

There was no warning on this and we believe that it was decided upon on March 3 based on information found on the website that was last updated March 3. It was done totally in the dark and no charter school personnel were consulted or warned. Not even the Charter School Director was made part of the meetings they held to do this and it was never brought out until August 27. The impact was considerable and remember that we had to have the budgets in by April and the Board approved budget had to be in to the District by the end of the fiscal year. There was no way you could have known that this was coming. The District has put out a letter that Mr. Kidd forwarded to the Board saying that an unexpected thing that arose from this was that it caused some hardships. They finally countered by offering to pay whatever expenses incurred after September 4, which had not been incurred because we just started school. Maybe we paid a month of a ten-month contract to support personnel. Bottom line is that everyone is up in arms. Mr. Kidd said that what he handed the Board was a Dispute Resolution Process from the SouthTech Academy's charter, and Prep's is similar. There are four steps before it goes to mediation, and some of the charter schools have requested mediation from the state. The only charters that have followed the process are SouthTech Academy and SouthTech Prep and Mr. Kidd said he has been trying to resolve this by diplomacy to keep it out of the newspapers. If it goes to the newspapers, it will make the District look bad, but they always make the charters look worse. He said that the letter that he wrote to Mike Burke and Kevin McCormick fulfills Step 2 of the Resolution Process, where he gave them written notice of the problem. He asked Chairman Notter to call for a motion from the floor, authorizing Mr. Kidd to fulfill Step 3, which is, requesting a meeting with the District and that Mr. Notter would delegate him as the Board representative for one of the schools, and Mr. Notter as the Board representative for the other school to meet with District staff to see if we could get this worked out. Mr. Kidd said that in his letter to the District, he requested that they postpone this for a year and fund it at the prior rates until we can get a committee together that have charter people on it, as the law requires, to go to the process of looking at this. If it needs to be adjusted, Mr. Kidd said he does not have a problem with that. The law guarantees our students the same amount funding per student as District students have, and he wants to see the equity, and if not, he is ready to go to the wall with it. If they do not resolve it through this meeting, then he would also want to ask the Board to authorize him to join the call for mediation. Mr. Kidd said that this constituted his report and deferred back to Chairman Notter.

Mr. Notter opened it to the Board to see if anyone had any questions for clarification.

Mr. Kesten asked if we had any idea what the School District is planning on doing with this windfall.

Mr. Kidd responded that the District is required by law to provide services to the students. However, they have admitted verbally, not having put anything in writing, that there is no way they can prove equity because they fund differently. They give charter schools money and then they provide services. One of the conversations Mr. Kidd had with a School Board member was that if they were going to do this, they need to prove equity, and his statement to that person was that he is not talking about smoking mirrors, but about hard facts in a way that we can look at and decipher and see where that equity is.

Mr. McKoy asked Mr. Kidd if SouthTech would be the first to move forth with a plan such as this.

Mr. Kidd responded that the others have requested mediation without going through the process. We do have a process in our charter that we are contracted to follow, which is the resolution process. We are going through the process and whether the District will weigh out on it, it does not matter, but Mr. Kidd is going to fulfill his contractual obligation. Mr. McKoy said that he would support what Mr. Kidd has outlined, but asked if there was talk with the other charters to see if there is collaboration, so that the charter schools as one body can be on the same page with this. Mr. McKoy asked where they stood with this. Mr. Kidd responded that the talk had been to go to mediation, but since his letter went out to all the charter schools in an email last night, some of them are talking to their Boards about it. They are all upset and some are taking action on it, but Mr. Kidd wants to do it right.

Ms. Heinz asked if this also flies in the face of any ADA or any accommodations expected by parents where their children were not being accommodated appropriately, and where would be several laws that could be broken. Mr. Kidd said that it could be and there could be some legal ramifications. Mr. Kidd said that the District is seriously considering what they have done and he understands that the Superintendent has taken this from the staff and he is working on it. There may be a time when we will need to organize some of those

parents and let them address the School Board, either vocally or through written letters. Right now, Mr. Kidd said that he wants to do this as diplomatically as possible and work through the process, because there will be long-term ramifications from it, so he wants to do this right and keep us clean. Ms. Heinz said she remembers as a School Board member, when children with disabilities were not being appropriately accommodated, it was very serious. She said that she supports what Mr. Kidd is doing.

Mr. Heller asked about the dispute process, and if in both charters it is almost identical in language, and Mr. Kidd said that the wording may be slightly different, but it is consistent for both schools.

Mr. Heller said he wanted to be sure that what they are approving is consistent for both schools.

Mr. Notter requested two motions; one for the action part, and the second for the designation of the two people who will be the authorized members for the Governing Board.

Mr. Kesten said he would make one motion for both.

Mr. Kesten motioned that the Board appoint Mr. Kidd and Mr. Notter as representatives of SouthTech Academy and SouthTech Prep, and authorize them to follow the requirements for dispute resolution, as provided for in the SouthTech Academy and the SouthTech Prep charters.

Second by: Mrs. Ernst

Motion carries.

- 8B. *Director of Professional Programs Report:* Mr. Boggess said the year started great and he hoped that the Board has had the opportunity to check out the link for the good publicity that we got on CBS. As we move through the year with SouthTech Prep, we are going to continue to build a bridge between SouthTech Prep and SouthTech Academy. Starting October 1, we will be taking over busloads of SouthTech Prep students, starting with a group of 16-18 eighth graders as a Medical Academy to SouthTech Academy to do medical skills and services. It is an eighth grade course that they are also doing at the high school level. That would be the first of many trips like that to come to showcase the thirteen academies and to give the students the relevance piece that what they are doing in this middle school is the same thing that the high school students are doing. The other piece is building the continuity. Yes, we are two singular places now, but we are with one purpose to make the SouthTech Prep to SouthTech Academy transition as seamless as possible, and making sure that the 400 students that we have at SouthTech Prep go to SouthTech Academy. Mr. Boggess has been having one-on-one meetings with every career academy for him to intimately know what that academy is about and asking three questions: 1) what are your goals for this year and what are you going to achieve. This is in order to have a target, not necessarily to hold them accountable for the sake of accountability purposes, but to make sure that we know what our end product will look like. 2) How can we make SouthTech better. When Mr. Boggess asked that question, it was amazing the responses that you receive. 3) Over the course of the next three to five years, what is your academy going to look like and how is it going to be different from today. So we are looking at past, present and future plans. Another thing Mr. Boggess looked at was the Rock & Roll Academy and the Entertainment Management. Both are solid as far as numbers, but as far as curriculum, they are all over the place, so we are looking at transitioning those two academies to having a more delineated pathway for the student. Mr. Boggess will keep the Board apprised as to the progress. Mr. Boggess said that a great accolade to add to many of our others is that the Culinary Arts Program was recognized as a Premiere Prostart Academy here in the State of Florida. It is a recognition that is based on both their industry certification and their passage rate. Mr. Boggess said that we have added the industry certification to all of our academies this year. It is a technology-based certification for academies such as Cosmetology. The Cosmetology Academy students were not graduating with an industry certification because they could not get all of the hours, which is the key piece, the credential that says they are career-ready. That is not his definition, but that of the Association of Career and Technical Education. So they have put into place a technology certification called the Internet Business Associate, and to this point, we have had 12 different teachers step up to the plate and say that they want their academy students to have this. This is continuous improvement for our technology skills and it will further broaden the ability of our students.

- 8C. *Principal's Report:* Ms. Van Arsdale said that the greatest blessings of SouthTech Academy are its staff,

its students, our parents and community. She said when she speaks of staff, she speaks of the instructional staff, the support staff and the administrative staff, but it is the leadership of Mr. Kidd that is nothing short of exceptional. The staff, students, parents and the community all support his vision, his courage, his integrity and his tenacity. Ms. Van Arsdale said with regard to SouthTech Academy, she tries to spend a good part of her day visiting classrooms, which is the best part of the job. She said she has found the teachers are teaching creatively and dynamically and the students are engaged and really enjoying school. That is the key to success, especially in high school, that the kids want to be here and they enjoy learning. We have tightened up our discipline a bit and the kids are liking it, so they have told her that they like some of the new rules. We are exposing our students to some community-based programs, such as ACE Leadership Training, which provides experiential leadership training for high school juniors. Up to four juniors from each high school in Palm Beach County take part, and because Ms. Van Arsdale sat on the Advisory Board, SouthTech has seven students from all different academies in the program this year. For the first time, some of the academies which have the most structured and rigorous components have agreed to be flexible to provide the students with the opportunity to participate in the program. On a daily basis, we still talk about the goal of 100% graduation. We are participating in College Day once a month, where students and staff can wear college tee shirts to expose the students to different colleges and universities, and it's all about choices. Every student has to graduate from SouthTech, but not every student has to go to college. However, we do want every student to be qualified to be capable of making informed choices. We are participating this year in Hispanic Heritage Day and Month. A committee convened and they came up with some exciting ideas, especially a program called, "Get Caught Reading" where the students will get bonus points if they read a book by a Spanish author, or if the book is written in Spanish. Ms. Van Arsdale said they are planning to have luncheons with Student Government and Class Officers. She will also institute lunch meetings with students who are in danger of not graduating on time. The goal is to get the students to establish some camaraderie and some common goals and practices and to let us know what kinds of things we can do as staff to ensure that they graduate on time. The kids enjoy seeing that the numbers dwindle each week. One goal is to provide our students with a well-rounded education and experience. We do not want them to miss out on things that are important in high school. We will not have a football team, but there are other things that we can expose them to. Ms. Van Arsdale ended her report by congratulating Nicole Handy and her staff for the opening of her school. Mr. Heller asked both principals what the enrollment numbers were. They responded 1130 for SouthTech Academy and 374 for SouthTech Prep.

- 8D. *Middle School Principal:* Mrs. Handy began by introducing the SouthTech Prep staff members: Kelly Lamerson, the Assistant Principal; Freddy Ponton, Dean and Parent Liaison; Kristie Vullo, ESE and Test Coordinator and Ms. Remy, the Information Technology Coordinator. Mrs. Handy thanked Mrs. Lamerson, in particular, whom she said works 24/7 to hand-schedule all 374 students. We also had Guidance Counselors from the high school to help her as well and she thanked them. Mrs. Handy said that things are going very well and are getting smoother every day. They are down to dismissing almost 400 students in 20 minutes, which is a wonderful thing to see in a middle school, especially after an 8-1/2 hour day with them. We have implemented the Bulldog to Bulldog one-hour lunch and we had to hour half an hour to our school day, which the students are getting used to. During the hour lunch, they can choose if they want to eat lunch with their friends, attend a club, have tutoring, or go to a classroom that has office hours. The students came up with their clubs and they now have Science Olympiad, Chess Club, Environmental Club, Peer Mentoring, Gay-Straight Alliance, Book Club, Ukulele Club, Yearbook, and Newspaper/Journalism that does the morning announcements. The students are loving the choices that they have. They are taking the opportunity to meet with the teachers for academic help. We are still in need of one math teacher and about 20 more students. Mrs. Handy said that they opened the Bulldog Bistro, and the students are nominated by the staff to eat lunch in the Bulldog Bistro and in the outdoor cafe. This is a great motivator for the students. We have also implemented the 55 Rules. Mrs. Handy thanked everyone for their support. Mr. Kidd asked Mrs. Handy the STP staff to stand. He commented on how he signed the lease on July 13 and on July 16, the following Monday, this staff started in this chaos to prepare the school for opening on August 18. They worked almost non-stop, four to seven days a week, whatever it took. Freddy even brought his family in and they helped cleaning. The work that they put in, if they had been double compensated, would never have been adequate to pay for all the hours that they put in. Mr. Kidd told the staff that he thanked the staff from the bottom of his heart, because without them, we would not be sitting in SouthTech Prep tonight or

have the 374 students would not have been in the facility on time. He said that he appreciated it and so does the Governing Board. There was a round of applause for the staff.

Mr. Notter said that as a 39-year veteran and a five-year Superintendent in Broward, he never recalls a Board standing up and giving applause to great people. He told the STP staff to know from the Board how much they appreciate them.

8E. *Community School Report:* Mr. Fiedor said that the new school, the new advertising directions, the new application of tighter controls have really shown well with our adult population, because he has much interest in the adult programs. He thanked Dan Heller for the opportunity to advertise in a new vein, another community setting. He believes that the program is going to see the light in terms of new direction, career patterns for certification programs in the high schools, post-high school. Mr. Fiedor said that we have to have a beginning, middle and an end to story, and he can see this happening. He understands that the phones have gone off the hook during the daytime with requests for classes. We closed out on two or three classes within two hours on the first day of registration, as we registered 125 adult students, and we have not seen this in four years. It was nice to see the counter crowded with seven people registering from a line of 30 people. The rains have stopped it a little, but they still have three or four days to go. Right now, they have around 335 students between the Adult Workforce Development, Leisure Time Activity classes and our ESOL and GED. GED is growing three times as fast as it did last year, which is a direct result of the positive advertising that Mr. Fiedor has seen. What the people see at one end, they expect at the other, and he said that he now has to satisfy that bar as well and eventually report to the Board that they have the kind of programs that Mr. Boggess and he are looking at that meet that beginning, middle and end. He also reported that his ESOL team has honored themselves by having a 62% completion in ESOL in the movement of successful deliverance to the next level because of testing, with the use of computer lab, Burlington IXL for GED, etc. They received some accolades, and he and Mr. Boggess met with Mr. Simms, the director and he indicated the same. Now we need to progress as well with our AD and GED. We are moving in that direction and hope that in the next couple of months they could say that they have implemented some of the tools that they have been given, like the I pads and the tablets.

1) **Policy Committee:** Nothing to report.

2) **Personnel Committee:** Mr. Notter said that there is an item on the agenda that they will speak of.

3) **Business Partners/Government:** Mr. Kidd said he and Mr. Notter plan on doing more government relational work that has been done in a long time. The issue with the School District going on right now will cut into that some. They will be scheduling meetings and he encouraged each of the Board members to build relationships with the legislative delegation as much as is possible, and posture themselves so that there is face-recognition, because if they do not get a continual, reliable funding strain for charter schools, it will be rough. Mr. Kidd will speak to the Board at another time about other related things.

Ms. Heinz mentioned the Associated Builders and Contractors, an association highly strong with the powers in our state legislature. She said they train air conditioning contractors and they are in the construction trades, which is now taking off. Ms. Heinz spoke with the former Executive Director, who said there might be a good alliance here. She said she has no problem to take the initiative to go with Mr. Notter or Mr. Kidd because these people are highly strong all the way to the Governor's office. She believes there is a synergy with the Associated Builders and Contractors because they have always wanted to get a middle school going and they never really could. Ms. Heinz said that the person was pretty impressed with what she told him. She would be more than happy to take the initiative and willing to go to them because they have a strong political connection.

Mr. Notter said that if any of the Board members may have a close, semi-close or even a distant relationship with any of the legislators, to please let Mr. Kidd's office know, because we want to get an accurate database on who knows who kind of thing to open those doors. Our goal is to be the trusted embodied service to the Palm Beach Delegation, as it pertains to charter schools. Right now, there is none yet. There are two major associations, one headed by a Haag, which is not-for-profit and the other headed up by a Hage – Charter Schools USA, a for-profit organization. Mr. Kidd mentioned that he is on the

Board of the Florida Consortium of Public Charter Schools (FCPCS). These organizations started out together, but then split. Mr. Notter said that we do not believe that we have a trusted advisor for charter schools, where the news media can get the correct answer or where the School Board can get the right answer, or anyone else in the community can. We do want to develop that trusted advisor relationship with SouthTech Academy.

- 4) **Program Review:** Mr. Dunson said he had nothing to report, but hopes to get with Mr. Boggess to plan something for next month.
 - 5) **Nominating Committee:** Already reported.
 - 6) **Facility Committee:** Mr. Kidd commented – “You see it”.
 - 7) **Marketing Committee:** Mr. Kidd said that we are seeing the results of the marketing and will probably cut Kristine back a bit, as we are doing more in-house now. He said he has not had a chance to speak to the principals on this yet, but he suggests that they run a campaign through the students to tell their friends how happy they are at SouthTech, and offer them some sort of perk. This would be good to do prior to October FTE count.
 - 8) **Five Year Strategic Plan:** Mr. Notter said that we have been concentrating on this building and that the Strategic Plan will now focus on that during the first quarter of 2016.
 - 9) **Foundation Development Committee:** Mr. Kidd said that they met briefly the other day and Matt O’Connor has offered to become part of that committee. He offered to help and had some good suggestions. We plan to meet again sometime the beginning of next month and hope to take some action.
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 South Tech Academy – President & Chief Executive Officer**
Jim Kidd:
Old Business
None.
Administrative Items
A-1 I recommend that the Board approve the donations for the period from June 18, 2015 to September 17, 2015.
A-2 I recommend that the Board approve the Clinical Agreement between SouthTech Academy and OB/GYN Specialist of the Palm Beaches.
A-3 I recommend that the Board approve the Clinical Agreement between SouthTech Academy and Wellington Regional Medical Center.
- Personnel Items**
B-1 I recommend that the Board approve the Personnel actions for the previous month.
B-2 I recommend that the Board approve the modification of the President/CEO’s contract to reflect the change in duty days and annual leave. – **PULLED FROM AGENDA**
- Financial Items**
C-1 I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the monthly Charter school bank account reconciliation for month ending July 31, 2015 as required by the Sponsor.
C-2 I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the Charter school monthly Disbursement Report for month ending July 31, 2015 as required by the Sponsor.
C-3 I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the monthly financial statements for month ending July 31, 2015 as required by the Sponsor.
C-4 I recommend that the Board approve the audited financial statements for the fiscal year end June 30, 2015. – **PULLED FROM AGENDA**
- Emergency Items**
E-1 I recommend that the Board approve submitting the names of personnel eligible for the Best and Brightest Scholarship Program prior to the deadline on October 1, 2015.

11. Poll Board for Items to be Pulled for Comment or Questions:

Mr. Kesten motioned that Items B-2 and C-4 be withdrawn from the agenda.

Second: Mrs. Ernst

All in favor. Motion carries.

Mr. Kesten pulled Item E-1 for discussion.

12. Approval of SouthTech Academy Consent Agenda with exception of the items pulled:

Motion: Mr. Kesten; Second: Mr. Dunson

All in favor. Motion carries.

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

Item E-1 I recommend that the Board approve submitting the names of personnel eligible for the Best and Brightest Scholarship Program prior to the deadline on October 1, 2015.

Motion: Mr. Kesten Second: Mr. Heller

Mr. Kidd said that this item was necessitated by the fact that, at the last minute, there was an appropriation made in the budget to commit state money to the Best and Brightest Scholarship program and the backup information is in the packet. The condensed version is that someone who is either a new teacher or who has taught for a number of years and who scored in the 80% or above percentile in their SAT or ACT is eligible for money, and we have people who fit into that category. In the District schools, the principal makes the recommendation but in the charter schools, it requires that the Board make the recommendation. This is a formality and Mr. Kidd could not submit it until the Board authorizes him to do that.

Mr. Kesten said it is a mistake to vote on it because it is such a ridiculous law. For the teachers who are recently out of college, it may be helpful to them. For the teachers who are teaching 30-40 years and for them to be judged on a test they took as a 17-year-old student, it is ludicrous and ridiculous and the fact that the FLDOE even thought of it, shows that they should be replaced.

Mr. Notter said that he would agree with Mr. Kesten; however, he would not want to penalize any teacher that could possibly get additional funds.

All in favor, except for Mr. Kesten's abstention.

Motion carries.

14. Public Comments on non-Agenda Items: None.

15. Introduction of Consent Agenda for SouthTech Preparatory Academy – President & Chief Executive Officer Jim Kidd:

Old Business

None.

Administrative Items

PA-1 I recommend that the Board approve the donations for the period from June 18, 2015 to September 17, 2015.

Personnel Items

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

PB-2 I recommend that the Board approve the modification of the President/CEO's contract to reflect the change in duty days and annual leave. – **WITHDRAWN FROM AGENDA**

Financial Items

PC-1 I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the monthly Charter school bank account reconciliation for month ending July 31, 2015 as required by the Sponsor.

PC-2 I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the Charter school monthly Disbursement Report for month ending July 31, 2015 as required by the Sponsor.

- PC-3** I recommend that the Board approve and ratify the monthly financial statements for month ending July 31, 2015 as required by the Sponsor.
- PC-4** I recommend that the Board approve the Technology Property Insurance for FY16.
- PC-5** I recommend the Board approve the Title I Funding budget for SouthTech Preparatory Academy for FY16.
- PC-6** I recommend that the Board approve the Blanket Accident Medical Basic & Voluntary Student Accident Insurance.
- PC-7** I recommend that the Board approve the audited financial statements for the fiscal year end June 30, 2015. – **WITHDRAWN FROM AGENDA**

Emergency Items

- PE-1** I recommend that the Board approve submitting the names of personnel eligible for the Best and Brightest Scholarship Program prior to the deadline on October 1, 2015.
16. *Poll Board for Items to be Pulled for Comment or Questions:*
Mr. Kesten motioned that Items PB-2 and PC-7 be withdrawn from the agenda.
Second: Mrs. Ernst
All in favor. Motion carries.
Mr. Kesten pulled Item PE-1 for discussion.
17. *Approval of SouthTech Preparatory Academy Consent Agenda with exception of the items pulled:*
Motion: Mr. Kesten **Second: Mr. Dunson**
All in favor. Motion carries.
18. *Approval of Each Pulled Item (Item-by-Item):*
Item PE-1 I recommend that the Board approve submitting the names of personnel eligible for the Best and Brightest Scholarship Program prior to the deadline on October 1, 2015.
Motion: Mr. McKoy **Second: Mr. Ernst**
Mrs. Ernst asked how many teachers SouthTech Prep had and Mrs. Handy responded one teacher. SouthTech Academy has five. Mr. Notter asked how much the dollar amount was. Mrs. Handy said it could be up to \$10,000, depending on the number of teachers. Mr. Notter said it is not a raise, but a bonus and the money would not be counted toward your toward retirement.
All in favor, except for an abstention by Mr. Kesten.
Motion carries.
19. *Public Comments on non-Agenda Items: None.*
20. *Board in the Capacity of School Advisory Council (SAC) for:*
SouthTech Academy
School Improvement Steering Committee (SISC) Report – STA SISC Chairperson – Mrs. Baize spoke for the Chairperson
Mrs. Baize said they had another very good meeting with a good turnout. Mrs. Turenne said that the SIP is online. If you click on the School Improvement Plan, it will also take you to the Parental Involvement Plan. They were both emailed to the Governing Board. She went over the plan in detail with the SISC tonight and also the Parental Involvement Plan.
Introduction of the STA - SAC Consent Agenda – by Chairperson:
- D-1** I recommend that the School Advisory Council (SAC) approve the 2015-2016 School Improvement Plan (SIP), as recommended by the School Improvement Steering Committee.
 - D-2** I recommend that the School Advisory Council (SAC) approve the 2015-2016 Title I Parental Involvement Plan Draft, as recommended by the School Improvement Steering Committee.
21. *Poll SAC for Items to be Pulled from the SAC Consent Agenda for Comment or Questions:*
None.
22. *Approval of SAC Consent Agenda Except for Items Pulled:*
Mrs. Baize recommended that the Board approve Items D-1 the 2015-2016 School Improvement Pan and Item D-2 the 2015-2016 Title I Parental Involvement Plan.
Mr. Kesten motioned; **Second by Mr. Heller**
All in favor; Motion carries.

23. *Approval of Each Pulled Item (Item-by Item) – Introduction by Chairperson: None.*

24. *Board in the Capacity of School Advisory Council (SAC) for:*

SouthTech Preparatory Academy

School Improvement Steering Committee (SISC) Report – Chairperson Diane Heinz

Ms. Heinz deferred to Mrs. Handy to give the report. Mrs. Handy said the committee met on August 25 and had 10 attendees, which is ten times more than they have had. The committee would like the Board to approve the Parental Involvement Plan for STPA. The School Improvement Plan will be brought to SAC on next month's agenda.

Introduction of the STA - SAC Consent Agenda – Chairperson

PD-1 I recommend that the School Advisory Council (SAC) approve the 2015-2016 Title I Parental Involvement Plan Draft, as recommended by the School Improvement Steering Committee.

Mr. Kesten motioned; Second by Mrs. Ernst

All in favor; Motion carries.

25. *Poll SAC for Items to be Pulled from the SAC Consent Agenda for Comment or Questions: None.*

26. *Approval of SAC Consent Agenda Except for Items Pulled: None.*

27. *Approval of Each Pulled Item (Item-by Item) – Introduction by Chairperson: None.*

28. *Board Comments:*

Mrs. Baize congratulated Mrs. Handy and her staff for their amazing job and also Mr. Kidd for his hard work for the new facility. She welcomed Kelly Lamerson, who she said was her son Matthew's guidance counselor. Mr. McKoy thanked everyone for the hard work in getting the facility ready. He looks forward to a good year for both schools.

Mr. Kesten said he did not have a problem with teachers getting bonuses that they deserve, but the way the state determined how those bonuses are given. He told everyone who was involved in getting Prep ready that they had done an amazing job; he had visited during the days before it was ready and was almost afraid to go beyond the big stack of books in the front lobby. He said that he is so proud to be on the Board of SouthTech Prep and SouthTech Academy, because everyone does such a wonderful job and loves what they do.

Mr. Heller dittoed all the kudos that went out and is very proud to be on the Boards. He hopes that we can get a good head-count three weeks from now, and that things get resolved with the IDEA funding. He gave kudos to the Prep staff, but also to those from the high school who helped to get the place ready. He thanked the "back of the house staff" for the audit results. He also thanked Mr. Kidd and said he really is the vision behind the school. Mr. Heller congratulated Jay Boggess for the birth of his new daughter.

Mr. Dunson thanked everyone for the fine job they are doing and hopes they had fun as well.

Mrs. Ernst said that the STP facility is so impressive and that she loves all of the inspirational signs, because they remind her of the things that she says to her kids. She said she could only hope that SouthTech Academy could look like this someday.

Diane Heinz said that she is proud to be on the Board. She said that she did not do very well in politics, but understands politics well, and that if she could help the school in any way, she would do so. She said she is prouder to be on this Board than when she had 157 schools to worry about. She said she is humbled to be with the school and thanked everyone for allowing her to be here.

Mr. Notter addressed Mr. Kidd and said that from the Chairman and representing the rest of the Board, they appreciate him for being their trusted advisor. He also asked the principals to take back to their staff that they are appreciated for what they do every day.

Mr. Kidd said one final thing - that he and Ms. Van Arsdale had an appointment with Superintendent Avossa on September 3, and it was canceled two hours before the event. It has been rescheduled for tomorrow, but now it will be a telephone conference call. If it is not canceled, he will let the Board know how it turns out.

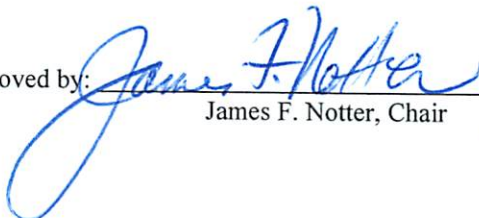
29. *Motion to Adjourn:*

Mr. Notter asked for a motion to adjourn. **Mr. Kesten motioned to adjourn at 9:00 pm until the Regular Board meeting on October 8, 2015.**

Minutes Prepared by:


Barbara J. Fraga

Approved by:


James F. Notter, Chair

10/8/15