



# 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](http://www.rloacs.org)

## RLOACS Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes February 20, 2018

**Present:** Dr. Rob McBrayer, Chair; Eunice Spilliards, Vice-Chair; Brandi Freeman, Treasurer; Amleht Alston; Anne Bridgers; Sergio Nuno; Deanne Spikes; Dr. Karen Wicks, Executive Director; Brian Morse, Chief Academic Officer; Terri James-Moss, Director for Middle-High & Curriculum; Amy Kaufman, Elementary Director; Les Wicks, Facilities Development

**Call In:** Kelli Boniecki, Secretary

**Venue:** Student Dining Hall

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A quorum was present.

☐ **Old business:**

- **Open Meeting** - The meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm by Dr. McBrayer. Brandi Freeman made a motion to approve the agenda. Amleht Alston seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- Dr. Wicks requested to move Executive Session to the end of the meeting. Brandi Freeman made a motion to change the agenda. Anne Bridgers seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- **Approval of Minutes** – Amleht Alston made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 16, 2018 Board Meeting. Deanne Spikes seconded the motion, 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** – Jenny Holland, KM Moser Consulting  
**BUDGET REPORT** Line 5: Increased by \$61,948 based off of Final 45 Day Count. Line 112: Increased budget by \$10,000. Line 115: Increased budget by \$12,000 due to increased legal activity. Line 117: Increased budget by \$500. Line 118: Increased budget by \$20,675. Line 148: Increased budget by \$8,000. Line 190: Budget balance increased by \$138,626 to



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bring it to \$1,295,616. Brandi Freeman made a motion to approve the January financials and Deanne Spikes seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

- **Approval of 2018-19 School Calendar:** Chair McBrayer called for the Board's approval of the 2018-19 School Calendar. Kelli Boniecki made a motion to approve the calendar and Amleht Alston seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
- **Update on New Campus Financing is contained within School Updates.**
- **School Updates:**

**ENROLLMENT & MARKETING** – Enrollment continues to hover between 640 and 650. We have increased marketing for next year's enrollment with 5 billboards around Jasper County for 3 months and ads twice/month in the Jasper Sun. We continue to advertise in La Isla Magazine every month. We look for every opportunity to send articles to the Jasper Sun for publication.

**ELEMENTARY** - We had a successful literacy night, and the top three teachers with the most students in attendance were Ms. Peters, Ms. Johnson and Ms. Mason. These teachers will enjoy a popcorn party for their class and a read aloud. The elementary student council is planning to treat our staff to Valentine treats on the 14th as a way of showing appreciation for all our teachers do. We are also planning for a spring BINGO night - more on that later!

**MIDDLE SCHOOL** - February 22 we will hold mid-year awards for middle and high school students at the PTO meeting.

**HIGH SCHOOL** - February 21 we will hold a spaghetti dinner/parent meeting for juniors and seniors to discuss issues such as prom, graduation, cap and gown, college application process.

**PBL/PLTW** - We have applied for a grant to launch the PLTW program at the middle school level. The courses that would be implemented in accordance to the grant are Computer Science and App Creators. These would be a great addition to the current PLTW program. Initiatives are being made to push into elementary classrooms for PBL. Teachers will be signing up for the opportunity to have co-teachers (Traynham or Dixon) to come into the room to assist with activities as part of learning implementing the methodology in their classroom. MS and HS level professional development will be set up to take place during PLC meetings.

**YOUNG SCHOLARS** - Middle School Young Scholars are preparing to go to the Model UN competition in Savannah, GA on March 1. HS Young Scholars are working on a major PBL project and also researching college choices to determine what they need to do over the next four years to get into their dream school.



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**TESTING** - ACCESS testing for ELL students is underway. With some support from WiDA, Ms. Chaves-Herrera and the ESOL team, we were able to cut the testing time down from one month to approximately one week. Middle school teachers are moving to student homerooms to teach in order to leave related arts rooms free. Mr. Morse assisted in moving related arts classes into other high school spaces so that related arts teachers could be test administrators. Every member of the Middle-High and ESOL teams is in play to save instructional time and get the assessment done. We are quite proud of that.

## **TITLE I –**

The Title I Parental Survey is taking place at this time. A link was provided by the district. The link is available on our school website for English speaking parents. Paper surveys are being provided to Spanish speaking parents as they visit our school and participate in school events.

Administrators are providing copies of PD signing sheets and agendas of PD offered the first semester for the Title I office.

## **TITLE III/ESOL -**

ACCESS for English Learners (ELs) began on Monday, February 12. The Related-Arts section of campus was used to test 3 groups of 22 students at a time, with 3-4 sessions each day. Volunteer parents and our parent liaison, Ms. Rivera, assisted with courtyard monitoring. Our ESOL team, Mr. Pope and Mr. Cameron administered the test.

**SPED/IDEA** - Ms. Hooper will be administering the SC-Alt of two students this school year and Ms. Brown will serve as her second rater. We currently serve 58 students with IEPs.

**GUIDANCE** - Senior Update Conferences were held on February 13, 14, and 15.

**ROBOTICS** - Team 4825A has qualified for the state competition and U.S. Open Competition. We have started looking for sponsors to help fund either a trip to the World Championship or the U.S. Open. Awards so far this year include: 4825A - Design Award and 4825C - Design Award.

Our next competitions are on the following dates:

February 24 - The Final Countdown VEX Viking Duels - Spring Valley High School in Columbia

March 9-10 - VEX SC State Championship - Spring Valley High School in Columbia

April 5-7 - CREATE U.S. Open Robotics Championship in Council Bluffs, Iowa

**SPORTS** – Fall and Winter sports have been completed. Spring sports are boys and girls soccer and track.



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**TECHNOLOGY** - Screens and cases have been received to repair damaged Chromebooks. Over 100 pairs of headsets were tested last week. They were pulled from Elementary classes. 22 pairs were found to be working. The rest will need to be disposed of. They were purchased with Title I Funds. 60 new headsets were purchased in anticipation of ACCESS Testing. They should arrive on Feb 7th.

We applied to both Certiport and CompTIA and were approved to become academy partners so that we can offer our students certificate programs next year. Our students will be able to earn the following certifications: Adobe Certified Associate - Photoshop, Microsoft Office Specialist - Word, Excel, & PowerPoint, and CompTIA A+.

**NATIONAL SCHOOL CHOICE WEEK** - National School Choice Week was celebrated by Royal Knights in grades K-12. We had a spirit week with themed days, a dance challenge, and a contingent of 70 select students who attended the School Choice Rally on the Statehouse steps. It was a fun week and all students who attended the rally had a great time! They also went on a tour of the SC Statehouse to see where laws are made and learn a little about the history of SC.

**NEW CAMPUS** – We were able to secure a meeting with Debbie Turbeville, State RD Director, at the school on February 20<sup>th</sup>. We are hopeful she will advance the timing on the take-out letter so we can market the anticipation notes and begin construction in March. As a backup, we have made contact with Senator Lindsey Graham's office should we need to ask for additional political support for the project.

**HARDEEVILLE LIBRARY** – Dr. Wicks attended a breakfast meeting with community leaders at the Hardeeville Library to support the library's programs by distributing fliers to our parents and also support the school's programs by providing a flier about our weekly Parent Academy classes (Parenting, English as a Second Language, Computers, and Mathematics for Parents). We are seeking to invest in the life of Hardeeville as we are located here and see the most community involvement in this area.

## ☐ **Executive Director's Report:**

- Dr. Wicks noted important details from School Updates and shared that already 7 seniors have been accepted to college, one with a full scholarship. We anticipate more acceptance letters over the next week or so.
- She also reported on her Erskine College visit and the strong positive impression our juniors and seniors made on the Erskine staff during their recent college visit.
- The Executive Team presented a report on MAP data and the positive trends in academic growth and performance.

- ☐ **Other Business:** Dr. McBrayer requested that Dr. Wicks ask Erskine College to provide a promotional video of the school for us to show at parent and students events. No other business was conducted.



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- ☐ **Executive Session:** Dr. Wicks indicated that a contractual matter needed discussion. Amleht made a motion to convene Executive Session. Brandi Freeman seconded the motion, and the motion carried. At 7:35pm Chair McBrayer convened Executive Session. No votes were taken during the Session and the Board reconvened the General Session at 7:58pm.
- ☐ **Motion to Adjourn** – With no further business to discuss, at 7:58pm Chair McBrayer made a motion to adjourn. Eunice Spilliards seconded the motion, and the motion carried.