

**The Island School Boca Grande FL  
Board of Directors Minutes  
January 16, 2025**

**Members in Attendance:** Skip Branin, Donna Lutton, Liz Verney, Sharon Cross

**Guest Attendees:** Christine Oliver, Head of School; Tom Hofmann, Island School Foundation; Barbara Wilson, Academic Advisor to The Island School

The meeting was called to order at 3:45pm.

A motion was made by Mr. Branin to waive the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting (December 12, 2024 by Zoom) and to approve them as written. The motion was seconded by Ms. Verney. All members voted in favor and the motion carried.

**New Business:** Please see items covered below in President's Report and Head of School's report.

**Treasurer's Report:** Mr. Branin reported that the finances of The Island School are sound and close to budget.

**Head of School Report:** Ms. Oliver reported on the following topics:

1. **Safety & Security:**
  - a. The Island School met all expectations when visited unannounced by a representative of Lee County. The school will be visited next month by The Office of Safe Schools (FLDOE).
  - b. Process for threat assessments was discussed.
  - c. Curriculum "Be Internet Awesome" is a collaboration between Google and The Net Safety Collaborative, and the Internet Keep Safe Coalition. This resource is part of the Be Awesome program designed to help teach kids the skills they need to be safe and smart online. Grades 4 & 5 attend every Friday.
2. **Hurricanes Helene & Milton Update:**
  - a. The school is in the process of obtaining quotes to replace the cabinets: Reliable Cabinets, Style Craft & Onken Construction.
  - b. Insurance is still pending. The school has received a copy of the inventory list from Fire Services and this has been forwarded to our insurance company.
  - c. Funds from the Hurricane Relief Fund have been received to reimburse the school for immediate expenses. (\$29,700)
3. **Enrollment FY26:**
  - a. Re-enrollment will begin February 3, 2025 for current students.
  - b. New enrollment started January 6, 2025
  - c. A waitlist for FY26 school year is anticipated.
  - d. The lottery is scheduled for April 3, 2025.
4. **Miscellaneous:**
  - a. Chowder Dinner benefitting the PTO will be held January 17 6-9pm at the Gasparilla Inn Beach Club. There will be a golf cart raffle, a silent auction and live music by The Green Flash Band.
  - b. School hours for FY26: a motion was made by Ms. Lutton to extend the school day by 15 minutes in the morning (thereby "banking" 6 days in the event of emergency

need of those days). The motion was seconded by Mr. Branin. All members voted in favor and the motion passed.

c. The annual report along with the accountability report was submitted to The School District of Lee County this week.

**President's Report:** please see Head of School Report above.

**Public Comments:**

Mr. Hofmann reported that support for The Island School \$1,000,000 Golf Challenge is going well.

With no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:35pm.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be held at 3:30pm Thursday, February 13, 2025 at The Island School.

Respectfully submitted by Donna Lutton, Island School Board Secretary