



ROYAL LIVE OAKS ACADEMY

OF THE ARTS AND SCIENCES CHARTER SCHOOL

1398 Church Road, P.O. Box 528, Hardeeville, SC 29927

Phone: (843) 784-2630 • Fax: (843) 784-2623 • www.rloacs.org

RLOACS Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes March 20, 2018

Present: Dr. Rob McBrayer, Chair; Brandi Freeman, Treasurer; Kelli Boniecki, Secretary; Sergio Nuno; Joan Rountree; Dr. Karen Wicks, Executive Director; Brian Morse, Chief Academic Officer; Amy Kaufman, Elementary Director; Lauren Traynham, High School Acting Director; Darus Williams, Acting Middle School Director; Tarra Ager, Middle School ELA Les Wicks, Facilities Development

Call In: Amleht Alson, Anne Bridgers

Absent: Eunice Spilliards- Vice-Chair
Deanne Spikes

Venue: Student Dining Hall

A quorum was present.

☐ **Old business:**

- **Open Meeting** - The meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm by Dr. McBrayer. Dr. McBrayer made a motion to approve the agenda. Brandi Freeman seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- **Approval of Minutes** – A motion was made by Dr. McBrayer pending change to show Joan in attendance at February 20th meeting and seconded by Brandi Freeman to accept the minutes of the January 16, 2018 Board Meeting and the motion carried.

☐ **Public Comment:** – No public comment.

☐ **RLOA Mission Statement:** – Dr. McBrayer read the mission statement of RLOACS.

☐ **New business:**

- **Finance Report for January 2018 – BUDGET REPORT** Line 32: Decreased by \$18,000. Finding not received this year. Line 84: Increased budget by \$1,207. Some expenses covered by Bright Ideas Grant. Line 116: Increased budget by \$7,526 due to not being included in original budget. Line 119: Increased budget by \$891. Rates increased. Line 130: Decreased



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budget by \$10,000. Line 150: Increased budget by \$15,000. Adding second soccer field. Line 164: Line 190: Fund Balance increased by \$80,028.98.

- Jenny Holland from KM Consulting reviewed the February finance reports. Chair McBrayer called for the Board's approval of the February financials. Brandi Freeman made a motion to approve the February financials and Kelli Boniecki seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
- **Approval of Employee Contracts-** Chair McBrayer called for the Board's approval of the 2018-19 Employee Contracts. Brandi Freeman made a motion to approve the 2018-19 Employee Contracts and Sergio Nuno seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
- **Update on New Campus Financing:** Dr. Wicks emailed South Carolina's USDA in reference to continued delays in funding RLOA campus construction. A request to meet with USDA and staff was made by email by Dr. Wicks to discuss alternatives for funding the financing gap. A meeting with the USDA is scheduled for March 29, 2018.
- **Reading Research- 3rd Grade:** Amy Kaufman shared presentation of her doctoral studies on Reading Research with upcoming data collection for 3rd grade scores.
- **School Updates:** Ms. Ager, Middle School ELA Teacher, described the recent visit of a group of middle school students to Glen Meadow School, another TransformSC school, for the purpose of learning how students develop leadership skills and create a positive middle school culture. Our students came back with ideas and enthusiasm.

GENERAL

RLOA earned an EVAAS 5: category "excellence," the highest level attainable for last year's academic growth. This is the 3rd year in a row that our school has achieved this growth rating, a truly remarkable feat earned by a handful of schools in the state.

ELEMENTARY

Elementary school celebrated Pi day on March 14th. Students participated in many fun activities that were the culmination of PBL projects on how to use pi for measurement in geometry. Students raised \$915.96 by participating in Penny Wars. Fifth grade students in Ms. Porter's class raised the most money. Along with the rest of elementary students, they voted on the charity to receive the money and chose Jasper County Animal Rescue.

Elementary school student council members are preparing for a school-wide clean-up day on April 14th. Each grade level will be assigned a section of the campus to beautify and prepare for Spring. We are also getting ready for the school-wide art and talent show being held May 17th. Students will hold a silent auction to raise money for an end of the year carnival and field day.



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Ms. Porter in 5th Grade earned an EVAAS 5 (category “excellence,” the highest level attainable). Ms. Gallant and Mrs. Johnson in 4th grade earned an EVAAS 3 (category “average”). Overall Elementary was rated EVAAS Level 4.

MIDDLE SCHOOL

YOUNG SCHOLARS (6th-8th): Young Scholars will be attending a World’s Fair in Columbia, SC in the hopes that it will inspire their planning and implementation of World Cultures Day that they plan to host at the end of the year on campus. MS Young Scholars participated in the Spring Model UN competition in which 42 of our Royal Knights competed. They won an Honorable Mention award, the equivalency of third place.

Two middle school teachers earned EVAAS level 5 (category “excellence,” the highest level attainable)—Mrs. Ocasion and Mr. Dixon; Mr. Ranera earned an EVAAS level 4 (“above average”); and Ms. Clarke as EVAAS level 3 (“average”). Overall the Middle School was rated EVAAS Level 3.

Ms. Ager took 18 students to visit Glen Meadow M.S. in Lexington County to learn how student leadership is developed and implemented. They participated in a student council on how to effect positive change in their school and community. The students are excited to implement some of their ideas on the RLOA campus.

Benchmarks for Middle School have been postponed until after Spring Break.

HIGH SCHOOL

High school student Roy La Mora’s art submission was selected by the Jasper County Historical Society to become their official logo. He received an award by members of the society on March 20th.

EVAAS Level 4 (above average) student growth in high school was earned by Brian Morse and Lauren Traynham for English 1 EOC scores. EVAAS Level 3 (average) student growth in high school was earned by: Mrs. Perez (science) and Mr. Williams (World History).

Benchmark assessments are approaching. Additionally, we will be hosting a schoolwide cleanup on April 14th. A variety of high school students will be participating in this cleanup by participating in the “Adopt-A-Highway” initiative we have started on Church Rd.

PBL/PLTW

We hosted a follow up training to PBL during our last PD session with elementary



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teachers/staff. Teachers learned the importance of creating a driving question and were given Buck Institute forms to assist with their planning. By the end of the PD, all teachers had developed a project idea and driving question for a project they will be implementing in their classroom. All teachers came up with awesome ideas! For the PLTW program we obtained \$20,000 grant to start up our Middle School PLTW program in Computer Science. In addition, we will expand our PLTW program to include Health Sciences in middle and high school next school year. This will provide 3 strands of the PLTW program: engineering, computer science, and health sciences.

TESTING

April 17 -19 WIN test for 11th grade students. This test replaces the ACT WorkKeys.

May 1 SCReady REady 3rd grade.

May 2 English I EOC Writing portion.

May 8 SCReady ELA Session 1 Grades 3 - 8.

May 9 SCReady ELA Session 2 Reading Grades 4 - 8.

AP English 8:00

May 10 SCReady Math Grades 3 - 8.

May 15 English I EOC

AP Computer Science 12:00

Biology I EOC

May 16 SC PASS Science Grades 4, 6, 8

Algebra I EOC

May 17 SC PASS Social Studies Grades 5, 7

US History EOC

May 22 - 25 High School final exams

SC PASS XCel

TITLE I

A plan for Parent Conferences has been approved in order to complete collection of compacts, Home Language Survey for English speaking families, and proof of residency for records that need completion. Translation during conferences will be offered. The fiscal binder for 2017-2018 is in progress.

TITLE III/ESOL

The ACCESS window ends on March 23. All testing materials will be mailed to WIDA. Instruction resumed on March 7 as everyone completed testing on March 6. Four new students will be testing next week, but arrangements will be made for it not to affect instructional schedules.



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SPED/IDEA

Transition plans are being developed for Special Education students who are at Transition age. Once students turn age 13 we are required by law to address transition and prepare them for life after high school.

GUIDANCE

Attendance letters have gone out for the month. We have attendance issues at all three levels. Ms. Barr has met with Mr. Bonaparte about truancy and has contacted DSS on multiple situations.

Career Day is March 21st. We currently have scheduled 19 organizations to inform students about potential careers.

Senior Conferences for 2nd semester have been completed and Junior IGP's are underway. We have an increased goal of parent participation this year due to EEDA regulations.

The first SCOIS workshop was held with all of 9th and 10th grade. The feedback was extremely positive from the students and is definitely worth the planning required for it. Students were excited about the college and career surveys and found them to be extremely helpful.

The college tour for Coastal Carolina and Francis Marion is scheduled for April 10th.

ROBOTICS

The founding team 4825A and the all girls team 4825C competed in the State Championship for robotics on March 9-10. The girls team won the Create Award. We are continuing to raise funds and find sponsors to help build our program. We have Hex Bug Wahoos for sale as well as t-shirts. Our goal is to be able to purchase the full field set-up for our teams to practice.

The robotics teams will not be going to the U.S. Open this year. They have made the decision to sit out of the competition this time due to other obligations for them at that time of the year.

SPORTS

We are having early success with our soccer program. Our Varsity boys are 5-1, ranked 2nd in the state so far this season. Our JV Girls are 2-0 and JV Boys 1-1. The Varsity team will play Military Magnet Tuesday 3/20 at 6 PM and Palmetto Scholars Friday at 5:30 at the Hardeeville City Hall.



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TECHNOLOGY

Our computer network was infected with a virus on February 26th. Multiple computers were affected. All computers on the domain were infected. The computer lab is still offline. We called Progressive Technology to assist in eradicating the malware. After a week, we are in a much better state than before. New policies and procedures are being set regarding access and personal devices on the network. The computer lab computers will need to be reimaged. Hopefully this will take place this week.

The process of bidding out our broadband management for E-rate is complete and we should be wrapping it all up and filing Monday.

PROM

The Juniors have been planning for the prom this year. The theme will be “A Night Under the Stars.” The colors are navy blue and silver. The prom will be held on May 19th at Indigo Run Plantation 7pm-10pm. Tickets will be \$35 each or 2 for \$60. The students have been raising funds all year to ensure that the prom is everything they want it to be. We have a professional decorator assisting with the setup and tear down, a DJ, and the students have chosen the design for the invitations and gifts.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 22 5:00-6:00pm Parent Academy Academy; 6:00-7:00pm PTO (Elementary, Related Arts, ESOL, SPED represent the school.)

- March 24 10-12:30 Easter Egg Hunt at Hardeeville Town Hall -- RLOA is providing the hot dogs and buns for this event as part of our marketing of the school.

- March 26-30 SPRING BREAK

- April 6 FULL DAY (makeup for 2-5 INSTEAD OF March 23)

- April 13 Teacher PD 1:00-4:00

- April 17 Parent-Teacher Conferences 12:00-7:00pm; Staff Lunch & Awards 11:00am. We will celebrate our EVAAS teachers and the staff who exhibited exceptionalism in the categories of excellence, team spirit, walking the walk, and talking the talk in the month of March.

- May 10 Athletic Banquet

SPORTS:



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Track

March 21 Whale Branch at Whale Branch

Soccer

March 20 Military Magnet High 5:30 Hardeeville

March 22 Lowcountry Leadership 5:30 Lowcountry

March 23 Palmetto Scholars 5:30 Hardeeville

April 10 Charleston M&S 5:30 Hardeeville

April 12 Military Magnet HS 5:30 Military Magnet

April 17 St. John HS 5:30 St. John

JV Soccer Boys & Girls

April 13 Colleton County MS 5:00 Colleton County MS

April 20 Bridges Prep 4:30 Hardeeville

May 3 Bridges Prep 5:00 Hardeeville

- ☐ **Executive Director's Report** - Dr. Wicks noted the following:
 - Possible dates for May Board Training (May 1 or May 3) will be sent out by email to all Board members to determine a date that works for everyone.
- ☐ **Other Business** –No other business.
- ☐ **Executive Session** – Executive session was called to order at 7:50pm by Chair McBrayer. A motion was made by Brandi Freeman and Sergio Nuno seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. A motion to pass Item X for 2017-18 was made by Brandi Freeman and Sergio Nuno seconded the motion.
- ☐ **Motion to Adjourn** – The Board exited Executive Session at 8:28pm. With no further business to discuss, Chair McBrayer made a motion to adjourn. Sergio Nuno seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.