



# Rochdale Early Advantage Charter School

## Minutes

### REACS Board Meeting

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#### **Date and Time**

Monday April 25, 2022 at 6:30 PM

#### **Location**

Via Zoom Online Meeting Platform

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#### **Directors Present**

C. Williams (remote), L. Hamer (remote), R. Wilson (remote), K. Sandiford (remote), M. Anglin (remote), S. Brown (remote), D. Barron (remote)

#### **Directors Absent**

#### **Ex Officio Members Present**

C. Rice (remote)

#### **Guests Present**

Sylvia Fairclough-Leslie (remote), Tawanna Muniz (remote)

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### **I. Opening Items**

#### **A. Record Attendance**

#### **B. Call the Meeting to Order**

L. Hamer called a meeting of the board of directors of Rochdale Early Advantage Charter School to order on April 25, 2022 at 6:32 PM

R. Wilson made a motion to Approve Agenda.

M. Anglin seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

## II. Business & Operations Report

### A. Mrs. Tawana Muniz

#### STUDENT DATA DASHBOARD:

- UNIVERSAL PRE-K STUDENTS – 36
- K-7 STUDENTS – 427
- SPED STUDENTS – 54
- ELL – 5
- ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS – 67%

#### ENROLLMENT: 2022 - 2023

- **610** Applications received as of 4.14.22
- Charters can accept applications until 8.30.22 but *only* applicants that submitted on or before 4.1.22 will be included in the lottery
- Our lottery will be held on May 4, 2022

#### COMPLIANCE/FINANCE:

- Construction checks processed
- Financial Summary- See attached
- Cash Disbursement-See attached

## III. School Leader Report

### A. Mrs. Sylvia Fairclough-Leslie/Dr. Julie Padilla

#### CONGRATULATIONS ROCHDALE!!!!!!

- REGENTS VOTED: That the Board of Regents finds that Rochdale Early Advantage Charter School: (1) meets the requirements set out in Article 56 of the Education Law, and all other applicable laws, rules and regulations; (2) the applicant can demonstrate the ability to operate the school in an educationally and fiscally sound manner; (3) granting the application is likely to improve student learning and achievement and materially further the purposes set out in subdivision two of Section twenty-eight hundred fifty of this article and (4) granting the application would have a significant educational benefit to the students expected to attend the charter school, **and the Board of Regents therefore approves the renewal application of Rochdale Early Advantage Charter School and that a renewal charter be issued, and that its provisional charter be extended for a term up through and including June 30, 2027.**

#### School COVID Update

- Continued weekly scholar COVID testing every Friday.
- We have had 6 COVID positive cases in the school community since March 1st. We are utilizing the test kits for the TEST TO STAY plan. We sent staff and scholars home with test kits over the holiday break.

#### New York State Grades 3-8 Exam Schedule

- Math Exam - April 26-27, 2022
- Science Exam - Grades 4 & 8 Only (May 24-27 & June 6, 2022)
- To accommodate NYS testing of all Grades 3-8 scholars - K-2 scholars will work remotely on ELA and Math Exam days. Based on the testing mods we are using every classroom and office space to accommodate the scholars.
- PTO will provide special lunch for the scholars on day 1.
- School providing breakfast on day two.
- NYSESLAT April 24 -May 2022

#### Grant Applications Completed

- RESO A Borough President
- RESO A Councilmember Williams

- Summer Boost NYC is a \$50 million philanthropic effort supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies and managed by Building Impact aimed at supporting K-8 charter schools in New York City offering summer programming to address the social and academic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. All NYC charter schools are eligible to apply for funding. Completing application.

### **Summer School 2022**

- Awaiting decision from the Board Personnel Report
- Teacher Assistant on extended leave returned 4/25/22. She is supporting PREK.
- Continue to review resumes and meet potential candidates for the Dean position.

## **IV. PTO Report**

### **A. Shinequa Brown**

Good evening, executive board, School Leaders, staff, parents and guardians joining us tonight. Our April PTO meeting was held on Wednesday, April 13th via Zoom, which was the second Wednesday of the month being that we were on Spring break last week. We had a scholar mask giveaway; and PTO received a list of scholars that participated in the Black History Kickoff, so we hand delivered a mask to each of them on the list on Thursday, April 14th because keeping our school community safe is still a priority.

April's meeting was short. We did not have many questions from parents this month, but the couple we had were addressed as usual. (Questions attached)

PTO took the time to thank all the parents and staff that donated money for the scholars to have pizza for lunch on the first day of ELA testing March 29th. Everyone was so appreciative. PTO will also be supplying a pizza lunch tomorrow, April 26th, for their first day of Math state testing. We want the scholars relaxed, feeling good and knowing that they have support coming in from all angles.

Field day, or should I say days, are on the horizon and PTO is asking for volunteers. Pre-k through 4th grade will have their field day on Thursday, May 26th and 5th through 8th grade will have their field day on Wednesday, June 1st. We need all hands-on deck. There are a lot of moving parts to make this a great day for our school community and we need all the volunteers we can get. Our team has created a Google form asking what time, etc. volunteers can help and that will go out via robocall and email, this week hopefully.

Elections are also coming up and will be held on May 18th at our PTO meeting. It was made known that all current executive board members would like to stay on if voted back in and that the 2nd VP position is completely vacant. Anyone who would like to join our executive team can email PTO up until 3pm on Friday, May 6th with their name, scholar association, position desired and brief background on themselves. Our email can be found on the school's website.

Tomorrow, April 26th, PTO is starting our sock fundraiser. They are lovely socks that showcase our school spirit. Its Spring and the weather is getting nicer. Our young ladies will start wearing skirts and jumpers more, so why not have them wear cute, stylish socks and show their pride? Sock sizes are Youth (xs), small, medium, large, and extra-large. One pair of socks is \$12 or buy 2 pairs for \$22, in honor of our classes of 2022. A robocall and email, with flyer and Google order form, will also go out pertaining to this fundraiser. Once order and funds are received, PTO will deliver to the scholar's class. We will probably do deliveries once a week depending on the number of orders received, so please support.

Our treasurer, Ms. Seabourne gave our financial update (Bank Balance along with Cash Flow Statement was attached for Board Review). Fundraisers and donations, which are welcomed all year long, ensure that we can do great things for Teacher's Appreciation Day, International Day, field day, etc.

To end things, we reminded parents that next week May 2nd through May 6th is Teachers Appreciation Week, with Tuesday, May 3rd being Teachers Appreciation Day. Please let all educators you know just how much you appreciate them. As a reminder, our next PTO meeting is on Wednesday, May 18th.

## **V. CEO Report**

### **A. Bishop Calvin Rice**

#### **Maintenance/Facility and new Construction:**

- Construction commenced on Monday March the 21 and they are moving at warp speed in part because conditions have been favorable and also because the foundation contractor is very efficient. In fact, if we can maintain this pace, I feel we may very well complete this project in 14-15 months. One third of the basement is complete and they have begun digging the second of three phases. Construction commenced utilizing the second allocation of money voted on by the board in the November 2021 meeting because M & T Bank have set the loan closing for the latter part of April, by then we will have the foundation in and ready to erect steel if things continue to move at the pace we are moving.
- The building department is now requiring that we have a rooftop playground which raises our budget another \$500,000. DASNY have given us approval to use the restored grant (\$250,000) towards this project, I will somehow someway find the other half.
- The bank is finalizing the loan and should be setting a closing date prior to our next board meeting. Until the closing we will continue to spend from the additional funds that were authorized in our January board meeting. We are in the process of transferring our account to M & T and when the process is finish, they will pay all contractors directly as we submit and they approve vouchers.
- To date we have expensed **\$542,500**.

## **VI. Finance Report – NO MEETING THIS MONTH**

**Mrs. Marcia Anglin**

## **VII. Academic Accountability Report – NO MEETING THIS MONTH**

**Mrs. Chene Williams**

## **VIII. Personnel Committee Report – NO MEETING THIS MONTH**

**Mrs. Kamala Sandiford**

### **Adjourn Meeting**

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
R. Wilson

The meeting was adjourned for executive session.

In executive session:

Bishop C. Rice made a motion (M. Anglin seconded) to give the family of Ms. Highsmith (kitchen worker) who recently passed away \$1,000.00 in financial assistance. Because of the donation from the Bloomberg Foundation, a summer school program was discussed. Board positions were also discussed (returning and stepping down).