APPROVED

Research Triangle High School

Minutes

Monthly RTHS Board Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday May 17, 2023 at 5:30 PM

Location
In Person at RTHS - 3106 East, NC-54, Durham, NC 27709

Directors Present
A. Tobien (remote), C. Coia (remote), D. Requena (remote), E. Cunningham, G. Rodgers, J. Corn (remote), M. Babb (remote), S. Carty Vetere (remote), S. Hunter (remote)

Directors Absent
D. Milne James, S. Rivers-Kobler

Directors who arrived after the meeting opened
J. Corn

Guests Present
A. Griffin (remote), Allen (remote), B. Mitchell (remote), Bryan Setser, C. Elliott, Caroline Hill (remote), E. Balazs (remote), Eleanor Stevenson (remote), Jeffj (remote), Jessica Stokes (remote), John Paul, Kitty (remote), Maddie, Mark Stevenson, S. Jones, S. Kaufman (remote), Sarah (remote), Sarah Anderle (remote), Shanon Schuster (remote), T. Mills-Silver (remote), akeene (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

C. Coia called a meeting of the board of directors of Research Triangle High School to order on Wednesday May 17, 2023 at 5:32 PM.

II. Approve Board Minutes

A. Board Meeting Minutes

S. Carty Vetere made a motion to approve the minutes from Monthly RTHS Board Meeting on 04-19-23.
G. Rodgers seconded the motion.
Correction to John Paul's name from PJ.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

S. Carty Vetere	Aye
M. Babb	Aye
C. Coia	Aye
J. Corn	Absent
G. Rodgers	Aye
S. Rivers-Kobler	Absent
S. Hunter	Abstain
A. Tobien	Aye
E. Cunningham	Aye
D. Requena	Aye
D. Milne James	Absent

III. Public Comments

A. Open to all stakeholders (parents, staff, other)

C. Valente - concerns about the teaching methodology changes and the charter.

M. Stevenson - board to consider public comments without requirement for advance notice, consideration for assessment by community like an annual survey, and security/safety budget transparency.
J. Corn arrived.

B. Parent Advisory Committee

A. Rhodes on behalf of the Parent Advisory Committee (PAC) - thanked the board for response to the letter, asking for a summary on behalf of transparency of the process for update on transition and building back community.

Asking that one of the Setser focus group to include the PAC asking to be a part of it, and for the framework to be made public.

Expressed concern about the lack of communication from the school about the sudden departure of Ms. Boyd, a science teacher, with only 3 weeks of school left.

Requested to know who are the board members that are also parents of students - S.Carty Vetere (parent of sophomore) and A. Tobien (parent of freshmen) self identified themselves at the meeting.

IV. DEIB+ Audit

A. Provide Scope, Consulting Firm Identified & Vote

Setser group selected. The executive committee recommends Setser group for ~$15K which is close to projected budget.
C. Coia made a motion to approve Setser group contract for DEIB+ Audit.
G. Rodgers seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

D. Requena	Aye
S. Rivers-Kobler	Absent
S. Hunter	Aye
M. Babb	Aye
C. Coia	Aye
J. Corn	Aye
D. Milne James	Absent
A. Tobien	Aye
E. Cunningham	Aye
G. Rodgers	Aye
S. Carty Vetere	Aye

B. Introduce Consulting Group

Mr. Setser introduced his family background on education, he resides in Durham and works often at RTP. The return from pandemic is difficult and high expectations. He introduced his team at this Board meeting and highlighted the variety on perspectives.

Caroline Hill, dialing from DC, culture assessments and redesign. The work is in 3 phases to collect data, in-person interview, collect data, report, roadmap 90 day and annual planning:

- Phase 1 - Notice RTHS Culture. May15-19
- Phase 2 - Empathize with the RTHS Community, May23-Jun9
- Phase 3 - RTHS Roadmap Report, Jun 19-28

The 90 days starts when school starts, but it also includes pre-planning.
Community involvement in July.

Community members selection - random.

Details in attached document to the agenda.

V. Executive Director's Report

A. Director & Development Update

C. Elliot presented on this topic, and details in attached document to the agenda.

- 20May23 - Freshmen orientation and Carnival
- James Gray - Development consultant for RTHS. He is well connected in Durham, partnerships non-cash ways, putting RTHS on the map, and he is developing plans expected to come to the Board next month.

Juniors: Lottery used to chose Juniors, the process ran the same way as for freshmen, with the difference that looking to see if entering as Jr to RTHS can graduate in 2 year time frame. For this upcoming year, planning to bringing 5 juniors - typically not done in past, had a preview day and invited to orientation day mainly for registration.

B. Academic Excellence Update

C. Elliot presented on this topic, and details in document attached to agenda.

Various testing:

- just finished, ongoing or upcoming
- MAP, AP testing, EOC
- EOC grading presented and comparisons of grades 3, 4, 5 RTHS vs Durham Schools vs State. RTHS is typically outperforming.

AP testing participation comparison to previous years - not available yet, testing is ongoing.

VI. Governance

A. By-laws Amendment

S. Carty Vetere - presented on the update to the bylaws. The details are on the documents attached to agenda.

Heads up that by-laws update is coming for vote at the next Board meeting.

B. Board Member Recruiting

S. Carty Vetere - presented on the Board member recruitment update, the details are on the document attached to agenda. A few candidates to be pursued for interest and fit.

C. Non-Voting Members

S. Carty Vetere - presented proposal to invite a student and a teacher to be Ad hoc members to the Board for a 1 year term.

C. Coia made a motion to proposal to bring a student and a teacher as Ad hoc member to the Board.
G. Rodgers seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

S. Carty Vetere	Aye
A. Tobien	Aye
D. Requena	Aye
S. Rivers-Kobler	Absent
D. Milne James	Absent
C. Coia	Aye
E. Cunningham	Aye
M. Babb	Aye
G. Rodgers	Aye
J. Corn	Aye
S. Hunter	Aye

VII. Other Business Matters

A. Special Education Overview

S. Jones - presented Special Education Overview:

- IEP - medical
- 504 - expected to master the rigor of classes.
- RCR - EC teacher in the classroom, inclusion.
- CA - Curriculum Assistance class - work on executive function skill
- Accommodations - do not change what the student is expected to master.

The details are on the document attached to agenda.

RTHS: 35 - IEP, 75- 504

B. Executive Session

G. Rodgers made a motion to move to executive session for Personnel Matters & Safety Expenditure.
E. Cunningham seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

S. Rivers-Kobler	Absent
E. Cunningham	Aye
S. Carty Vetere	Aye
C. Coia	Aye
J. Corn	Aye
S. Hunter	Aye
A. Tobien	Aye
D. Milne James	Absent
G. Rodgers	Aye
D. Requena	Aye
M. Babb	Aye

VIII. Executive Session - Personnel Matters & Safety Expenditure

A. Updates

G. Rodgers made a motion to exit executive session.
S. Hunter seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

IX. Safety Expenditure

A. Vote on Safety Expenditure

A. Tobien made a motion to approve safety expenditure for the school.
M. Babb seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

G. Rodgers	Aye
A. Tobien	Aye
J. Corn	Aye
S. Rivers-Kobler	Absent
S. Hunter	Aye
E. Cunningham	Aye
D. Requena	Aye
M. Babb	Aye
D. Milne James	Absent
S. Carty Vetere	Aye
C. Coia	Aye

B. Finance Update

B.Mitchell presented financial update, details on document attached to the agenda.

- Current Debt to Service Coverage Ratio 1.41

- Few expenditures budgeted before end of the year, which leaves the Debt to Service Coverage Ratio at or above 1.2
- The budget for next school year is to continue the AP bonuses.

S. Hunter made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
G. Rodgers seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

X. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
A. Tobien