RLOACS Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes November 17, 2015

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| Present:   Absent: | Dr. Rob McBrayer, Chair; Eunice Spilliards, Vice-Chair; Brandi Freeman, Secretary; Amleht Alston; Anne Bridgers; Sergio Nuno; Dr. Karen Wicks, Executive Director; Les Wicks, Facilities Development; Ed Royall, Elliot Davis Decosimo  Sheree Darien, Treasurer; Pershawn Patterson; and Penny Daley |
| Venue  Student Dining Hall |  |
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A quorum was present.

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

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 pm. Brandi Freeman made a motion to start the meeting; Rob McBrayer seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

* + **Approval of Minutes of October 22, 2015 Board Meeting**  – Secretary – A motion was made by Brandi Freeman and seconded by Eunice Spilliards to accept the minutes of the September 15th Board Meeting, and the motion carried.
* **New business:** 
  + **RLOA New Mission Statement** - The Chair read the mission statement.
  + **Finance Report for October 2015** – Dr. Karen Wicks, on behalf of Bill Moser, presented and discussed at length changes in the October Finance Report. Brandi Freeman made a motion to approve the budget, and Amleht Alston seconded the motion. The motion carried.
  + **Update on Building, Finance, and Architectural Work** – 1) Modular Buildings: Les Wicks informed the Board of the progress of the readiness of the two modular buildings. The buildings have passed all inspections thus far. We are currently waiting on Fire and Security inspections by Delisa Clark from OSF for final Certificate of Occupancy. 2) New Campus: Meetings are being held with the Architect. We should be ready to publish the RFP in January, starting the bidding process. Bids should be in by the end of February or early March. We are currently looking at a ground breaking ceremony to be held sometime in late January-early February, depending on the schedule of the USDA officials.

**June 2015 Audit-** Ed Royall of Elliot Davis Decosimo presented the Audit and Financial Report Statements for the school year ending June 2015. He discussed at length the various details and the new requirement by the state for the inclusion of liability for pension shortfalls in the state pension system. He also discussed the segregation of duties and the end-of-year bank balance over $250,000 in one account. Both of these concerns have been adequately addressed by management since the audit was published.

**Counting of Ballots for Board Seats-** Brandi Freeman with assistance from Eunice Spilliards counted ballots for new board members to serve for a 2-year term, beginning January 2016. The newly elected members are as follows: Amleht Alston, Greg Chambers, Sheree Darien, and Dr. Rob McBrayer.

**School Updates-**

* **Enrollment:** As of November 13th enrollment continues to hover around 540.
* **Bright Ideas Grants:** This year we were awarded just under $2,500 in grants. Our music teacher, Mr. Cameron, won a grant for his iMovie music project. Mr. Vasiu, our engineering teacher, won a grant for his robotics/engineering grant. Mr. Dixon, our Young Scholars teacher, won a grant for his social APPtitude project.
* **Beta Club:** The Beta Club Induction Ceremony was rescheduled to November 13th, 6:00pm, at Hilton Head Lakes Lake Club.
* **Literacy:** Student Treasure Books are being created in elementary school. Student Treasures consist of poems students have written and illustrated in the form of a class book. Reading and Writing Workshops have begun. 6th graders will be piloting the Toastmasters Club, which will expose them to public speaking and speech writing. The Big Game Sight Word Contest is ongoing. Kindergarten students have created a rap and chant to remember their sight words. Dr. Wicks is providing SAT prep strategies in high school classes between now and Christmas break.
* **Young Scholars Program:** Middle School Young Scholars have just returned from the Model United Nations Trip, where Sasha Couch won an award for the presentation of the country of Gabon. High School Young Scholars will be participating in the Model United Nations in January.
* **Project Lead the Way/Science Technology Engineering Arts Math/Problem-Based Learning:** The second round of LAUNCH experiments are occurring in elementary school. Upcoming high school engineering field trips include the USC School of Engineering, SC Aerospace Career Day, and Mitsubishi Power Systems in Pooler, Georgia. Next year we anticipate adding classes in Aerospace, Engineering Design and Development, Computer Science, and Software Engineering. The robotics students have raised $1,300 so far for robotics supplies. A spring science fair is being finalized. A newspaper article about our problem-based learning approach has been sent to the media.
* **Community Service:** For November and December, students and staff will be donating blankets, clothing, and food for needy families.
* **Drama Production:** December 4th the Drama Club will be presenting a holiday production themed for the winter and Christmas.
* **Staffing:** We have secured one 4th grade teacher and anticipate another one joining us in January. In the class with a substitute teacher, certified teachers continue to teach the core content areas.
* **Presentation of ACT Scores 2015-** Dr Karen Wicks presented the Board with the SC Public Charter School District Portfolio that maps out RLOA’s ranking within the District. She explained the rankings and how the leadership team is addressing areas of weakness. Dr. Wicks asked Mr. Williams, High School Social Studies Teacher, who attended the meeting, how he uses this type of data. He explained how these charts and statistics aid him in adjusting his teaching approach to meet the needs of each individual child, and described his Student Learning Objectives and class goals for achieving 80-90% on the History End of Course test.
* **Public Comment** – No public comment.
* **Executive Session**- None
* **Motion to Adjourn** – With no further business to discuss, at 8:12pm Brandi Freeman made a motion to adjourn, which was seconded by Sergio Nuno. The motion carried.