



Rochdale Early Advantage Charter School

Minutes

REACS Board Meeting

Date and Time

Monday October 24, 2022 at 6:30 PM

Location

Via Zoom Online Meeting Platform

Directors Present

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

Directors Absent

Ex Officio Members Present

C. Rice (remote)

Guests Present

Sylvia Fairclough-Leslie (remote), Dr. Claytisha Walden (remote), Ms. Kimylene Hover (remote), Tawanna Muniz (remote)

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 October 24, 2022 at 6:35 PM

R. Wilson made a motion to Approve Agenda.

C. Williams seconded the motion.

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

C. Approve Minutes

C. Williams made a motion to Approve Minutes from September 26, 2022

J. Hurt 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-8 STUDENTS – 430
- SPED STUDENTS – 52
- ELL – 4
- ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS – 68%

ENROLLMENT: 2022 - 2023

- Pre-K – 0 seats to be filled
 - K – 1 seat to be filled
 - Grade 1 – 3 seats to be filled
 - Grade 2 – 0 seats to be filled
 - Grade 3 – 0 seats to be filled
 - Grade 4 – 3 seats to be filled
 - Grade 5 – 2 seats to be filled
 - Grade 6 – 6 seats to be filled
 - Grade 7 – 0 seats to be filled
 - Grade 8 – 5 seats to be filled
- 378 applicants on the waitlist

COMPLIANCE/FINANCE:

- Audit and Compliance documents are due 11/1
- Draft of audit will be ready this week
- Budget vs. Actual and Cash Disbursement reports attached and sent to the board.

III. School Leader Report

Mrs. Sylvia Fairclough-Leslie/Dr. Claytisha Walden/

Ms. Kimylene Hover

- There was an Academic Committee presentation made by Dr. Clay, Assistant Principal which spoke on the goals set in place for REACS for the '22-'23 school year.
- Progress Reports went home to parents on October 14th.
- Academic After School began on October 12th. Teachers identified the scholars.
- REACS welcomed Ms. Hover as our new Assistant Principal of the Lower Grades.
- There was one suspension.
- In-school Enrichment Arts Residencies (Karate, Music, Chess, & Books Alive) started during the week of Oct. 17th.
- After School Enrichment (Male/Female mentoring, Basketball, & Cheer) begins the week of Oct. 24th.
- Mrs. Sylvia Fairclough-Leslie attended the New York Charter Association Conference in Buffalo NY.

IV. PTO Report

A. Shinequa Brown

Good evening, Executive board, School Leaders, staff, parents and guardians joining us tonight. Our September PTO meeting was held on September 28th and our October meeting was held on October 19th via Zoom. Being that our September meeting was after the board meeting, I'll be giving a report for both months. As usual, School leadership addressed any questions parents had. We are doing a couple new things this year, like a monthly family check-in, that inquires how families are doing as a whole, how they think their scholar is doing and, if any, what resources they may be seeking to help their scholar. This year each meeting will revolve around a specific family learning theme. For October, the theme was creating

family-educator partnerships with Gretchen Osodipe. November's theme is Health Is Wealth, where our guest speaker will give us a Covid update, speak about vaccinations, and ways to stay healthy during large gatherings for the upcoming holidays.

REACS new Dean of Culture, Mr. Dauphin, introduced himself to parents. And we congratulated our new Assistant Principal Ms. Hover on her promotion.

To start the 2022-23 school year off, PTO not only did welcome packets for families, but we also prepared welcome packets for the staff and gave the staff custom PTO tote bags with highlighters or expo markers. Of course, September's meeting was all about welcoming families to this school year and giving an overview of our PTO goals for the year, which includes implementing Classroom Parents. At our October meeting we announced the names of the class parents and their specific classes. We still don't have class parents for K-11, classes 101, 301, 502, 602, 701, 702, and 801. (Names of parents are attached) We had a brief meeting with our new class parents after the October PTO meeting, and we feel like they are excited to get started. Our REACS educators were great in rallying parents of their class to volunteer. We also have a Chairperson of the Volunteer Committee, Ms. Roxanne Phoenix. We will vote on a 2nd VP in December and ask that all parents submit their interest by email with a brief self-introduction by November 14th.

We explained and introduced the Popcorn Fundraiser, as well as our new "No-Fuss" Fundraiser, which allows anyone to simply contribute what they can via Cash App or Zelle and have 100% of their contribution go straight into the PTO bank account. With other fundraisers, like the popcorn, PTO only gets a certain percentage of sales. The "No-Fuss" fundraiser will remain open all school year, but the brochure portion of the Popcorn fundraiser, which started on October 3rd, will end on November 30th in hopes that those orders will be back before Christmas break. We will contact the parents with the pickup date from the Main School building. The virtual portion of the popcorn fundraiser began on October 4th and will end in December because those orders will be delivered directly to the purchaser. We will open virtual events every 2 weeks. Our prizes have changed this year, so every scholar who sells \$1,000 worth of popcorn in one (1) virtual event or one (1) brochure order will automatically receive a \$50 gift card. With that being said, REACS sold \$10,132 worth of popcorn in the very first virtual event from October 4th through October 8th, which means our profit was a little over \$5,000 and surpassed our total profits from last year. Four (4) students automatically received \$50 gift cards, with one student having \$3,280 in sales. The other prizes are a \$100 gift card to the overall highest seller at the end of the fundraiser, 2nd highest seller will get a \$50 gift card; 3rd highest seller will get a \$25 gift card and the homeroom teachers of the highest selling class will get a \$30 gift card. We are off to a great start.

V.

As you know we like to make put smiles on our scholar's faces, so we plan on having a Pizza Pop Up Fundraiser one Friday, each month beginning November 18th. We are starting with Middle School for now. For \$5 scholars will receive a juice box, snack and slice of pizza.

At both meetings, our family giveaway was a custom PTO tote bag. We had a nice number of attendees at both meetings, as well.

To end things, I attended the NY Charter School Association's Conference last week, and co-lead a presentation with Gretchen Osodipe on Effective Family Engagement. We spoke about having a vision of what a partnership and the overall vision of effective family engagement looks like. We gave specific examples of how we do things at REACS like create safe spaces for our families or commit to being transparent in our connections, we check in on a regular with families and follow through on what they may need. Our presentation was well received. Several people relayed their positive thoughts about a parent leader helping to facilitate the presentation, and said they received some great information on ways to better partner with their families. The conference was definitely enlightening, and new contacts were made. I attended a presentation titled "Activating Your Activism" which identified the importance of Parents being involved and advocating for their scholars/school community, as well as what we can do. I learned about to ways to engage more fathers; and met Community Engagement Managers from the NY Charter Schools Association, a representative from French Toast, a representative from Princeton Review, and the NYS Director of the National Parents Union. I look forward to building on the connections made.

As a reminder, our next PTO meeting is on Wednesday, November 16th at 6:30pm.

VI.CEO Report

A. Bishop Calvin Rice

- Expressed gratitude for the board training on 10/15/22
- Board members were able to view new school building progress

VII.Finance Report – NO MEETING/NO REPORT

A. Mrs. Marcia Anglin

VIII.Academic Accountability Report

A. Mrs. Chene Williams

On Tuesday, October 18, 2022, at 6:30 PM, the Academic Committee met virtually. The meeting began with the Admin report which included:

- Congratulations on the appointment of Mrs. Hover to the position of Assistant Principal, and assignment to K-4;
- The update of assessment data given in a powerpoint presentation by Dr. Clay;
- The status of informal observations and how they are conducted;
- The continuance of I-READY and A-NET BOY testing;
- Enrichment activities / residencies /extra-curricular activities / for K -8;
- The target goal of a 5 -10% minimum increase for improvement of scores was given.;
- Preliminary results for grades K – 8 that will be presented at the next academic meeting;
- Strategies for teacher support was discussed consisting of teacher/class intervisitation, a plan of action cycle, and informal observations when needed;
- A discussion held concerning the next steps for the foreign language programs. Curriculum goals will be reviewed and revised where appropriate;
- An overall summary of the status of Pre-K, K, and 1 was given;
- The report was given that discipline is under control. The new Dean, teachers, and scholars are working well together.

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for November 22, 2022 at 6:30 pm.

IX. Personnel Committee Report

A. Mrs. Kamala Sandiford

- Met on 10/18/22 via Zoom
- Spoke on school staff vacancies
- Welcomed Ms. Hover as REACS vice principal

Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:08 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
R. Wilson

The meeting was adjourned for executive session.

In executive session:

- L. Stephens gave overview of board training session held on 10/15/22
- Ensuring the charter is followed through the entire school