist in funding those things. So, as we go here, we would have the opportunity to say it and, the preservation of.

Major league baseball is throwing a bunch of money in Urban Communities to restart their commitment because they've been making millions, billions of dollars investments overseas in, in Latin America. So, there's a bunch of opportunities to have situations where there's investments and directed relationship.

Mr. Blankenship: With amateur athletics, between what we do in Calloway Park and what we do at the beach. So yeah, they want to event makers have heard of review. So, what we have opportunities here, it boils down to, if you build it, they will come. Be operationally scheduling issue would be issue for the, a scheduling function, relate to artificial turf.

We reduce our impact on water usage. We reduce our maintenance costs. There's a lot of efficiencies associated with having that artificial surface with the facility like that. You can do multiple indooroutdoor activities at the same time. So, when you have the facility. That creates so much opportunity on the grant side.

Again, in the last few years we've gotten over almost \$2 million in grants, fairly simply with this type of project that the grant files, whether it'll be private, public will be readily. I have no answer now.

Dr. Banks: All of this property is part of the city and the district that this project is going on.

Mr. Bailey: All of this property is part of the City and the District that this project is going on. Yes. This is all District land.

But this corner being missing looks out of place. So, at some point we might really want to have a conversation of, does it make sense to square this off and that way you're bounded by roads. You have, this somebody's going to ask us what are y'all doing? Why didn't you at least have that discussion and contemplate if the church says, no, leave me alone.

That's fine. But at some point, this conversation needs to be had about that corner. And then everything to the south, this city owned, everything from H to J here, that's all the same property. You have J here on the bottom of the page and H and the top. So, everything going south to blue Heron is the north side of City Hall property.

And then the triangle going all the way south to the VFW is all city. I was going to say, and if that gray area, again, that'll be private development, they will have to have structured parking of some sort. So, you may look at this there isn't enough parking. And when you get 2000 people showing up to a football game, keep mind structured parking, and I be right across the street.

So, to that point, and you've, you all have seen our sort of vision for what we want right here on top of where the old water treatment plan is, we are contemplating it. It's the dream to get a trial station with structured parking. So, when you have, when you call tournament, those guys get on tri rail, come up from Miami, get off and walk right here.

You'll also be able to recruit from out Orlando. You take bright line, sit down, get that's. The dream of we are talking about from the keys. So actually, I think bright, life's going to go over to Tampa. Now our market goes all the way from you get on bright line, get here in an hour and you can be, so you don't need to drive.

Mr. Evans: And to speak on that, it's confidential, but it's out there circulating bright line is looking to create. Basically, a smaller scale commuter rail that gets you to their main stations. So, one of the things that they're looking at as cities that are prepared that can get you maybe from this campus over to west Palm, so you can take the bright line south or north, or what have you.

We're having the conversation at the manager level, Hey, what are some things that cities need to do to effectively prepare for that? But yeah, we envision the activation of the site. Also, one of the things that we want to do is activate the roof areas on these buildings. So, when you do have boosters or you want to have an event in the evening, you can overlook the amenities in those types of things.

You can have a rooftop dinner and those to create that unique experience here that you can't do at other campuses. And so, there's a lot of intentionality and specificities that are going into every nuance of this as we work together to bring it to life in my other culture.

Dr. Banks: Where did you say, my idea of bringing in for my homeless is?

Mr. Bailey: we're slow on this one. Anywhere there is the gray area, this is City property. So, this would be an area where you could activate it because we know that the District would probably have some heartburn with regards to, the housing of students. But if we do it on our property, we're not bound by the same regulations.

Dr. Banks: We would be the first in the State of Florida for a Charter School to have a home to house our students.

Mr. Bailey: And by putting that right there next to the Tri-Rail station, again mobility, they get on the train, go where, you want to take your trip store and Orlando on and all that.

You, you got the train station right there next to opens up our enrollment even more cause students who, you know, out of the area, try real right there, walk right to the campus.

Mr. Evans: And the other thing is, if you think about, the Dr banks' concept, if you grow it similar to what IMG and those other places are doing, is there a situation where there's kids that live in the community, but your senior year, you are moving into the dorm to get you ready for going, because it's, buying your own groceries, balancing your bank account, those types of things.

So is there a situation where we build the space that say, yeah, mom and dad may live in Riviera beach, but there's an opportunity for you to get some independence and learn towards, some of the things that you're going to have to do as you get ready to make that next leap to college. And so in, in a control environment, that's a little bit safer. So yeah, we've contemplated the activation of something over here on city property.

We took all of your feedback from the last meeting. And even though it's not on paper, it's in our hearts because it just, I already mentioned it to this with, at home. And I think, the foresight that went into that, it's a reality.

And so, we can't turn a blind eye to that. There's many of folks that, people don't understand when S living with you, they're considered homeless, that, that they don't have their own domicile. This can be a situation that says, Hey, you know what? We've got to think differently. And so, this is where the partnership with is, and the district and the, in the growths important

Dr. Woodard: In terms of use of facilities, does Inlet Grove have priority? And second question is how are you going to keep separate during school hours, the people that use the community centers ad the Inlet Grove students.

Mr. Evans: inlet Grove will have first right of refusal of the campus. And so that will be, that's why the important part of moving our recreational administration here, because there's going to be a lot of coordination of facilities. So that's why that particular professional office will be here to make sure, Hey, if there's kids out on any of the field, we know that obviously the public can't have access.

Also, we're going to have a situation whereby there is going to be security. That's going to be on the site to make sure that there is no co-mingling. And if there's situations where in this dotted line there's facilities that conceivably, we know that we would probably assist in constructing that we won't get access to either later on in the evening or on the weekend.

So, we understand that there's some spaces that will not be accessible to the public until the weekends or later on in the evening. So yes, you would get first right of refusal and there would be a situation where there would be coordination with respect and then obviously whatever you all have planned, that would be a priority to get that into those spaces.

Mr. Williams: Mr. Evans, we want to thank you and team for the presentation. Fantastic. In my humble opinion, in terms of thinking out the box and being creative and partnering, but resource a resource

that's that's potentially that's available. So, Dr. Woodard asked the questions that I had. Interesting. You mentioned the marriage and then right away, my mind went thousand different ways.

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And that would be the guideline that we will all go ahead and agree to. And there would be a situation where there would be interaction with the board as it relates to, Hey, these are the things that city's doing board or the responsibility of the district, or what have you. So, there would be a lot of conversations and discussions on that level, but it wouldn't be a thinking.

It wouldn't be a situation that, we'd go in and say, Hey, we're going to utilize these facilities, take it or leave it. It would be a situation. Hey, is there any conflict with utilization of these facilities? You'd have all our schedules, all our activities, prepopulated. If we need to move or shift seasons because of what's going on the school campus.

That's not a problem.

Mr. Bailey: And we have a great model because again, Wellington is currently operating. They've built a huge facility. They've already got a model of the shared use, the priorities, how they work together. To our commitment as the man said, Blankenship will be here.

Mr. Evans: I would envision that the parts and recreation director would be a, and maybe a compliment to your staffing model.

So, at staff meetings at those types that they're involved in those kinds, so they know what the school's doing, and then they obviously know the city side. So, it would be a hybrid relationship

Mr. Bailey: It'll be all the tiered security with the gates and the access and the controls and all of that to ensure that we know in this day and age, there's, that's not an option, right? There's no option for problems that have happened, but a problem. Yeah, the campus will be completely secure, cameras that will have WIFI access over the entire public wife access.

So multiple of different things. We're also even thinking at the. In the community center or our seniors that may not want to get into the, a therapeutic pool or those types of things. So, we're looking at holistic medicines, we're also contemplating a nutrition bar, right? So, there's a situation where we want to have a dietician there that can say, Hey, this is some things that you can be considered, but also adding that to the compliment of what the students are eating and what the students are consuming, especially those that are performing at the athletic level.

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And so, there's going to be a lot of amenities that are in there that we would want the school district and the staff to participate in to be part of it. And it will be something that's unique for sure.

Mr. Bailey: You have a culinary program, you have the nursing program, you have all this, all that drives into, we're not going to be hiring people from outside, paying them.

Your students need that clinical time. You need that experience. You need that interaction with the community. So that those are the, when we say cradle to grave, it's basically taking your programs. And how do we expand lean in, put some nitrogen on them and bring those services, not just to give the students opportunity, but to really cradle, to grave our residents and bring something that you're not going to find anywhere else in the country.

Dr. Banks: My vision, at that time I didn't have anybody at that time I could communicate with like what we're doing now. We're talking about it now to make it something that everybody will want to come and see.

Mr. Evans: I think this opens the door and I think if we're able to pull this off, I think it lends itself to a lot of great things to, to, because like I said, our vision is that this becomes the home for our kids. Our kids are not, building other communities and going other places and being bused, that they're, that they can walk to school.

Dr. Banks: I thin it would open the doors and put Riviera Beach on the map.

Dr. Woodard: Thank you very much. And we already an A school will continue to be and now Riviera Beach will be an, A community everybody's going to want to come. Thank you. Mr. Williams: Thank you Dr. Woodard.

Dr. Banks: I will send you all an invite to the meeting with Mr. Sanches on the 18th.

Mr. Williams: Thank you Mr. Evans so very much for the presentation. Mr. Williams called for the financial presentation.

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Closing out the fiscal year 22, and the reports are late. We did ask for an extension through the School District because we were running into some problems with the reporting and a lot of the line items, which is on the report that was basically given out to you guys. A lot of the line items are overstated on the budget and actual report.

And in order to get things in line, you have to actually look at the actual expenditures to basically offset exactly what was budgeted for with that said, because we are, the former finance manager is no longer here and is requiring us to look into a few things a little bit more extensively.

And based on the Budget's actual report that I just printed out it is overstated 880 more dollars. Okay. So, \$881,000. And that's a lot. So, with that said I am on my way. When I leave here, I'm going over to Craig Kahle's office and we're gonna have to sit down and we gotta get this cleaned up today.

The school is already paid for it. There is grant funding that come in for like maybe \$179,000. You had Title One is fine. I IDEA is good, but it was what we were having the difficulty with the other grants. That have been actually awarded to the school. And that was paid out as a fiscal year 22, whenever there's a grant, you also have to have the expenditures to support that grant.

And that's what basically clears it out. Like I said, title one is good. We got the money in, and we are at a zero balance, but what is actually hanging out there is there were some expenses that were expense to the ESSER two grant that we actually have to move back to the operating grant.

The operating funds, because there was no money to support was the reason I basically came only with this budget versus action report and not the balance sheet, because all of that ties together.

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It's balanced and amended, then the board has to approve it. So, I can't ask you to approve this, because we're still looking into it to find out really what's going on. If you look at page five. Page five is the operating.

That budget alone is overstated a \$180,000. And this is one and this concerns me because that means that we've actually paid out expenses. But we didn't budget the funds. And what stands out that I was able to look into a little bit closer was that's built in here as well as when we had to pay the solid waste expense from solid waste charges for that, that, that was a part of it.

And addition to that was district invoices. I've been calling, and paying on those district invoices since January. Those district invoices are built into them. This is the effect of it. Because we don't know if it was an activity expense or if it was operated expense. But it got paid with the operating dollars.

Dr. Banks: I don't want to say, the person's now gone and what we have to do is rectify. When I go in and ask questions to our former person, I've always said this. And that's why I've always stayed on the

phone with you. I stayed on the phone with the district. I was on the phone with Heather last night for two and a half hours just going over certain things.

Okay. What about the teachers raise and all about that, but the most important, like I say, and Annette knows I try to keep on top now the grants, I didn't do the grants. Mr. Ridgeway, they did the grant and all. Yeah. But I didn't look at them like as close as I should and the operating money on the other money, I wanted to make sure.

And my reserve money. Because I thought hopefully everybody, he was following the policy of the district, because one thing Heather, reminded me, whatever you do, she told me which I knew that anyway, if we write a grant save grant money and we paying for one thing, you can't take another grant and pay for the same thing.

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Some kind of journal entries should be done. I think meeting with the CPA I think that kind stuff should be taken care of, those kinds of details.

Ms. Gardner: Yes. and you are correct. *They're* on point because there have been a lot of journal entries that have basically been done. But what we're finding is it was in the reverse meaning that you were dispensing expenditures on the grant that had already been expense on another grant.

The district has they caught it. Yeah. They are aware of it. And the only thing concerned to me, because they're aware of it, that they're gonna look at everything. Okay. So, this is one of the reasons why I would rather just, just take the time that we actually find out what's really has taken place here and make sure that the financials are correct.

Ms. Smith: What is our biggest challenge in this \$881,622.

Ms. Gardner: Biggest challenge is if you look at the reports and you look at page three, what's built into that 818,000. If you look at page three, there's 413,434, it's overstated in the instructional department. It's overstated in the instructional department.

That's half of it. All right. And then anywhere that you see a whole dollar amount and not a negative, not an amount with the parenthesis around it, which is a negative amount, you are good or a credit amount. You're good.

Dr. Banks: Vocational. If you look at 53 vocational. Vocational bonus.

Ms. Gardner: That 5,300 department is the career industry certification.

Dr. Banks: Okay. But why would we be in a negative? Did you say it was a negative?

Ms. Gardner: No, I'm saying that what I was saying that on page three, the \$413,000 is overstated within that department.

There's the 5,100. Is there fifty-two hundred and fifty-three hundred is in that department. So, it's like each department has to be balanced individually and to, to offset that 413,000. it's gonna require, some additional work to get it fixed.

From my understanding, it wasn't a concern last year. It wasn't a concern last year. If this is the way it was, this is the way it was. They just let the auditor do an adjusting injury. Am I correct?

Mrs. Williamson: Mr. Ridgeway basically said that he was waiting for Mr. Mark Escoffrey to get all of the information and he was going to do one big clean up.

Ms. Gardner: Craig got involved and asked him to clean it up. A good example. We budgeted in fiscal year 22 for \$372,000 for ESSER two grant that \$372,000 is turned out to be only 179,000. Apparently and you might have to help me with this Mr. Sims. We got an advance. There was an advance \$317,000 from a \$630,000 grant that was awarded. Once did we received that advance the district said, okay, send us invoices to show what we're going to be, you're gonna pay with that grant. So now you have a balance of \$372,000.

However, in that, in, within that 372, you have built in several different grants. Okay. It's when I say several different grants, you just like you have a Title one grant. Also, with the other federal grants that the other federal grants that is under ESSER two, there are, I'm assuming these grants were never taken.

We never used those grants. So, built into the 372, there are grants that was not being used. So, what you used was only \$179 right now, 179,000.

Mr. Sims: All grants for charter schools are what they call reimbursable grants. So, they don't dump the money into your account. Yeah. Say you have a \$350,000 grant earmarked for a specific purpose. Whether it be technology, whether it be for COVID supplies, et cetera, et cetera, you have to make the purchase through your own funding. all grants for charter schools are what they call reimbursable grants. So, they don't dump the money into your account. Yeah. Say you have a \$350,000 grant earmarked for a specific purpose. Whether it be technology, whether it be for COVID supplies, et cetera, et cetera, you have to make the purchase through your own funding. Submit the paperwork to the district to get reimbursed back to your account. Okay. But you have to submit a very detailed budget on how you intend to utilize the funds. Okay. And where some things got off track is that ships were being made with some of the, not the grant dollars, but some of the items we wanted to utilize for that grant shifted to another grant and it got things out of alignment.

But one of the things that Ms. Gardner said is absolutely correct. The good thing in that is we still have a balance in that grant funds that we have to spend that money. Okay. We haven't utilized all the. Okay. The money was just utilized, taken from another grant where it should have been taken from this grant, but still in this grant, we still have a hundred plus thousand dollars left in this grant with sunsets next year.

So, we really have to extend those grants this year for sunset.

Dr. Banks: We can't move that money back, Ms. Gardner?

Ms. Gardner: You know that based on what Mr. Mr. Sims was just saying, is that because I wasn't initially involved, with the grants I have been relying on Sharon Kovner at the District to explain to us what we, what, and what has been already dispersed by the district and what we have remaining.

Now, a month ago we received an email from the charter school office, specifying the faculty what grants we have left. It was an email sent to everyone. Yeah, it was in that Excel grade budget. And so, what the district said was that we have the ESSER three grant, that were actually just awarded and we have until fiscal year 24 to spend that.

Mr. Williams: That's 1.5 million. Yes. And the grant purpose is because the dollars have to be spent consistent with the grant purpose. And is that particular grant a reimbursable? It . And is that particular grant a reimbursable? So, we've identified when we went, after that grant, we identified what we intended to accomplish requirement. If you give us these dollars. Yeah. They said these suites our requirements for this grant. So, they grant us the money. So now that goes to the school, not to the school, but to the district, correct to the district. So now we spend the money and if it's consistent with the grant, we should send the invoices and all of that.

And then we're supposed to get reimbursed. I'm trying to understand how we pay for something out. Yeah. Somebody on the other end had to approve that.

Mr. Sims: That is correct. That is a, that is something that, Mr. Ridgeway did, do not sure why don't understand it, but the districts backup is when you submit paperwork. For reimbursement, they're going to check to make sure that what you're submitting and what you purchase is in alignment to the original budget plan that you submitted. If it does not align, they're not gonna pay it. So, for them to release the money, they did check off to say it, it did it fits, but the complication for us is we wanted it to come out ESSER two and not another grant, but it still fits in the district in terms of what we submitted.

It still fits in alignment for them to approve it. It just doesn't help us keep an alignment of what we intended. What we wanted these items to come out of this grant instead of this grant, that was the decision. Not sure why that Mr. Ridgeway made, which now is coming to light. When we digging a little bit deeper as Ms.

Gardner is doing to figure out why things are not in an alignment like they should be. And those were the types of decisions that were made didn't flag from a district. Didn't do anything illegal from the district eyes. Okay. Cause the purchases were still were in alignment for them to approve it.

It just wasn't according to the plan of what we originally submitted of what we wanted these items to be paid.

Ms. Gardner: based on what Mrs. Sims is saying, that was found was when you submit the reimbursement and if they, the district does not approve some of the expenditures, then it has already been paid.

So, it has come out. We have to eat it and it's going, cause a negative effect on the general funds budget. And that's something that you do not want to assume that took place. You want to be certain that's what occurred.

Mr. Williams: But the reimbursement is coming out of the general fund anyway.

Ms. Gardner: When they create the budget, they're creating these items under the grant funds, they're taking it out of the general funds. Okay. You may look at a detailed budget for the general funds budget or operating budget, and you will see there's certain line items that have been credited because we've taken it over to the grant.

So, what that does is give the general fund more leverage and more money to spend for other things. No, it's not happening like that. So, the general fund budget gets balanced. Then now we have the expense over on the grant side

And if that expense does not get covered, or reimbursed, then it comes back over to the general fund. With that balancing, trying to balance it back and forth, this is this particular situation. You do not want to assume that's what occurred.

You want to know for a fact with documentations to show that this is exactly what occurred here, because the district notified the school that there was \$137,000 grant that was available. You need to send in reimbursement for that grant now because it ends September 20th of September 30th of this year, 22.

So immediately Mrs. Williamson was told to look around the office see if the packet was there, maybe, we just didn't get a chance, to submit the information she did confirm that yes, it was a packet there. We sent the packet to the district, they sent it back.

They sent it back to say, Hey, we don't need this. We can't approve this because this is already have been expense on another grant. So, with that said you know what? The good news is. Personally, I feel that if time permitted it would've gotten corrected or caught before it was submitted.

Now, this is just my gut feeling based on all of the other transactions that have taken place in all of the other grants that have had to be handled over the last two years, that grant situation was a monster. We got really got more grant money. This ESSER Three grant is only the last one.

I think that because of what we found, then I can advise Mrs. Williamson of what it is that she needs to be mindful of and definitely watch out for, but the good news also is that the process through the district is that the paperwork goes through the district.

Before it even goes to Tallahassee to get reimbursed. So that's the good thing. And again, when the last budget that we sent to be reimbursed for Ms. Kovner at the District, asked if I was actually contacting her, that those expenses were already had been expensed on another grant.

And I was like, no, I really wasn't. So, she said it was, and that was a good catch. She didn't initially catch it. So now with that happening you know what that did that threw up a red flag as well? Do I need to be checking behind her? So, do I need to confirm everything that she has seen?

Dr. Banks: I call Heather myself. In the future, anything that comes from that budget office, and I told Mr. Ridgeway to please let me see it. Somethings I don't get until it's wrong or Heather tells me about it.

Mr. Williams: Based on the financial report the chair will entertain a motion to table the current report, pending reconciliation efforts to our next meeting. Mrs. Atkinson made a motion to table the financial report, Dr. Woodard seconded. Motion carried.

Dr. Woodard: Thank you so very much. One. Can I suggest also that, and I heard Dr. Banks talking about the check and balance that she's going to be doing. Just revisit that and make sure it's in place all the way around, even with the people that are in charge of the grants that are sending it, make sure that the things that they budget for is all is included in the grant so that we don't run into a problem in the future.

Mr. Jones: Is there an internal tracking system in your financial management software that would allow you to track each individual grant and expenditures with job codes to them? If the job code tied to the grant is not entered, then it shouldn't be approved because you should be able to run a report at any given time with a specific job code or grant number and pull up all the expenditures along with the budget.

Mr. Sims distributed his packet to the Board members and went through it.

Dr. Banks: Discussion of Retreat Handouts.

I hope you have had a chance to look over everything, but the main thing that the district looks for is that we have gone over, and we want to look at the governing board contact information.

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Mr. Williams: A motion was on the floor to defer to the next meeting for the selection of officers by Ms. Smith. Mr. Jones Seconded. Motion carried.

Thank you, Ms. Gardner. Heather shared a lot of information with me last night. One of my main concerns was concerning teacher salaries. I try to stay ahead of the District. Go ahead and submit what we did and they'll approve it.

I asked about support staff and the AP's and she told me the money for support staff would have to come out of the operational budget.

A lot of them are being paid more than what they would be in the district. And my support staff are being paid more than they would be in the district too.

Ms. Smith: Did we pay a supplement for advanced degrees?

Dr. Banks: Yes. Not counting the supplement, but they're some being paid more.

And the I highly qualified, I was paying them 15,000, 10 and five. And they wanted to do that. You would pick all the teachers away from me, , what he wasn't teasing, but you know what we paying? So that's basically it. But anyway, we are going to write up, do that template and then it has to be approved by the board.

And she that other 20% the maintenance amount. She said that was for last year. But anyway, the 20% that we have remaining my highly qualified teachers and I could pay some of my support staff after I paid my highly qualified. But this is why, like I told my staff, I said, you mark everybody new teachers, highly qualified.

See if there are any changes you all would like to make to the bylaws for next year. Everything in this book I need the District to know that we have gone over it. The Governing Board conflict of interest must be signed and returned.

We also have to get a parent liaison person on board because Ms. Atkinson is the treasurer and we need someone on the Board that's a parent.

Governance Board Training needs to be done by each Board member.

Next Governing Board meeting: September 20, 2022.

Meeting adjourned:

9/1/2022

Dr. Charles Woodard

Date