# Florida Autism Center of Excellence, Inc. Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting June 13, 2013

The Board of Directors of the Florida Autism Center of Excellence, Inc. held its Regular Meeting at 3:30 P.M. on June 13, 2013 at the Chelsea Street Campus of FACE. Board members in attendance were Kelly Curington. Mary Helenius, Kavita Kalidas, David Epstein, Carolyn Hodges, Jereme Williams, and Tiffiany Lassin (exofficio). Also in attendance were John Gill, Chief Operating Officer and Interim President/CEO of Quest, Inc., Phil Nahajewski, Corporate Treasurer of FACE, Tom Porter, Corporate Secretary of FACE, Karenne Levy, Vice President of the Tampa Region for Quest, Liz Brantley, HR Director at FACE and the following faculty and staff of FACE: Sonia Harrell, Gloria DeCourcey, Annie Russell, and Kathy Green.

A quorum was established Jereme Williams called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m.

The public notice was accomplished through posting notices on both the office door and the front office door of the campus and on bulletin boards in the school conference room and in the hallway near the front of the school.

The Due Dates Checklist was reviewed and all items have been completed through the week ending June 3, 2013.

The minutes of the regular board meeting on April 11, 2013 were approved as presented with the changing out of the February Operations Report with the April 11 Operations Report.

Tiffiany Lassin presented the Operations Report, (see attached).

Tom presented the financial report and financial forecast for the remainder of the fiscal year. The year to date through April 30, 2013 and the end of year forecast, which reflects a net income of \$52,000. Following discussion, it was moved/seconded/passed to accept the financial report.

Tom presented the 2013-2014 Budget, which calls for 115 students in 12 classes. Following discussion it was moved/seconded/passed to accept the 2013-2014 budget.

Tom presented an update on the results of the Strategic Plan (see attached.)

David Epstein presented the Nominating Committee report. All board members have agreed to serve another year term. Carolyn Hodges, the first board member from Pasco County has agreed to serve on the board. Jereme Williams has agreed to serve as Chairman of the Board again. It was moved/seconded/passed to elect all directors to a one-year term; to elect Carolyn Hodges to a one-year term; and to elect Jereme Williams to a one-year term as Chairman of the Board.

Tom Porter presented his evaluation of Tiffiany Lassin based on her 5 months' service as Interim Director. John Gill reviewed the process of the 360 Evaluation and made a recommendation that Ms. Tiffiany continue as Interim Director for six additional months with an evaluation performed in December.

Tom and Tiffiany presented some information about miscommunication on the part of the District with regard to Agreements to Earn. This affects four teachers and there is a need for the board to allow exceptions

to our Substitute Teacher Policy because of the miscommunication. This will allow the teachers to be paid their new salary, while they complete the agreement to earn this year. It was moved/seconded/passed to allow this exception.

Tom reported on the lease situation with Mary Help of Christians. There was discussion and a general feeling that this issue has to be resolved and that FACE should position itself for a change.

Carolyn Hodges gave an update on FACE Pasco. Speaker of the Florida House, Will Weatherford is scheduled to speak at the Open House along with the Mayor of Zephyrhills. The community is embracing the school and glad to see it open in Pasco. There was discussion about scheduling board meetings in Pasco County and it was decided that the December 12, 2013, the April 10, 2014 meetings would be held at the Pasco school and that a new board meeting would be added to the schedule for September 12, 2013. This will mean 4 board meetings will be held at Hillsborough and 3 will be held at Pasco.

Carrie Walker's background was reviewed and it was moved/seconded/passed that she be appointed to Director of FACE Pasco.

Tom described the framework for the lease with Agape Baptist Church for Pasco and it was moved/seconded/passed for Jereme to execute the lease when it is finalized according to the framework. The Pasco Charter is also being developed and it was moved/seconded/passed for Jereme to sign the charter when it is finalized.

Tom shared with the Board that he has decided to move on and has resigned from Quest, effective at the end of July. Several members of the board and the audience thanked Tom for his service.

There being no further business, it was moved, seconded and passed that the meeting be adjourned at approximately 5:10 p.m.

Jereme Williams, Board Chair Thomas J. Porter, Corporate Secretary

## Florida Autism Center of Excellence Inc. Unofficial Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting August 8, 2013

The Board of Directors of the Florida Autism Center of Excellence, Inc. held its regular meeting at 3:30 PM on August 8, 2013 at the Chelsea Street Campus of FACE. Board Members in attendance include David Epstein, Carolyn Hodges, Jereme Williams and Mary Helenius (telephonically). Also in attendance were John Gill, Chief Operating Officer and Interim President/CEO of Quest, Inc., Todd Thrasher, Chief Financial Officer of Quest, Inc., Tom Porter Corporate Secretary of FACE, Karenne Levy, Vice President of the Tampa Region for Quest, Inc., Richanne Tuccolo Administrative Services Manager of Quest Inc. Tiffiany Lassin Interim Director of FACE. Faculty in attendance includes: Amanda Knox, Annie Russell, Sonia Harrell, and Gloria DeCoursey.

Being that Mary Helenius joined the meeting telephonically items were not eligible for vote at this time. Meeting was called to order by Jereme Williams at 3:47 pm.

Public notification was accomplished through posting notices on both the office door and front office door on the campus as well as on the bulletin boards in the school conference room and in the hallway towards the front of the school.

Due dates check list was provided by Jenna Hodges and reviewed by Tiffiany Lassin. The fire marshal added two new protocols to the CEMP, which we will need to add to the form. All items have been completed through the week ending August 9, 2013.

The minutes of the regular board meeting held on June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013 were tabled until September as a quorum was not present to approve.

Operations Report for FACE Hillsborough was presented by Tiffiany Lassin (see attached). Current Enrollment is 95 students. Communication and approval of Out-of-Field Assignments was tabled until September at which time it will need to be put to vote. District is offering training the second week in September on the new curriculum order called Unique Systems.

Concerns regarding FACE being under enrolled proposition that there be a contingency budget set in place. Item was tabled for discussion until FTE count in October.

Carrie Walker Director of FACE Pasco was unable to attend due to a conflicting meeting with the Superintendent. In her absence the Operations Report for FACE Pasco was presented by Karenne Levy (see attached).

Introduction and brief background of New CFO Todd Thrasher was given. Fiscal Year Ending June 30<sup>th</sup> 2013 Financials were reviewed by Todd reflecting a net income of \$52,808.00.

Teacher lists for both Hillsborough and Pasco need to be approved before October 14<sup>th</sup> FTE meeting.

Carolyn Hodges indicated that a few people had expressed an interest in being nominated for the Board in Pasco County. It is highly recommended that all Board Members for FACE Pasco are Pasco County

Residents. First year of the school opening is considered the transition period and the existing Board members will act as interim for Pasco as well at this time.

Carolyn proposed the nomination of Tom Porter to the Board. This item was tabled for discussion until the September meeting.

John Gill reported on the MHC Lease. He agreed with Father Steve that FACE will grant access to the buildings to MHC for Sunday school, under the condition that the classrooms would be left in the same order. Mary Helenius requested renegotiation and financial increase not be considered at this time. Board members present however agreed they would instead consider conditional non-financial accommodations. This Item was tabled for discussion until September.

Agape Lease and Charter for FACE Pasco have been approved and executed by the Board.

Corporate Officers will need to be elected before the Annual Meeting in June 2014. Item Tabled for discussion until September.

An email was sent previously in which three Board members electronically agreed upon the Quest Management contract for FACE Pasco. In order to meet the deadline required by Pasco County School District David Epstein will submit electronic approval to reach the required 4 member vote on the Management Agreement with the following changes made: Dates need to be changed, and need to add that Quest has agreed to waive the first year management fee.

Next meeting is scheduled for Thursday September 12, 2013 at 3:30 PM at the Pasco location.

Meeting was adjourned by Jereme Williams at 5:00 PM.

## Florida Autism Center of Excellence, Inc. Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting October 10, 2013

The Board of Directors of the Florida Autism Center of Excellence, Inc. held its regular meeting at 3:30 PM on October 10, 2013 at the Chelsea Street Campus of FACE. Board Members in attendance include Brenda Connolly, Mary Helenius, Kavita Kalidas and Kelly Curington (Telephonically). Also in attendance Todd Thrasher, Chief Financial Officer of Quest, Inc., Karenne Levy, Chief Operating Officer of Quest, Inc., Richanne Tuccolo Administrative Services Manager of Quest Inc. Tiffiany Lassin Interim Director of FACE Hillsborough Carrie Walker Director of FACE Pasco. Faculty in attendance include: Annie Russell

A quorum was established. Meeting was called to order by Karenne Levy at 3:35 pm.

Public notification was accomplished through posting notices on both the office door and front office door on the campus as well as on the bulletin boards in the school conference room and in the hallway towards the front of the school.

Nancy DiSalvo, CPA of BKHM, PA reviewed the Financial Audit for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2013 and the statement (114) of findings by BKHM. A motion was made by Mary Helenius to accept the audit as presented. Motion was seconded by Brenda Connolly and carried by the board.

Kavita Kalidas made a motion to accept the minutes of the regular board meeting held on June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Motion was seconded by Brenda Connolly and carried by the board.

Brenda Connolly made a motion to accept the unofficial minutes of regular board meeting held on August 8, 2013. Motion was seconded by Kavita Kalidas and carried by the board.

Following a brief discussion regarding the resignations of Board Chair Jereme Williams and Board Member David Epstein board members agreed to elect both a Chair and Vice Chair at this time. Board members are actively seeking individuals with both marketing and education background as candidates.

Mary Helenius nominated Brenda Connolly as the Chair. Motion was seconded by Kavita Kalidas. Position was accepted by Brenda Connolly and carried by the board.

Kavita Kalidas nominated Brenda Mary Helenius as the Vice Chair. Motion was seconded by Brenda Connolly. Position was accepted by Mary Helenius and carried by the board.

Carolyn Hodges remains the parent liaison for FACE Pasco. Kelly Curington is the appointed parent liaison for FACE Hillsborough

Operations report for FACE Pasco was presented by Carrie Walker (see attached). Current enrollment is 17 students. Teachers out of field are Kimberly Kelderhouse and Rashay Wilkinson. A motion was made by Brenda Connolly to approve the teachers out of field. Motion was seconded by Kavita Kalidas and carried by the Board. The Zephyrhills Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting is scheduled for 11/5/13 and the Dade City Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting is scheduled for 11/13/2013. Brenda Connolly and Kelly Curington each plan to attend one ceremony.

Salary Allocation Plan for Pasco was reviewed in which classroom teachers will be evaluated. Increases will be determined based on the individual performance rating.

Operations Report for FACE Hillsborough was presented by Tiffiany Lassin (see attached). Current Enrollment is 93 students. Teachers out of field are Rachel Davis, Jennifer Morgera, Julie Landis, Kelly McMahon and Simone Torres. A motion was made by Kavita Kalidas to approve the teachers out of field. Motion was seconded by Kelly Curington and carried by the board.

Brenda Connolly and Karenne Levy will be working together to coordinate evaluations for Tiffiany Lassin and Carrie Walker.

Board members requested an assessment to ensure operational efficiencies are in place. Kelly Curington will be working with Karenne Levy and the Quest Human Resources Department on this request.

Brenda Connolly will start attending PTO meetings.

John Gill (telephonically) reported on the MHC lease. The Board has agreed to offer a monetary increase not to exceed \$9,000.00. A motion was made by Mary Helenius for Quest to move forward with the attorney drafting a letter to reach a secondary agreement with MHC. Motion was seconded by Kavita Kalidas and carried by the board under the condition that the board will review the agreement prior to submitting to MHC.

August financials for both FACE Hillsborough and FACE Pasco were reviewed by Todd Thrasher.

Next Meeting is scheduled for Thursday December 12, 2013 at 3:30 pm at the Pasco location.

Motion to adjourn was made by Brenda Connolly at 5:47 pm. Motion was seconded by Kavita Kalidas and carried by the board.

## Florida Autism Center of Excellence, Inc. Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting December 12, 2013

The Board of Directors of the Florida Autism Center of Excellence, Inc. held its regular meeting at 3:30 PM on December 12, 2013 at the Chancey Road Campus of FACE. Board Members in attendance include Brenda Connolly, Mary Helenius, Carolyn Hodges, Kelly Curington and Kristin Bold. Also in attendance Todd Thrasher, Chief Financial Officer of Quest, Inc., Karenne Levy, Chief Operating Officer of Quest, Inc., Richanne Tuccolo Administrative Services Manager of Quest Inc., Tiffiany Lassin Interim Director of FACE Hillsborough Carrie Walker Director of FACE Pasco. Faculty in attendance include: Annie Russell

A quorum was established. Meeting was called to order by Brenda Connolly at 3:31 pm.

Public notification was accomplished through posting notices on both the office door and front office door on the campus as well as on the bulletin boards in the school conference room and in the hallway towards the front of the school.

Carolyn Hodges made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting held on October 10, 2013. Motion was seconded by Mary Helenius and carried by the board.

Kristin Bold, newly elected Board Member gave a brief introduction of her background. Board members are actively seeking additional candidates to serve on the board who possess marketing and or educational backgrounds.

Operations report for FACE Pasco was presented by Carrie Walker (see attached). Current enrollment is 21 students. Organization of a PTO, fund raising and the possibility of starting a garden are planned for after the New Year. BCBA is reviewing each of the students IEP goals with both the teacher and teachers' assistant in order to assure goals are attainable and are being met. A total of five (5) students are scheduled to take the FCAT this year which is being coordinated by Carrie Walker.

Operations Report for FACE Hillsborough was presented by Tiffiany Lassin (see attached). Current Enrollment is 94 students. The October FTE Audit revealed Certification finding in which a teacher was out of field. We are currently waiting on the Official Document from Hillsborough County District.

Carrie Walker would like the Board to consider changing the charter language at the Pasco campus for the upcoming 2014-2015. Her proposal is to add grades 5-9. Following expressed concerns and a brief discussion this item was tabled until the regulations were researched further.

Carolyn Hodges made a motion to nominate Daniel W. Burgess Jr. Esquire (Zephyrhills Mayor) to the Board. Motion was seconded by Kelly Curington and carried by the Board.

Follow up from October's review of job descriptions for both the Director and VP of Schools. Kelly Curington stated that after reviewing the job descriptions for both positions she did not feel it necessary to replace the VP position at this time. Board members were in agreement. They requested assistance from the Quest marketing department to help with external focus.

October Financials and fiscal year forecasts for both Hillsborough and Pasco were reviewed by Todd Thrasher. Both schools would have a net loss for the year based upon current enrollment as this has been a transitional year and the focus is on maintaining quality services and meeting the mission of FACE. Directors will continue to monitor budgets and remain fiscally conscious.

John Gill (telephonically) reported on the MHC lease. A motion was made by Mary Helenius to move forward with the attorney drafting an addendum to the lease that would formalize changes to the lease that had been agreed to between MHC and Quest. Motion was seconded by Kelly Curington and carried by the Board. Board has requested to review the addendum before it is sent to MHC.

It was suggested that we hire a realtor to find a proper relocation for the school at the completion of the MHC lease. At the next meeting the Board will be discussing requirements for a new campus.

Next Meeting is scheduled for Thursday February 13, 2014 at 3:30 pm at the Hillsborough Location location.

Motion to adjourn was made by Carolyn Hodges at 5:47 pm. Motion was seconded by Kristin Bold and carried by the board.

Brenda Connolly-Board Chair

## Florida Autism Center of Excellence, Inc. Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting February 12, 2014

The Board of Directors of the Florida Autism Center of Excellence, Inc. held its regular meeting at 3:30 PM on February 12, 2014 at the Hillsbereugh Campus of FACE located on Chelsea Street in Tampa, FL. Board Members in attendance include: Brenda Connolly, Mary Helenius, Kelly Curington, Kavita Kalidas and Kristin Bold. Also in attendance John Gill, President/CEO of Quest, Inc., Todd Thrasher, Chief Financial Officer of Quest, Inc., Karenne Levy, Chief Operating Officer of Quest, Inc., Ellen Manning Vice President of Human Resources of Quest, Inc., Tikisha Hughes, Director of Marketing, of Quest, Inc., Richanne Tuccolo Administrative Services Manager of Quest Inc., Tiffiany Lassin Interim Director of FACE Hillsborough Carrie Walker Director of FACE Pasco (Telephonically). Faculty in attendance include: Annie Russell, Sonia Harrell, Meghan Windisch, Cheryl Higham, and Lori Edgarly.

A quorum was established. Meeting was called to order by Brenda Connolly at 3:39 pm.

Public notification was accomplished through posting notices on both the office door and front office door on both the Hillsborough and Pasco campuses as well as on the bulletin boards in the school conference room and in the hallway towards the front of the school.

Due date's checklist was reviewed. The only items due to the district this month are financial statements.

Mary Helenius made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular board meeting held on December 12, 2013. Motion was seconded by Kristin Bold and carried by the board.

It was requested that approval of the 990 be tabled until board members had time to review thoroughly at which time it will be put to an electronic vote. Approval is due to BKHM by 03/15/2014.

Operations report for FACE Pasco was presented by Carrie Walker (see attached). Current enrollment is 20 students. February FTE audit is scheduled for 02/28/2014. IEP's and goals are currently being reviewed by Carrie Walker. Disabled American Veterans will be presenting flags to the classrooms on 02/19/2014 at 10:00 am.

Carrie Walker would like the Board to consider changing the charter language at the Pasco campus for the upcoming 2014-2015. Her proposal is to add grades 5-9. Mambers expressed concerns and a brief discussion this item was tabled until the regulations were further researched.

Operations Report for FACE Hillsborough was presented by Tiffiany Lassin (see attached). Current Enrollment is 98 students. FTE audit is scheduled for 02/26/2014. Matrix levels for

students have been re-evaluated and increased accordingly. 9 students are scheduled to take the FCAT. FAA testing begins 02/24/2014. Teachers out of field include Rachel Davis, Jennifer Morgera, Julie Landis, Kelly Mcmahon, Meaghan Windisch, Laura DeSantis, Nadege Poirier, Cynthia Fahrenkrog and Substitute Teacher Simone Torres. A motion to approve teachers out of field was made by Kavita Kalidas, seconded by Kristin Bold and carried by the board.

FACE operation in its current form is not sustainable for Quest, Inc. Quest proposed that FACE develop a collaborative partnership that is aligned with the Charter. After further discussion the board scheduled a Special Meeting on Thursday March 6, 2014 at 3:30 pm to be held at the FACE Hillsborough Campus to further discuss the direction of FACE and its relationship with Quest as the management company.

Negotiations of the MHC lease are still being handled by our attorney. At this time FACE and Quest are in agreement with the attorney drafting a document in which the expiration of the MHC lease will be reached at an earlier date of 06/30/2015.

Follow up discussion referencing the 360 evaluations of Tiffiany Lassin and Carrie Walker that were discussed at the June board meeting. Ellen Manning stated that there were a few changes needing to be made to the links but they would be sent out within a week.

December financials for both FACE Hillsborough and FACE Pasco were reviewed by Todd Thrasher, indicating both schools would have a net loss for the year based upon current enrollment.

Brenda suggested adding a parent to the Board.

Motion to adjourn was made by Kavita Kalidas at 5:05 pm. Motion was seconded by Kristin Bold and carried by the board.

Brenda	Connolly-Board Chair

## Florida Autism Center of Excellence, Inc. Minutes of the Board of Directors Special Meeting March 7, 2014

The Board of Directors of the Florida Autism Center of Excellence, Inc. held a special meeting at 3:30 PM-on-March 7, 2014 at the Hillsberough Campus of FACE located on Chelsea Street in Tampa, FL. Board Members in attendance include: Brenda Connolly, Mary Helenius, Carolyn Hodges, Kelly Curington, Kavita Kalidas and Kristin Bold. Also in attendance Karenne Levy, Chief Operating Officer of Quest, Inc., Richanne Tuccolo Administrative Services Manager of Quest Inc., Tiffiany Lassin Interim Director of FACE Hillsborough Carrie Walker Director of FACE Pasco. Faculty in attendance include: Annie Russell, Sonia Harrell, Meghan Windisch, Lori Edgar, and Claire Stanford.

A quorum was established. Meeting was called to order by Brenda Connolly at 3:41 pm.

Public notification was accomplished through posting notices on both the office door and front office door on both the Hillsborough and Pasco campuses as well as on the bulletin boards in the school conference room and in the hallway towards the front of the school.

Operations reports for Hillsborough & Pasco were tabled until the regularly scheduled April 2014 meeting.

Kavita Kalidas made a motion to nominate Greg Eckley to the Board. Motion was seconded by Mary Helenius and carried by the Board.

Nomination of Ron Sklaver was tabled until the regularly scheduled April 2014 meeting.

Form 990 was approved via electronic vote previous to the March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The board formed two fact-finding committees to better align the direction of FACE and its relationship with Quest as the management company.

- Possibility of being absorbed by or in collaboration with another entity:
   Mary Helenius (Head of committee)
   Carolyn Hodges
   Kavita Kalidas
- 2) Analyzing fee for services for FACE to Exist as is with Quest, Inc.as the Management Company:
   Brenda Connolly (Head of Committee)

**Kelly Curington** 

#### Kristin Bold

Each committee will be responsible for researching and presenting options at the next meeting. Committee members are urged to do their due diligence but have a sense of urgency as the fiscal year comes to an end on June 30, 2014.

Brenda Connolly will send the directors the sunshine law provisions on fact finding committees.

Karenne Levy will provide Brenda Connolly a breakdown of each component currently provided by the different departments at Quest, Inc.

Brenda Connolly suggested to Carrie Walker to consider adding more people to the Board that are residents of Pasco County.

Travis from IBM stated he has been working with Tiffiany Lassin and Kendra Presley-VanHouten about possible grants and community outreach that could help support FACE. He indicated that more information will be provided at the next meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for April 10, 2014 at 3:30 pm and will be held at the FACE Pasco Campus.

Motion to adjourn was made by Kavita Kalidas at 4:59 pm. Motion was seconded by Kristin Bold and carried by the board.

Brenda	Connolly	-Board	Chair

## Florida Autism Center of Excellence, Inc. Minutes of the Board of Directors Special Meeting April 3, 2014

The Board of Directors of the Florida Autism Center of Excellence, Inc. held a regular meeting at 3:30 PM on April 3, 2014 at the Pasco Campus of FACE located on Chancey Road in Zephyrhills, FL. Board Members in attendance include: Brenda Connolly, Mary Helenius; Carolyn Hodges, Greg Eckley, Kristin Bold and Daniel Burgess (telephonically). Also in attendance John Gill, President/CEO of Quest, Inc. Karenne Levy, Chief Operating Officer of Quest, Inc., Todd Thrasher Chief Financial Officer, Ellen Manning Vice President of Human Resources of Quest, Inc., Richanne Tuccolo Administrative Services Manager of Quest Inc., Tiffiany Lassin Interim Director of FACE Hillsborough Carrie Walker Director of FACE Pasco, Nancy Scowcroft . Faculty in attendance include: Annie Russell, Sonia Harrell, Barbara King, Lori Edgar, Claire Stanford, and Amy Quesenberry.

A quorum was established. Meeting was called to order by Brenda Connolly at 3:36 pm.

Public notification was accomplished through posting notices on both the office door and front office door on both the Hillsborough and Pasco campuses as well as on the bulletin boards in the school conference room and in the hallway towards the front of the school.

Motion to approve the due dates checklist for March 2014 was made by Carolyn Hodges, seconded by Mary Helenius and carried by the board.

Brenda informed the Board that Quest, Inc. sent a letter to terminate the lease with the Agape Baptist church on 03/31/2014.

John Gill stated the situation with FACE Pasco is not as simple as it appears. Quest is committed to the school and has invested finances and resources. Quest is not saying the school should close, Quest cannot close the school, however we are saying in its current design it is not sustainable. Pasco County Public Schools ESE Specialist did not provide the student information requested. Quest was willing to do a mail out for all ESE and pay for it but was not able to obtain a list of demographics from the district. We could not reach the 38 students needed to become sustainable. Quest committed to the school for a year and we have remained committed for the year there is no management fee. The school needs to be embraced by the board and the community. Pasco will need the help of the school district. This is a partnership and Quest is asking the board to help make this work.

Board discussed starting a separate Board consisting of Pasco residents.

While they agree that having a sister school in Pasco County is a "great concept", Board members expressed concerns about the schools future, stating that they were unsure Pasco would be able to financially sustain on its own.

Brenda Connolly presented some options to consider for the Board better align the direction of FACE.

- 1) Orchestrate a merger of both FACE Hillsborough and FACE Pasco locations.
- 2) FACE Pasco partner with a different school
- 3) Become a self-managed entity with a separate Pasco Board.
- 4) Research the possibility of becoming a private school and being funded through McKay
  Scholarship.
  - 5) Remain an independent charter school and hire a new management company.

Mary Helenius presented information obtained within her fact finding committee about Pepin Academy and Academy at the Farm. Stating that, Peppin might be a good school to approach with the possibility of a merger.

The Board asked Todd Thrasher to develop recommendations as to where costs can be cut. Quest provided the Board with a list of services currently provided in which we could entertain the possibility of doing a fee for service contract.

Nancy Scowcroft states that State Law prohibits the school from operating in the red. If FACE Pasco wanted to remain a charter school the district would require a written financial recovery plan for approval. Ms. Scowcroft encouraged the Board and the parents to work together and develop a plan to sustain the school.

Mary Helenius made a motion to have the Board explore finding a consultant to help clarify the current options. Motion however was tabled.

Motion to nominate Ron Sklaver was made by Kristin Bold, seconded by Mary Helenius and carried by the Board.

John Gill stated that he would need to research if Quest could continue to fund the shortfall and would deliver a decision next week.

Evaluations have been compiled for both schools. They will be available at the next regularly scheduled board meeting.

Mary Help of Christians (MHC) lease addendum for Hillsborough was approved with the change of specifically including the garden in Item # 3. Quest has engaged a real estate company to start looking for a new location for FACE Hillsborough.

Greg Eckley volunteered to start putting together a list of fundraising ideas.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 7th at 3:30 pm and will be held at the FACE Hillsborough Campus.

	Motion to adjourn was made by Kristin Bold at 5:42 pm. Motion was seconded by Carolyn Hodges and carried by the board.			
	Brenda Connolly-Board Chair	:		
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## Florida Autism Center of Excellence, Inc. Minutes of the Board of Directors Special Meeting April 24, 2014

The Board of Directors of the Florida Autism Center of Excellence, Inc. held a Special Meeting at 5:00 PM on April 24, 2014 at the Hillsborough Campus of FACE located on Chelsea Street in Tampa, FL. Board Members in attendance include: Brenda Connolly, Kelly Curington, Carolyn Hodges, Greg Eckley, Kristin Bold, Kavita Kalidas, and Mary Helenius (telephonically), and Daniel Burgess (telephonically). Also in attendance Richanne Tuccolo Administrative Services Manager of Quest Inc., John Enos Director of Risk Management of Quest, Inc., Tiffiany Lassin Interim Director of FACE Hillsborough Carrie Walker Director of FACE Pasco (telephonically), Nancy Scowcroft Pasco County School District . Faculty in attendance include: Sonia Harrell, Gloria DeCoursey, Tabitha Chapman, Meaghan Windisch, Claire Stanford, and Amanda Knox.

A quorum was established. Meeting was called to order by Brenda Connolly at 5:01 pm.

Public notification was accomplished through posting notices on both the office door and front office door on both the Hillsborough and Pasco campuses as well as on the bulletin boards in the school conference room and in the hallway towards the front of the school.

Brenda Connolly asked that everyone put emotions aside and press the "reset button." Stating we need to find a solution.

Jose and Angie Suarez from Hope Youth Ranch gave a brief background and introduction of the school which opened in 2004. In 2009 Hope Youth Ranch expanded their scope to include students on the mid to high functioning range of the autism spectrum. Hope Youth Ranch is a private School in Pasco County but it does not currently serve children in Pre-K or Kindergarten as that age bracket is not eligible for the McKay Scholarship Funding. (Children have to be 5 years of age and have had at least 2 years in a public school setting to qualify). There are currently two students enrolled in Pre-K at FACE Pasco that will need to attend one more year of Pre-K first. Hope Youth Ranch would not be able to continue the Charter as they are a private Christian School. They do not currently use ABA therapy, but are willing to absorb staff and practices that already are in place at FACE Pasco. While they do not currently serve the lower end range of the autism spectrum they are willing to learn. They are classified as a non-denominational Christian School, they do not push religion on the children, students are required to attend chapel once per week, and would be taught using the ACE curriculum. Classrooms are currently at a 1 teacher: 4 student ratio.

Brenda Connolly presented the FACE Pasco parents of the two Pre-K students with an option of possibly transferring to the Hillsborough location until eligible for McKay funding.

Myra Chavris from Esther Schools also presented information about their Private Christian School. Stating if chosen they would like to make the transition as least painful as possible and would keep as many of the staff as they could. While they are also McKay funded they would be

willing to try to accommodate the Pre-K students, but it would be private pay tuition for the parents. Esther School is a Christian non-denominational school that requires that the students attend chapel once per week and also teach using the ACE curriculum. Class rooms are currently at a 2 teachers: 10 student ratio.

Parents expressed concerns regarding the lack of notification about the schools current financial situation Kelly Curington reminded them that all meetings have been open to the public. Brenda Connolly added that they have discussed the short falls and financial struggles regarding Pasco at these meetings.

Nancy Scowcroft stated that once a charter is in effect it is good for 5 years unless the Board of Directors chooses to terminate. Quest, Inc. cannot make the decision to terminate the Charter as that decision rests solely with the Board, not Quest, Inc. She also added that she does not think that FACE would be a financially viable school even at 40 students. Nancy Scowcroft added that if the school does dissolve its charter she will ensure that all records are secured and transferred appropriately. She committed to helping parents locate the best placement for their children.

Brenda Connolly made a motion for the Board to provide non-disclosure paperwork and requested financial paperwork to both schools for review. Motion was seconded by Kavita Kalidas and carried by the board.

Brenda Connolly made a motion to create a fact finding committee to review the proposals that the schools have to offer. Motion was seconded by Kavita Kalidas and carried by the Board.

#### Committee will consist of:

- Carolyn Hodges
- Chris Dester
- John Maduko
- Rachel Lare
- Amy Carlucci

Brenda Connolly stated that the Charter has not been dissolved.

The next meeting is scheduled for May 7th at 3:30 pm and will be held at the FACE Pasco Campus.

Motion to adjourn was made by Brenda Connolly at 7:30 pm. Motion was seconded by Carolyn Hodges and carried by the board.

Brenda	Connolly-Board Chair	