APPROVED

Reach Cyber Charter School Board of Trustees

Minutes

Reach Cyber Charter School

Date and Time
Wednesday February 21, 2024 at 9:00 AM

Location
750 E Park Drive, Suite 204
Harrisburg, PA 17111

A zoom link will be posted on this page on the day of the board meeting for those attending virtually.

Trustees Present
Anthony Alexander (remote), David Taylor (remote), Gail Hawkins Bush, Leigh Kraemer-Naser (remote), Marcella Arline (remote), Matthew Ryan (remote), Paul Donecker (remote)

Trustees Absent
None

Guests Present
Alex Lewis (remote), Alicia Hinshaw, Andy Gribbin, April Kretchman (remote), Brandie Karpew, Cody Smith, Dan Daley (remote), Danielle Marsciano (remote), Devin Meza-Rushanan, Gregory McCurdy, JD Smith, Jane Swan, Katherine Rutkowski, Kelley McConnell, LeeAnn Ritchie, Lisa Blickley (remote), Michael Garman, Michael Hinshaw (remote), Patricia Hennessy (remote), Radelle Fritz, Ryan Flis (remote), Scott Shedd, Scott Stuccio, Stephanie Bost (remote), Stephanie Lane

I. Opening Items

A. Roll Call

B. Call the Meeting to Order

David Taylor called a meeting of the board of trustees of Reach Cyber Charter School Board of Trustees to order on Wednesday Feb 21, 2024 at 9:00 AM.

II. Public Comment

A. Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public at this time.

III. Routine Business

A. Approval of Agenda

David Taylor, Board President, asked the board to review the agenda distributed prior to the meeting and asked if any changes were needed. There were no changes needed at this time.
Marcella Arline made a motion to approve the agenda.
Paul Donecker seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

IV. Oral Reports

A. CEO's Report

Mrs. Swan reviewed the current enrollment numbers for the school noting trends in enrollment. Current enrollment stands at 6,440 students. The current enrollment demographics are 51% White, 23% Black or African American, 16% Hispanic, and 10 other.

B. Human Resources Update

Staffing Report: Michael Garman, Director of Human Resources, reviewed current staffing levels with the Board highlighting the authorized complement of 919 and the 871 current staff members of which 83% are 10-month staff. There have been 118 new hires and 37 departures since the beginning of the school year.

C. Financial Report

Karen Yeselavage, Director of Finance, reviewed the school’s financial statements with the Board. She reviewed the revenue and expense statements, advising on changes since the previous months’ statements. Ms. Yeselavage further reviewed with the Board the school’s balance sheet and current forecast.

In addition, Ms. Yeselavage provided an update on the status of the school's independent audit. The audit will be concluded ahead of schedule and should be ready for review at next month's board meetin.

V. Consent Items

A. Approval of Consent Items

Mr. Taylor asked if there were any items from the Consent Items that should be moved to Action Items for discussion or tabled. No changes were noted.

- Approval of Minutes from the January 17, 2024, Board Meeting
- Approval of Staffing Report
- Approval of LinkedIn Recruiter/ Career Package

Marcella Arline made a motion to approve the consent items and the minutes from Reach Cyber Charter School on 01-17-24.
Matthew Ryan seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

VI. Action Items

A. Approval of Trustees

Mr. Taylor advised the Board that two Board member's term was up for renewal at this meeting, Leigh Ann Naser and Matt Ryan. Both were asked if they were interested in renewing their term on the Board, which both confirmed. Brief discussion was held on the renewal of the terms, and fellow Board members indicated their support and appreciation for their continued service.
Paul Donecker made a motion to approve Leigh Anne Naser and Matt Ryan for an additional board term.
Anthony Alexander seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

B. Updates to Dual Enrollment Program

Cody Smith, High School Principal, proposed the addition of the phrase "6 college credits per school year" to the current Dual Enrollment Program Policy to clarify the number of credits the school would provide tuition for. Ms. Naser suggested that additional phrasing be included stating that those credits "include any required 09 classes full or in part."
Gail Hawkins Bush made a motion to approve the updates to the Dual Enrollment Policy including the language suggested by Ms. Naser.
Leigh Kraemer-Naser seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

C.

Approval of Addendum to Barbizon Agreement

JD Smith, Director of Career Readiness, requested approval of an addendum to the current agreement with Barbizon. Due to the popularity of the existing program, Mr. Smith requested to expand the program to Middle School aged participants and to add an additional level to the high school program.
Gail Hawkins Bush made a motion to approve the addendum to the agreement with Barbizon.
Marcella Arline seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

D. Approval of Agreement with Level Up Beauty Academy

Mr. Smith requested approval for an agreement with Level Up Beauty Academy which would provide opportunities in cosmetology through an industry partner career mentorship for students that want to learn more about certain fields including Lashes and/or Make-up Essentials.
Marcella Arline made a motion to approve the agreement with Level Up Beauty Academy.
Anthony Alexander seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

VII. Information Items

A. Government Affairs Update

Ms. Karpew shared an update on recent government affairs. She specifically highlighted. the recent annual budget address by Governor Josh Shapiro and its potential impact on the school.

B. Academic Update

Members of the Academic staff shared an update of the academic highlights so far in the 2023-24 school year.

- Dr. Kelly McConnell shared an information on the school's benchmark growth and school wide celebrations.
- Radelle Fritz, Director of Family Services, shared celebrations and accomplishments from the Family Mentor team.
- Principals Cody Smith, Alicia Swope, and Devin Meza-Rushanan shared updates from the high school, middle school, and elementary school respectively.
- Katherine Rutkowski, JD Smith, and Stephanie Lane shared updates related to the math initiative, literacy gains, career readiness and STEM opportunities.

C. STEM Update

Stephanie Lane, Director of STEM, provided an update specific to the Hydroponics Program, including the number of Rise Garden kits currently with staff and students and the feedback received from all.

VIII. Strategic Planning

A. Approval of Invoice for Rise Gardens

Stephanie Lane requested approval for an invoice from Rise Gardens that would supply additional new kits to more students and provide seeds for existing owners.
Paul Donecker made a motion to approve the invoice from Rise Gardens.
Marcella Arline seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

IX. Executive Session

A. Executive Session

The Board entered into an Executive Session at 9:58 a.m.

The Board cited the following for
entering into the Executive Session: Pursuant to 65 Pa. C.S. §§ 708(a)(1) – to discuss any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee and 65 Pa. C.S. §§ 708(a)(5) – To review and discuss agency business
which, if conducted in public, would violate a lawful privilege or lead to the disclosure of information or confidentiality protected by law.

Board members present were: David Taylor, Paul Donecker, Marcella Arline, Matt Ryan, Gail Hawkins Bush, and Anthony Alexander. Guests present at the request of the Board were: Jane Swan and Mike Garman. All others left the meeting at this time.

No action was taken during Executive Session..

There being no further discussion and upon a motion being made, seconded and confirmed via roll call vote of all Board members present, the Board resumed Open Session at 10:12 a.m.
Marcella Arline made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Paul Donecker seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** 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 10:12 AM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Brandie Karpew