RLOACS Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes November 18, 2014 1398 Church Rd, Hardeeville, SC

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| Present: *Absent:* | Dr. Rob McBrayer, Chair; Anthony Altizer, Vice-Chair; Brandi Freeman, Secretary; Eunice Spilliards; Amleht Alston; Michelle Scott; Penny Daley; Dr. Karen Wicks, Executive Director; Les Wicks, Facilities Development  Sheree Darien, Treasurer; Pershawn Patterson |
| Venue  Royal Live Oaks Academy  Next Parent Meeting: January 22, 2015 |  |
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A quorum was present.

* **Old business:** 
  + **Open Meeting** - Chair

Meeting was called to order at 6:30. A motion was made to proceed with minutes by Brandi Freeman and seconded by Anthony Altizer, and the minutes were unanimously approved.

* + **Approval of Minutes of October 18, 2014 Board Meeting** – Secretary – A motion was made by Penny Daley and seconded by Michelle Scott to accept the minutes, and the minutes were unanimously accepted.
* **New business:** 
  + **RLOA Mission Statement** - The Chair read the complete mission statement.
  + **Finance Report for October 2014**- Bill Moser presented and discussed at length changes for September. A motion to approve the October Budget Report was made by Brandi Freeman and seconded by Michelle Scott. It was unanimously approved.
  + **Update on Building, Finance, and Architectural Work** – Presented by Les Wicks:
    - **Old Campus: Status of Approvals for Renovations and New Modulars:** The State Fire Marshall sent his report to Delisa Clark, Director of Office of School Facilities (OSF), stating that we passed the fire inspection. We continue to wait for final approval of new modulars and the cafeteria/music. We have requested that the district office seek to expedite the process.
    - **New Campus:** We await the results of the Feasibility Study to complete the application to the USDA for mortgage financing.
  + **School Updates -** Presented by Dr. Karen Wicks
* **Enrollment:** 546 at 11-14-14.
* **Weekly Data Meetings:** Dr. Wicks and Mr. Morse have been holding weekly data talks with teachers to go over instructional strategies that are working, what is not working, and what adjustments are being made to improve student performance. We have discussed specific interventions that are needed for individual students. These meetings have been extremely fruitful, as they have made teachers more reflective of their teaching practices, provided an opportunity for mentorship, and have informed the leadership team of professional development needs. As a result, we have engaged Dr. Terry Hitch, former principal in Beaufort County, to provide one-on-one and two-on-one mentorship of 6th, 7th, and 8th grade teachers and one 3rd grade teacher.
* **Federal Report Card Grade:** The Federal Report Card is attached. Our score was slightly improved from the previous school year, although the absolute rating is an F; the growth rating is Average.
* **SCPCSD Performance Framework:** The district requests that at least one Board member accompanies Dr. Wicks to the November 19th leaders meeting in Columbia to discuss the SCPCSD Performance Framework, which addresses academic, financial, and organizational performance. This Framework will be used to determine the health and viability of each charter school.
* **Staff:** We continue to have challenges with 6th grade teaching staff, which is being addressed through professional development and mentorship.
* **Old Campus: Status of Approvals for Renovations and New Modulars:** The State Fire Marshall sent his report to Delisa Clark, Director of Office of School Facilities (OSF), stating that we passed the fire inspection. We continue to wait for final approval of new modulars and the cafeteria/music. We have requested that the district office seek to expedite the process.
* **New Campus:** We await the results of the Feasibility Study to complete the application to the USDA for mortgage financing.
* **SC Public Charter School Alliance Conference:** The November conference consisted of excellent training resources. At the leaders meeting, Mary Carmichael, the Director of the Alliance, discussed the political landscape at the State Department of Education, the election of a pro-charter Superintendent of Education, and the departmental infighting occurring at the State Department of Education. Of particular concern are the many schools like us who are not receiving the budgeted revenue based on the new formula for poverty, ESOL, etc.
* **State Funding:** Superintendent Brazell has declined to provide interim funds at this time and has indicated that if funding based on the new formula has not been paid to the school by January he will determine how to assist us. In the meantime, we have requested a higher line of credit from Ameris Bank as a proactive step.
* **Classroom Libraries/School Supplies:** Mrs. Moss, our PBL/Literacy Coach, has successfully secured a $1,000 grant from the Hardeeville Wal-Mart for classroom libraries.
* **Bright Ideas Grants:** Six teachers received Bright Ideas grant awards totaling $4,570 for their proposals and will attend the lunch at Palmetto Electric on November 19th.
* **November newsletter** is attached.

* **Nomination –** Michelle Scott and Brandi Freeman tallied ballots for 2014-2015 School Board. Vicky Roberts, Sergio Nuno, Pershawn Patterson, and Brandi Freeman were voted to serve on the new Board.
* **Public Comment** – No public comment.
* **Executive Session**- No Executive Session was held.
* **Motion to Adjourn** – Motion to adjourn was made by Brandi Freeman at 7:38 and was seconded by Penny Daley. The motion was unanimously approved.