

September 23rd, 2019 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Attendees: R. Wilson, C. Williams, C. Rice, L. Hamer, T. Muniz, L. Stephens, D. A. Seabourne, M. Moore, S. Fairclough-Leslie, K. Sandiford

After a short welcome from L. Hamer, the meeting was called to order at 6:33 p.m.

Verification of public notice was sent and confirmed.

The attendance sheet was signed and submitted to Ms. Muniz.

R. Wilson made a motion to accept the agenda; L. Stephens seconded; motion was passed. The minutes were reviewed from 8/26/19, C. Williams a motion to accept the minutes with any necessary corrections; L. Stephens seconded, motion was passed.

C. Rice introduced two prospective board members, Joan Lewis (CPA owner of the Door restaurant) and Hattie Powell, Esq.

Business Operations Report – Ms. Muniz

K-5 student count (280). UPK – 33, 6th grade – 39, SPED – 40, ELL – 3, Economic Disadvantaged – 69%, discharged – 12. Student vacancies: Pre-K – 3, Grade K – 2, Grade 1 – 3, Grade 2 – 1, Grade 4 – 4, Grade 5 – 6, Grade 6 – 11. 2019-2020 registration is ongoing; phase II of audit was completed 9/16/19, no deficiencies. The final docs will be available for mandatory upload to the state 11/1/19. Preparing for accountability reporting due on 10/2/19. Financial summary and cash disbursement reports were distributed.

CEO Report – Dr. Rice

Progress at the Montessori annex building is nearing completion; expected date is 10/30/19. The roof had to be ripped up and replaced. Paint was donated to the school and tile for bathrooms were donated to the school. Upon completion of school, signoffs will be obtained for an estimate of 6 to 8 weeks. Meeting with builders to discuss building options for new school building based on gas, water, electric, and sewer line preventing the original location of new school. Extra space has been secured at the Rescue church to house Pre-K and Kindergarten; Rescue church is requesting an additional \$35K annually on a month-to-month lease until the Montessori annex construction is complete. Gym equipment has arrived but not been installed; will be installed by next board meeting. Rental assistance has been completed for 6th grade. Closing soon on the bank construction loan. Att’y General approval received. Updated survey to show site cleared of house and reflecting one combined lot. Obtained C of O from DOB.

Principal Report – S. Fairclough-Leslie

Began with indicating that the school is off to a great start. Gave instructional focus of the school for the year 2019-2020; it will be on student data to move scholars to success. Finalizing assessments for students. Indicated that Spanish has been added to mandarin as a foreign language for grades 4-6. P/E has been changed to once a week per class; recess is still on the schedule during lunch period. Increased communication via class dojo, robo-calls, texts, emails, letters and face-to-face meeting. Gave school highlights of school: field trips, professional development, staff needs. Recognized staff for preparing school for 1 st day. Scholar recognition for those who took NYS tests, custodial staff was recognized for keeping school clean. Indicated upcoming school activities and community relations. Spoke on social development and technology for the students. Gave an update on after-school activities starting in October. Gave an update on parental involvement activities upcoming for the school. Looking for board approval for purchase of Illuminate (formally schedula) as dashboard for student data; eliminate Terra Nova, using E-Chart for REACS website updates and technology updates (wish list)

Academic Report – C. Williams

Met on 9/17/19; Leadership team was given thanks for smooth transition for opening of school and 6th grade; discussed music program and library. Dashboard implementation was discussed, and details are forthcoming. Academic resources, professional development and student data was discussed. Meetings ongoing will be scheduled every other month on Saturdays.

Personnel Report – K. Sandiford

2nd grade SPED vacancy UPK Teacher's assistant vacancy.

PTO Report – D. A. Seabourne

Meeting was held 9/18/19; popcorn fundraiser is underway; goal is: \$5K. Ideas for bully prevention month in October were discussed; PTO dues/donations were discussed; goal is: \$2K. The bank balance was given and everyone was thanked for hard work and dedication so far.

Finance Report – M. Anglin - NO REPORT

Fundraising Meeting – L. Stephens - NO REPORT

L. Hamer thanked all for coming out; next board meeting will be 10/21/19 at 6:30 p.m. Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

In executive session, the decision was made to keep the salary of S. Fairclough-Leslie where it is currently for this current school year. Increases are based off the budget and evaluations; the salary of the school leader incrementally to arrive to her specified salary. The salary and duties of Dr. Knight will be based off the job description from S. Fairclough-Leslie. Joan Lewis and Hattie Powell were approved as members of the REACS School board.