APPROVED

Rochester Academy Charter School

Minutes

Board Meeting

Date and Time
Friday September 15, 2017 at 5:30 PM

Location
Genesee Building

Trustees Present
D. Calder, J. Santos, K. Crawford, M. Gedemenli, M. Guler, W. Middleton, Y. Bilgic

Trustees Absent
None

Guests Present
D. Ozcan, J. Doyle, M. Demirtas

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance and Guests

B. Call the Meeting to Order

M. Gedemenli called a meeting of the board of trustees of Rochester Academy Charter School to order on Friday Sep 15, 2017 at 5:47 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

J. Santos made a motion to approve minutes from the Board Meeting on 08-12-17 Board Meeting on 08-12-17.
M. Guler seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Housekeeping

A. Board meeting Norms

Board meeting documents should be posted at least a week prior to the meetings on Fridays.

III. Academic Excellence

A. Director's Report

Student Enrollment:
6th: 58
7th: 70
8th: 61
9th: 72
10th: 63
11th: 51
12th: 45
420 Total

200 students on the waiting list
Middle School outperformed the RCSD in all subject areas.

ELA7MATH7ELA8MATH8
RACS14%11%17%4%
RCSD7%5%9%1%
Difference7%6%8%3%
ELA 7 Scores: RACS 14%; RCSD 7%, State 42%, we are about middle range compared to other charter schools.

MATH 7 Scores: RACS 11%; RCSD 5% State 54%, we are in the upper half of charter schools.

ELA 8 Scores: RACS 17%; RCSD 9% State 46%, we are in the upper half of charter schools.

MATH 8 Scores; RACS 4%; RCSD 1% State 22%, we are about middle range compared to other charter schools.

These data are pretty close to where we predicted we would be based on practice tests; students are moving upwards, but not as fast as they need to be; looking at students who

were with us from 7th to 8th grade, most grew one year level, but this was not enough to bring them up to proficiency.
Action Plans for Math 8:
Changed the instructional model for 2017-2018.
Classes leveled by ability.
Personnel change occurred.
Focus on interventions that change trajectory.

Action Plans for ELA:
Changed the instructional model for 2017-2018.
Literacy classes are decided by need to provide targeted intervention.
SRI is used as a universal screen.
High School and Middle School teachers will look at the same data.
Focus on interventions that change trajectory.

We also changed the leadership model at the Middle School so that the Principal can solely focus on improving the quality of teaching and learning in the classroom. The Assistant Principal will be responsible for discipline, transportation, food and building management related tasks.
Various Board members expressed concern over the gap between student achievement and state averages.
Academic excellence committee will schedule a meeting and this will be a major topic of discussion.
In Cohort Regents exams, our students are outperforming not only the City but also the State with more 90% passing rate in all areas. Annual Regents exams results are overall good, but there is a need for improvement in U.S. History and Physics.
Graduation Rates are high: 53 out of 54 graduated as of August. Overall graduation rate is 92% for 2016-17 school year: 31% graduated with Advanced Regents Diploma; 65% with Regents Diploma: and 4% with Local Diploma.

B. Bonus

Only ELA 8 Team exceeded the RCSD by the threshold required for 50% of bonus metric, ELA 7 came close (7%, the threshold is 8%), but didn't hit the mark. The board discussed if we should award the bonus for those teachers who were close to the target. The Board expressed some concern over the fact that we have revised the bonus structure downwards several times already and decided not to give the bonus if the goal was not met.

C. Staff Dress Policy Revision

Change and clarification in wording is recommended on the Staff Dress Policy. Governance Committee will review and make a recommendation for the October Meeting.

D.

Attendance Policy Revision

Revision to the attendance policy is recommended.
Governance Committee will review and bring it to October board meeting.

IV. Community Outreach/Development

A. PR report

PR Report from Ms. Zehra was presented.

V. Finance, Facilities & Audit

A. RACS Environmental Surveys and Plan

Federal Requirements for Environmental Inspection (especially for Asbestos) are presented.
Inspections have been arranged by RACS for both middle and high schools.
Radon Tests also are being done.

B. Approved Financial Policy Review per Uniform Guidance

Review of Purchasing Policy was presented. Policy conforms to Federal Requirements.

C. Financials

Total Revenues are $1,7 Million which is at %29 of $5,8 Million.
Total Expenses are $400K which is at %7 of $5,8 Million.
Difference (as of previous month) is $1,3 Million.

Assets
$2.5 Million Building
$500K Building Equipment
$600K Cash (As of 8/30)
$1 Million Receivable (Next month District)
Total Assets $4,6 Million
Long Term Liabilities:
$2 Million Building
Short Term Liabilities:
$300K Retirement
Total Liabilities are $2.3 Million.

VI. Governance

A. CEO Evaluation

It is not fully completed. Some details need to be taken care.
Board members will contact Joann by next board meeting if they are interested in attending.

B. Follow Up From the Retreat

Governance Committee is following up on various items from the board retreat.

C. Board Professional Development

D. Board Development

The information is presented as an attachment.

VII. Other Business

A. Staff Hire/Termination Approvals

Updated information is presented on current faculty, new hires, terminations, resignations, and format change was made from last year as requested by the board from our last meeting.
M. Guler made a motion to approve list of new hires and pay scale for current academic year.
J. Santos seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

VIII. 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 7:51 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
W. Middleton