APPROVED

Rochester Academy Charter School

Minutes

Academic Excellence Committee Meeting

Date and Time
Tuesday April 21, 2026 at 1:15 PM

Committee Members Present
J. Doyle (remote), M. Demirtas (remote), S. Al (remote), W. Middleton (remote)

Committee Members Absent
None

Guests Present
C. Belfield (remote), R. Roberts-Grant (remote), S. Martina (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

S. Al called a meeting of the Academic Excellence Committee of Rochester Academy Charter School to order on Tuesday Apr 21, 2026 at 1:20 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

M. Demirtas made a motion to approve the minutes from Academic Excellence Committee Meeting on 03-23-26.
W. Middleton seconded the motion.
The committee **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Academic Excellence

A. Review Progress on WIG

Mrs. Belfield reported that elementary attendance was on the rise with a slightly lower percentage of students finishing i-Ready during a 4-day week, and TPTs increased to 71%. Mrs. Roberts-Grant presented middle school data showing consistent attendance in high 90s, with 6th grade maintaining 94% behavior scores and improvements in 7th grade. Dr. Martina provided updates on high school academics, noting improvements in various metrics but with some variations due to factors like college visits affecting senior attendance. He presented academic performance data showing improvements across all grade levels from the second to third quarter, with the largest gains seen in senior classes at 22% improvement. The fail rate analysis revealed progress toward aligning with high-performing charter schools, though some courses still exceed the target 15% fail rate.

B. Professional Development Plan

Mrs. Doyle discussed the professional development plan, which aims to align with new minimum passing rate requirements of 45% following the renewal report, and outlined plans for an Ed Camp-style teacher-led professional development model featuring self-selected courses.
She presented plans for professional development, highlighting goals to build data-driven instruction, standardize new teacher training, and implement project-based learning. She shared results from a teacher survey indicating preferences for short, hands-on learning sessions led by fellow teachers rather than external presenters, with limited interest in cross-grade level collaboration.
The meeting focused on professional development plans for teachers and staff, with Mrs. Doyle outlining a comprehensive approach including training for teaching assistants, updated curriculum implementation, and a new teacher mentoring program based on adult learning theory.

C. Approve Academic Calendar

The group discussed the instructional calendar, deciding to maintain 180 student instructional days while allowing flexibility for three teacher development days, and noted that March 10th will be a holiday for both students and staff due to the Ramadan holiday.

III. 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 2:15 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
M. Demirtas