



# Rochdale Early Advantage Charter School

## Minutes

### REACS Board Meeting

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#### **Date and Time**

Monday June 27, 2022, at 6:30 PM

#### **Location**

Via Zoom Online Meeting Platform

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#### **Directors Present**

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

#### **Directors Absent**

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

C. Rice (remote)

#### **Guests Present**

Dr. Claytisha Walden (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 June 27, 2022, at 6:37 PM

R. Wilson made a motion to Approve Agenda.

C. Williams seconded the motion.

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

### C. Approve Minutes

D. Barron made a motion to Approve Minutes from May 23, 2022

K. Sandiford 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 – 423
- SPED STUDENTS – 54
- ELL – 5
- ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS – 67%

#### ENROLLMENT: 2022 - 2023

- 618 on the waitlist
- All students have been bumped up into the '23 school year

#### COMPLIANCE/FINANCE:

- Pre-Audit completed
- Recording and closing out 2022
- Preparing reporting for ARP grants/annual report
- Per pupil \$17,626.00
- Financial Summary – sent to the board
- Cash Disbursement – sent to the board

## III. School Leader Report

### Dr. Claytisha Walden/Ms. Chene Williams

#### • School COVID Update

• We have had 8 COVID positive cases in the school community since May 23, 2022. We are utilizing the test kits for the TEST TO STAY plan. We send staff and scholars home with test kits every weekend. Test kits are made available as needed to families and staff.

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

- Science Exam took place May 24-27 & June 6, 2022
- NYSESLAT April 24 -May 2022
- Grade 3 was selected for Field Test in ELA 5/24/22

#### • End of Year (EOY) Interim Assessment

- I-ready - June 2nd - 8th Completed
- ANET - June 15th Completed

#### • End of Year Activities Completed

- 8th Grade College Trip 5/26/22 Adelphi University
- Field Day PreK-Grade 4 Basily Park 5/26/22
- Field Day Grades 5-8 Basily Park 6/1/22
- 5th Grade Senior Trip - Club Getaway, Kent CT 6/6/22
- 5th Grade Dance 6/8/22 Gym
- 8th Grade Prom 6/9/22 Gym
- International Day 6/10/22
- 8th Grade Senior Trip 6/14/22 Adventureland, Long Island
- PreK & Kindergarten Graduation 6/15/22 NJWC @ 9:30 am
- Father's Day Breakfast 6/17/22
- Staff End of Year Party 6/17/22
- Grade 5 Graduation 6/22/22 NJWC @ 9:30 am
- Grade 8 Graduation 6/22/22 NJWC @ 1:00 pm
- Last of school 6/24/22

### **Summer BOOST**

- Total of approximately 140 scholars recommended to participate.
- Parents are requested to complete the Google Form that was sent to register their scholar.
- Virtual Staff professional development begins on June 27th.
- Program begins July 5<sup>th</sup>

### **2022-23 Planning**

- Attached Discipline code revisions as per renewal recommendations.

### **Board Approval needed**

- Attached Calendar for 2022-2023 school year. **Board Approval needed.**
- Selected REACS staff will be participating in NYSED Restorative Justice training (**free** four-day, online). The training will focus on the following in highly interactive sessions:
  - Overview of Restorative Justice: history, principles, and research
  - Restorative Justice and its connection to NYSED Social Emotional Learning Benchmarks, Mental Health Education Standards and Culturally Responsive Education Framework
  - The stages of systemic implementation including embedding Restorative Justice Practices into policy and Codes of Conduct
  - Establishing accountability systems including Monthly Discipline Data Reporting and Monitoring
  - Methods for holding school leaders accountable for the implementation of Restorative Justice Practices through hiring and evaluation protocols
  - Ongoing funding and supports needed to ensure sustainability
  - Action planning to support a mindful implementation process that includes key stakeholders

### **Personnel Report**

- 22-23 Organizational Change to support teacher development with two Coaching positions. This split the support for teachers between Elementary and Middle School. The Prek -8th grade content span between Elementary and Middle school is vast. Consultant Coaching would be reduced. Two REACS teachers have been to take on the Elementary Coaching. They have recently completed Educational leadership degrees. They have been with REACS for 10 and 4 years. This also demonstrates career ladder opportunities at REACS

### **Board Approval needed**

- Assistant Principal resignation effective 6/27. AP posting is on Indeed. Began reviewing resumes and recreating a hiring team/committee. Two candidates will be recommended.
- IT Support Specialist resignation effective 5/31. Posting is on Indeed.
- Dean of School Culture candidates are being reviewed. Three candidates came in for an in-person round two interviews.
- Staff absenteeism is extremely high as staff members are utilizing their days off since there is not a true incentive for staff to keep their days/nor do they get paid out. 12 days June absenteeism breakdown:
  - May 31: 8
  - June 1: 4
  - June 2: 9
  - June 3: 12
  - June 6: 4
  - June 7: 7
  - June 8: 5
  - June 9: 5
  - June 10: 4
  - June 13: 12
  - June 14: 11
  - June 15: 4

## **IV. PTO Report**

### **A. Shinequa Brown**

Good evening, executive board, School Leaders, staff, parents and guardians joining us tonight. Our last PTO meeting of the school year was held on Wednesday, June 15<sup>th</sup> via Zoom. June's meeting was fairly short, and just a wrap up of our school year on a whole. We had a few questions from parents this month, and they were addressed as usual. (Questions attached and sent to board). We had a special scholar giveaway of a STEM lab set and it was delivered to the lucky scholar on Tuesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>. PTO took the time to thank all the parents and staff for their constant support of the organization whether through donation of money or their time through volunteering. We recognized a special parent, Chef Jordan Smith, who has three scholars at our school. Chef Smith owns "It's A Mans Thing Catering" company and not only

manned the grill on both field days but also came back and cooked hamburgers and hot dogs on June 3<sup>rd</sup> for the scholars as an impromptu lunch because we had so much food left over from the field days. We also recognized the restaurant "The Door," as they donated pans of delicious hot food, fruit, and utensils on both field days. The love shown to our school community was simply amazing. 5<sup>th</sup> Grade received their graduation gifts, which were 20oz aluminum water bottles, from the PTO on Thursday, June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Pre-K & Kindergarten received their gifts, which were customized insulated lunch bags, on Tuesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>. (Pictures of both are attached) If you remember, as a reading incentive, PTO promised to give the top female and male readers of Middle School a \$25 gift card, and they were delivered to the school on Tuesday, June 21<sup>st</sup> along with McDonald Arch cards for the top student in each class from Pre-K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade. On International Day, we supplied water and juice, while our scholars gave us a show. The PTO Executive board decided we will hold a special election in the fall to fill the 2<sup>nd</sup> VP position. If more than one person is interested, then the school will assist us with the voting process. We welcome all who are dedicated to serving our scholars and school community. Ms. Seabourne, our Treasurer, announced that our sock fundraiser is doing well, with \$1,240 in sales. Our highest seller was a 5<sup>th</sup> grade graduate, Brook Rodgers. She sold \$618 worth of socks and received a \$50 gift card. We still have 36 pairs of socks left in Youth(xs) and small sizes. Our end of the year PTO bank balance was sent to the board. Overall, from PTO's perspective, this school year was a success for us. This was the first year with everyone back in the building full time, and although there were adjustments to be made, everyone adapted to the best of their ability. PTO attempted to encourage our staff and scholars by having pizza lunches, fundraisers, testing snack bags, appreciation gifts, incentives and more. We never want our REACS community to ever feel unsupported or unappreciated. A huge THANK YOU to our amazing REACS educators and staff who are committed to our scholars. I know they probably got sick of seeing me, but the goal was to champion, collaborate, show appreciation, and put smiles on everyone's faces because they deserve it. Thank you to our parents, who rose to the occasion when it came to the sock fundraiser, donations, and volunteering. Last but not least, thank you to our scholars who didn't hesitate to lend a helping hand and were always so respectful when they saw PTO. We understand it is our combined efforts that make us successful. And of course, thank you to the PTO team for your hard work, devotion, and time this school year. We look forward to what lies ahead and have already begun discussions on how to make next school year even better. Suggestions are always welcomed. Our email address can be found on the school's website.

## **I. CEO Report**

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

- In the final stages of foundation completion for the new school. Steel will be erected after foundation is complete; contract with steel company is finalized
- School lunch program: I and Ms. Muniz met with current company will discontinue serving lunch to school as REACS has exceeded the student capacity (cafeteria needed for new school population). Current kitchen needs \$75-80K in upgrades and current company wants full control of kitchen, space for 5 people with changing facilities and office. Current company will supply lunch for upcoming school year. Looking at companies to supply lunch after '22-'23 school year. Another option on the table is to create a new kitchen in the new school building (additional costs will be incurred).

## **II. Finance Report**

### **A. Mrs. Marcia Anglin**

- Committee met on 6/22/22 and 6/24/22; Staff salaries were discussed and the upcoming school year budget.

## **III. Academic Accountability Report**

### **A. Mrs. Chene Williams**

The Committee met virtually on Wednesday, June 20, 2022, at 7:00 PM. The following items were discussed:

- The Pre-K and K graduations had successfully taken place.
- An update on students and staff affected by Covid was given.
- Testing results from the I-Ready and A-Net tests and comparative data will be discussed at the July academic meeting.
- End of the year activities were announced.
- Summer Boost teachers are to be trained.
- Additional students are needed to fill summer slots.
- The Discipline Code will be discussed with the Board.
- Restorative Justice Staff will also be trained.

- Admin is discussing whether coaches should be utilized in the summer

The next meeting will be held on July 11, 2022.

#### **IV. Personnel Committee Report – NO MEETING**

##### **A. Mrs. Kamala Sandiford**

##### **Adjourn Meeting**

L. Stephens was nominated by M. Anglin for vice-chair of the REACS School board; M> Anglin also made the motion to accept L. Stephens as vice-chair for the REACS School Board (C. Williams seconded); vote was passed. There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
R. Wilson

The meeting was adjourned for executive session.

In executive session:

- Staff salaries were discussed.
- K. Sandiford made a motion to accept the '22-'23 budget with any necessary corrections (D. Barron seconded); vote was passed.
- D. Barron made a motion to address a Cost-of-Living Increase (C.O.L.A.) to staff salaries (R. Wilson seconded); vote was passed.
- R. Wilson made a motion to accept a change in the base pay for unlicensed teachers with bachelor's degree and no experience (C. Williams seconded); vote was passed.
- D. Barron made a motion to accept the modified calendar for the '22-'23 school year (C. Rice seconded); vote was passed.