



# VILLAGE OF KEY BISCAYNE

## *Village Council*

Robert L. Vernon, *Mayor*  
Jorge E. Mendia, *Vice Mayor*  
Michael Davey  
Enrique Garcia  
Steve Liedman  
Thomas Thornton  
Patricia Weinman

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 3, 2008  
TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Village Council  
FROM: Councilmember Patricia Woodson Weinman  
RE: Charter High School

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "PW", is written over the "TO:" line of the memorandum.

In order to provide for a thorough public discussion and careful development of a proposed model for a Key Biscayne Municipal Charter High School which accurately reflects the needs of students and the larger community, I recommend that we adopt the attached revised public meeting schedule with one change: That a public meeting be held in October 2008 with the workshops to begin in January. Consultants have indicated availability on the new dates. This schedule enables us to hold public meetings when the largest population is present on the Key and is designed to result in a proposed business plan by the end of this school year. The public workshops prior to January 2009 are informational.

Included is also a motion to create a High School Citizen Advisory Board using guidelines provided by our consultants. A citizen board is vital to support the public planning process to begin in January/February. In order to accommodate two readings of this ordinance, appointment of the Board by the new Council and to give them adequate time to organize for January events, first reading would take place on September 23rd.

Finally, in recognition of the time required for a community wide public planning process, and the time necessary to create the high quality school we expect for our children, the charter application would be put on hold until the proposal and Citizen Board recommendation is complete. The charter application would be reconsidered for submission by the August 1, 2009 deadline, prior to Council summer recess.

- Motion: The Village Council adopts the attached revised schedule for public planning.
- Motion: The Council will create the High School Citizen Advisory Board as recommended by our consultant with a first reading on September 23rd, second reading on October 14 and appointment on November 18th.
- Motion: The Council instructs the Manager to inform the School Board of our intention to suspend the current charter school application, in order to provide a community wide planning process. Resubmission of the charter application will be considered by Council before summer recess 2009.

**EDUCATIONAL PLANNING AND CHARTER SCHOOL CONSULTING SERVICES**

**Proposed REVISED Schedule and Time Chart – September 3, 2008**



TASK #	CATEGORY	TASKS	Date	PRIMARY AUDIENCE	DESCRIPTION OF SERVICE
1	Visioning	WORKSHOP 1: EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHY	Oct 2008	All stakeholders	Village-wide workshop designed to introduce and obtain stakeholders feedback regarding the applicability of national and international educational best practice to Key Biscayne
2	Educational Planning	WORKSHOP 2: EDUCATIONAL MODELS	Oct 2008	All stakeholders	This workshop features descriptions of 6-7 major high school programmatic models from around the U.S. with highlights of best practices and results common to each. Activities will focus on helping participants understand how these models would or could fit with the Key Biscayne community and their desire for a successful high school. The workshop will culminate with participants selecting preference features.
3	Educational Planning	WORKSHOP 3: BLINK EXERCISE	Oct 2008	As large a community participation as possible. This could be done over 2 or 3 sessions if necessary.	This exercise is geared to understanding, at a very personal level, the extent to which school stakeholders are willing to be innovative in the development of the new school.
4.	Educational Planning for Charter Schools	WORKSHPH 4: PROGRAM FEASIBILITY	Nov 2008	Charter School Sub-Committee plus small contingent of educators (about 20)	This workshop will focus on selecting preferred programmatic components and analyzing their feasibility from an academic, social, logistical and financial perspective. Activities will be centered around feedback and input regarding workability and integration of the key components. The culmination will include a workable draft from which to build the Key Biscayne High School learning and operations model.

5	Educational Planning	WORKSHOP 5: SIGNATURE	Nov 2008	Charter School Sub-Committee plus small, representative group of community stakeholders	This will enable the planning team to understand the ethos of the community which will provide guidance for how best to represent the school signature regardless of which facility the school eventually occupies
6	Charter School Study	WORKSHOP 6: CHARTER SCHOOLS IN FLORIDA AND MIAMI- DADE COUNTY	Nov 2008	All stakeholders	Village-wide workshop designed to educate all stakeholders regarding Charter Schools in the State and in Miami-Dade County. To be conducted by Lisa Mulhall from In-Rem Solutions.
7	Educational Planning	CHARTER SCHOOL FEASIBILITY REPORT	Jan 2009	FNI Deliverable: to be reviewed by a subset of knowledgeable volunteers within the larger stakeholder community and approved by the Council	The results of the Educational Planning work will be captured in the form of a Charter School Feasibility Report. This will provide the information needed for the Village of Key Biscayne to decide whether to proceed with the charter school. It will also enable the Village to select an educational model, have a good sense of potential sites for the school and the financial implications of the school. This report will conclude FNI's work, however a follow-up contract with FNI or another suitable firm will be needed to take the project into the implementation phase which will answer more detailed questions and also provide execution strategies.