RLOACS Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes August 19, 2014

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| Present:   Absent: | Dr. Rob McBrayer, Chair; Anthony Altizer, Vice-Chair; Brandi Freeman, Secretary; Sheree Darien, Treasurer; Amleht Alston; Penny Daley; Pershawn Patterson; Michelle Scott; Dr. Karen Wicks, Executive Director; Les Wicks, Facilities Development  Eunice Spilliards |
| Venue  Royal Live Oaks Academy  Next Parent Meeting: September 25, 2014 |  |
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A quorum was present.

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

Meeting was called to order at 6:36.

* + Approval of Minutes of June 17, 2014 meeting – Secretary – A motion was made by Michelle Scott and seconded by Penny Daley 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 June 2014** - Bill Moser presented the June 2014 Budget Report and discussed all changes. A motion to accept the June Budget Report was made by Brandi Freeman and seconded by Pershawn Patterson, and the board unanimously approved it.
  + **Finance Report for July 2014** - Bill Moser presented the July 2014 Budget Report and discussed all changes. A motion to accept the July Budget Report was made by Brandi Freeman and seconded by Amleht Alston, and the board unanimously approved it.
  + **Update on Building, Finance, and Architectural Work** – Les Wicks, Facilities Management:

**Café/Music Room**

Today Delisa Clark, Director of Office of School Facilities, conducted an inspection. A few areas need fixing. We anticipate being ready for her return for final inspection in 6-7 days. Until we have the Certificate of Occupancy and the space has been readied for students, 7th-8th grade science classes are being held in the art room. The art and music teachers are pushing in to classrooms.

**Modular Buildings**

The 2 modular buildings will arrive tomorrow after school. Once the buildings are here, we anticipate 8-10 days to build decks, connect plumbing and electrical, and receive a Certificate of Occupancy. In the meantime, 9th and 10th grade teachers are team teaching so that 5th graders can be housed in the 9th grade building, the Business/Graphic Arts teacher is sharing the computer lab with the Spanish teacher, and the P.E. teacher is pushing into classrooms.

The Board had numerous questions about delays in construction. Dr. Wicks and Mr. Wicks both explained different aspects of the reasons for delays, some owing to subcontractors, to financing, new regulations, and OSF inspector availability.

**New Campus**

***Financing.***

* **USDA:** Since we received our IRS Determination of Tax-Exempt Status in mid-July, we no longer need a Fiscal Sponsor. Our finance team, which consists of our attorneys, Alan Linkous and Sam Howell; Michael Kirby, Vice President of Public Finance at Raymond James; and Russ Caldwell, a finance consultant who has successfully assisted numerous charter schools in obtaining USDA financing. Our team is in the process of completing the application to the USDA, which has numerous components that are currently being completed. We anticipate a January 2016 opening.
* **Mezzanine Financing:** Our application for a $500,000 loan from the SC Community Loan Fund was approved by its Board contingent upon an appraisal of the 26 acres that shows a value of $650,000 or more. An appraiser was engaged, and we are currently waiting for his written report. Closing on this loan is expected in the first week of September.

***Site preparation.***

The removal of trees has not yet begun because of excessive rain, but is scheduled to take place within the next few weeks.

* + **School Updates –** Dr. Wicks, Executive Director:
* **Registration for FY14-15: 549** confirmed students by grade @8-15-14. This number will fluctuate during the first week of school. The number will be updated for the Board Meeting.
* **Staffing:** All positions have been hired. See attached list. Over the last 2 weeks teachers have been in professional development.
* **Faculty Accolades:**4th Grade teacherGregg Dixon was selected as a member of the 2014-15 class of the SC Education Policy Fellowship Program—a great achievement and awesome opportunity.
* **PASS Results:** Please see attached analysis.
* **Action Plan:** Please see attached plan.
* **Student Awards & Recognition:** The student with the highest scale score of 786 out of a possible 800 (a 5th grader) will receive an iPad Mini. 13 students met the qualifications to receive a tablet (4 or more Exemplary with no Not Met—most of these were all Exemplary), 38 an iPod Shuffle (2 or more Exemplary and 2 Met with no Not Met), 19 gift cards to a skating rink and McDonalds (1 Exemplary and 3 or more Met), and more than half the students a trip to Carawinds (Met or Exemplary in more than one area).
* **PLTW/STEM/PBL:** Our PBL/Reading Coach, Terri Moss, has started off on the ground running with some exciting projects and opportunities for community involvement this year. Our PLTW/STEM Coordinator, Ryan Floyd, has also started off strong with some excellent opportunities for students in math, science, and engineering.
* **General Information:**
  + We will be implementing the CHAMPS Behavior Program throughout the school.  ChromeBooks will be in every classroom, Study Buddies will supplement the other research-based resources that will be used with students in the Response to Intervention Process, which will be implemented by several reading and math interventionists and trained paraprofessionals.
  + We have joined the National Beta Club and continue from last year the National Junior Art Honor Society and the national Project Lead the Way (PLTW) STEM program.
  + We will offer Honors classes in 8th, 9th, and 10th grades.  8th graders will be taking Introduction to World Languages and Keyboarding and are offered the English I Honors, Algebra I Honors, and Geography Honors.  High School students will be offered the following Honors courses: Creative Writing, English I and II, World History, Physical Science, and Biology.  Other offerings include PSAT/SAT English and Math Prep, Entrepreneurship, Digital Graphics, IBA, Spanish I & II, French I & II, and Introduction to Engineering.
  + We will have a number of clubs this year, and students will be able to choose a different club each 9 weeks. A volunteer from Sun City is providing a Theatre Arts/Drama class after school on Fridays for interested students; a final production in the spring will be given.
  + We have been admitted into the SC High School League, at-large membership.  We will offer 7-10 graders JV Girls Volleyball, JV Girls and Boys Basketball, JV Baseball, JV Softball, JV Soccer, cheerleading, and golf.  Next school year we plan to add cross country, competitive cheer, and varsity level sports.
* **Public Comment** – Christy Tindal asked a question about hot lunches.

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* **Motion to Adjourn** – Motion to adjourn was made by Brandi Freeman at 8:04 and was seconded by Anthony Altizer, and it was unanimously approved.
* **Executive Session**- No Executive Session was held.

\*Addendum- August 25, 2014 - Board unanimously agreed via e-mail for Executive Director, Dr. Karen Wicks, to sign loan documents for a $500,000 loan from South Carolina Community Loan Fund.