



Rochester Academy Charter School

Minutes

Board Meeting

Date and Time

Friday April 15, 2016 at 6:00 PM

Location

Portland

Trustees Present

D. Calder, M. Gedemenli, M. Guler, W. Middleton, Y. Bilgic

Trustees Absent

G. Aktas, J. Santos

Guests Present

D. Ozcan, 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 Apr 15, 2016 at 6:23 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

M. Guler made a motion to approve minutes from the Board Meeting on 03-18-16 Board Meeting on 03-18-16.

D. Calder seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Academic Excellence

A. Director's Report

Current enrollment:

Lost four students: 1 from 7th, 3 from 9th.

We are still within the enrollment range we need to remain

126 Applications, 78 Accepted, 48 on the waiting list.

286 students will be returning Target for total enrollments is 360.

One 7th grade student opted out of Math Test and one 8th grade student opted out of the Math Test; giving us 98% (95% is expected)

100% of students took ELA.

B. Enrollment Policy Revision

Some discussion of process of notification and verification and followup; but no further revisions are being made at this time.

M. Guler made a motion to approve changes to enrollment process: clarification of back filling.

Y. Bilgic seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

III. Finance, Facilities & Audit

A. Finance and Facility Committee Report

We have received 78% of our entire budget.

We have expended 74% of our entire budget.

Total assets \$1.5 million.

Total liabilities \$251,632.

By 6/30/2016 we should have \$870,000 on hand.

Some minor changes to the budget, reallocating resources; no net impact on budget.

M. Guler made a motion to Accept finance committee recommendation to switch certain line items in the budget as presented in the budget revision document.

D. Calder seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

About \$344,588 capital improvements (computers and literacy program).

Rental Analysis

We had decided to spend \$900,000 in advance on the new building in order to have lower monthly payments, however an analysis of rentals for other schools suggests that this was not a fiscally sound decision; too many things that we will be responsible for If we let Terra Science and Education Foundation (the landlord) take responsibility for all improvements, the rent we will end up paying, though higher than the pay-in-advance option, is still close to the median of what other charter schools are paying in the area. The rent includes utilities.

Our attorneys have reviewed the offer and rents that are typically paid for buildings and have found the offer to be very favorable to RACS.

We have asked the landlord to build a gymnasium, and they are willing to do so, but our rent will be higher.

- 1) We need to find out what the increase to the rent will be before we commit.
- 2) We also need to know what future rent increases are likely to be before we commit.

Mahmut will find the answers to these questions before further deliberation.

M. Guler made a motion to approve Finance Committee recommendation to revise homeless student policy in accordance with NYS Title I Grant.

Y. Bilgic seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

IV. Governance

A. Governance Committee Report

Governance committee reviewed status of current board members.

Gungor and Yusuf will have expiring terms at the end of the school year and will need to be reappointed.

Members of each committee need to review their goals for the 2015-2016 School year as established at the August 2014 retreat.

Each committee needs to select one name for potential non-board member who can be trained to replace any board member as needed.

V. Community Outreach/Development

A. Community Outreach Committee Report

Mahmut checked into the necessity of creating a separate entity for major fundraising, it seems that for major campaigns this would be a very good idea.

Once we get our renewal, we need to start working on major fundraising; our longevity at that point will be a good selling point in fund raising.

VI. Other Business

A. Staffing

Hire of a new social media specialist.

M. Guler made a motion to approve the hire of the social media specialist.

D. Calder seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

VII. 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 7:32 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
W. Middleton