

**Back to Basics Charter School Foundation, Inc.**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Wednesday, November 10, 2010**  
**6PM**  
**Cafeteria**

**Approved Minutes**

**In attendance:** Mrs. Nancy Hutson, Mr. Vinny Medero, Gary Hocevar, Mr. Stanley Mykita, Mr. Gil Schisler, Mrs. Carol Hines-Cobb, Dr. Lew Kirk, Mr. Jeffrey Huggins, Ms. Lynne Volpe, Mr. Robert Negrón, Ms. Alba Mas and Dr. Steve Shivers

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**Excused Absence:** Mrs. Jackie Zebos

1. **Call to Order** – Mrs. Hutson called the meeting to order at 6PM.
2. **Approval of the October 13, 2010 Board Minutes** – Mrs. Hutson called for a motion to approve the minutes. A motion was entered by Mr. Schisler and was seconded by Mr. Huggins. There were two areas that needed to be corrected (Academic Committee and New Business). The board voted unanimously to approve the minutes with corrections.
3. **Treasurer's Report** – Mr. Gil Schisler (see attached report).
4. **CEO/Principal's Report** – Gary Hocevar
  - Reminded the board about the upcoming site visit (Friday, November 12) for the charter reauthorization. He reported that TCMS was well-prepared, and that the review team from the school district would be interviewing Mrs. Hutson and Mr. Schisler, and invited board members to be present as well. Mr. Hocevar was made aware of some last minute changes to the members of the site visit team, who will be reviewing assessment, facilities (safety and cleanliness, flaws since construction), teachers, classrooms, finance, personnel, etc.
  - TCMS sent several representatives to the Charter School Conference in Orlando.
  - A+ funds were disbursed and are now back into the account
  - Wanted to recognize Mr. Negrón for his teaching skills as he had a chance to observe one of his PE classes during a walk-through of the facility in preparation for the site visit.
  - Mrs. Bennett:
    - Distributed the school-wide book to board members (*Three Cups of Tea*) which was the book selected for this year's symposium. The University of Tampa has adopted the adult version of the novel this school year as well, and will partner with TCMS for service projects.
    - *To Kill a Mockingbird*, this year's fall StageRage performance, will be presented on Friday and Saturday, November 12 and 13.
    - Mr. Bethune and Mrs. Douplik (parent of two 8<sup>th</sup> grade students) are working hard on this year's TCMS Teach-In (Friday, November 19). Mr. Kym Purling, professional jazz pianist and TCMS music teaching assistant, will be bringing his jazz sextet to perform in the Breezeway. Mr. Jeff Huggins, board member, will also be here to speak to the students.
    - Terra Nova results are back and will be sent home to parents with report cards on Monday, November 15.

- Principal's 100% Club for quarter 1 was held on Wed., November 10<sup>th</sup> and 106 students in 6<sup>th</sup> grade, 123 in 7<sup>th</sup> and 116 in 8<sup>th</sup> received recognition for having a 3.5 GPA and no unexcused absences or tardies.
- A writing workshop was held this past Saturday for 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in preparation for the Hillsborough Writes writing assessment for high school IB and magnet school applications. Mrs. Foster and Mr. Canonaco held 2 workshops for the students and were well attended (80 students).
- TCMS will have interns during the spring who are graduate students from the University of Tampa.

5. **Faculty Report** – Mr. Negrón (see attached)

6. **PRA Report** – Mr. Mykita reported that the Scholastic Book Fair raised \$5,000 and exceeded the PRA's expectations. All positions for the Spring Auction have been filled and will be held in March this year (date TBD). Team Tornado raised over \$70,000 this year and, once again, exceeded all expectations.

7. **Committee Reports**

- **Finance and Development Oversight** – Mr. Schisler reported that the committee met on Monday, and there were no issues to report.
- **Governance and Nominating** – Dr. Kirk reported that the committee did not meet. He also took a minute to thank the board for the condolences extended to him and his family for the loss of a family member.
- **Academic Curriculum Review and Oversight** – Ms. Volpe reported that she would report on Terra Nova results soon.
- **Facilities and Operations Committee** - Ms. Mas reported that her mosaic project is moving along, and that she will be on site to check on the retention pond project.

8. **New Business** – none to discuss

9. **Old Business** –

- **Race to the Top (RTTT)**

Gary Hocevar reviewed with the board the decision participate in the Race to the Top funding until additional information received proved that it would not be in the best interest of the school to participate. TCMS would have the option to opt out.

Mr. Hocevar reported that he had received information that indicated that charter schools would have to comply with the school district's plan, therefore causing them to lose their autonomy. Mr. Hocevar asked for a motion to approve opting out of the plan. A motion was introduced by Mr. Schisler to abandon plans to participate in RTTT; the motion was seconded by Mr. Huggins, and the board voted unanimously to abandon plans to participate in RTTT.

- **Charter Reauthorization and contract** – Mr. Hocevar is in the process of negotiating the contract between TCMS and the School District and anticipates having the final draft this Friday (Nov. 12). He will send it to the school's attorney, and if she finds that something is not in the best interest of the school, she will let us know. He hopes to have it ready for approval at the December board meeting, and all goes well, it can be placed

on the agenda for the January board meeting of the School District of Hillsborough County.

**10. Public Comment – none**

11. **Adjournment** – Mrs. Hutson asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Schisler motioned to adjourn the meeting; the motion was seconded by Mr. Medero, and the board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:22PM.

**Minutes taken by Helen Ratcliffe**

**Minutes respectfully submitted by Jacquelyn Zebos, Board Secretary**

**Back to Basics Charter School Foundation, Inc.**  
**Terrace Community Middle School**  
Finance Committee

To: BTBCSF Board Members & Finance Committee  
From: Gil Schisler, Treasurer  
Date: 11/07/10  
RE: October 2010 YTD Operating Results

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These results; as outlined in this report are based on unaudited financial data, and as such is to be used for informational purposes for management only and is not intended to convey Foundation financial data to the public.

**Revenues:**

YTD revenue total \$1,669.7k which is favorable to our budget by ~ \$134.6k, with the budget at \$ 1,535.1k. Of this State FTEs, Capital and A-Plus monies accounted for \$ 1,430.5k or 85.7% of the total revenue. The balance is the result of student activity fees, grants, donations and interest earnings, including the incredible \$70k from Team Tornado efforts. The mix of state revenues and other sources should remain stable for the balance of the year at about 85%.

Overall revenue projections are on track and are expected to stay so. (Barring any significant state budget issues)

**Expenses:**

YTD total spending ended up at \$ 1,234.0k which was favorable to the operating plan of \$ 1,454.1k or about 14% favorable to the plan.

**Net Asset Changes:**

Net asset changes are favorable both as an actual number as well as to the plan at \$405.7k v the plan of \$80.1k

**Cash Balances:**

Cash balances and working capital liquidity grew by \$112k to \$1,819k or 6.6% MOM. Of this \$1,043k is encumbered by the bonds and associated mortgages. The balance of \$755.8k is available for current and future foundation needs. This is a normal ebb and flow and is not an issue.

The next bond interest payment of \$ 160k is scheduled for November with the next principle payment of \$ 95,000 due in May 2011. These are all covered in the encumbered funds balances and are funded monthly with our "mortgage" payment.

Respectfully submitted,

Gil Schisler

Faculty Report to the Board  
Terrace Community Middle School  
November 10, 2010

- Mr. Cornwell
  - LA / Drama: "To kill a mockingbird"
    - Address topics from civil rights movement, to respecting each others differences.
  - Spring Concert
    - Adam Tandler pianist compose and premier a score with advanced TCMS chorus and band
    - Matthew Shephard Foundation's nation-wide "Erase Hate" campaign
- Sports
  - Basketball and Soccer seasons are underway
- 6<sup>th</sup> grade academic boost
  - Incorporating participatory academic lunch
- Picnic tables
  - Students are extremely
- SGA sponsored dance=success!
  - Mrs. Diaz and Mrs. Castillo - students were put in charge
- Junior K
  - Hillsborough River Clean-up in the works
- Humane Society Club
  - Humane Society-Students have met for the first time last month to discuss future events to benefit the Humane Society of Tampa Bay

- DC Trip
  - Successful parent meeting last week
  - Students working for Sec. 60 Arlington Memorial projects