



# Rochdale Early Advantage Charter School

## Minutes

### REACS Board Meeting

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#### **Date and Time**

Monday April 24, 2023 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), S. Brown (remote),

#### **Directors Absent**

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

C. Rice (remote)

#### **Guests Present**

Sylvia Fairclough-Leslie (remote), Ms. Kimylene Hover (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 24, 2023 at 6:34 PM

R. Wilson made a motion to Approve Agenda.

C. Williams seconded the motion.

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

#### **C. Approve Minutes**

K. Sandiford made a motion to Approve Minutes from March 27, 2023

C. Williams 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 – 33
- K-8 STUDENTS – 430
- SPED STUDENTS – 52
- ELL – 4
- ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS – 69%

#### ENROLLMENT: 2023 - 2024

- Received 449 applications
- 22 applications received after the deadline; they will not be included in the lottery; portal will close 8/31/23
- Lottery scheduled for 4/25/23

#### COMPLIANCE/FINANCE:

- Summer boost grant approved
- School food authority documents submitted, waiting on approval for RFP
- Financial Snapshot, budget vs. actual and cash disbursement reports sent to the board

## III. School Leader Report

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

Ms. Kimylene Hover

#### Teaching and Learning

- NY State Testing
  - ELA Exam
    - Day 1 & Day 2 is completed. Make-ups for absentees 4/24-27.
  - Math Exam
    - May 2 & 3, 2023
  - NYSESLAT - ESL Students only
    - April 17 – May 26, 2023
  - Grade 8 Science Exam
    - May 23-June 2 & June 5, 2023
  - Algebra Regents
    - June 15, 2023
- Author's Visit
  - The Bayside Bunch series and Journal – Dr. Unseld Robinson April 3, 2023
- Summer Boost
  - Approved serving 1/3 of the student population
    - Preference to lowest performing scholars
    - Additional seats will be offered on a first-come first serve basis.
- PreK Summer Request – Attached for Board vote
- Observations and Teacher 2023-24 Preferences ongoing

#### School Culture

- Kindergarten – Grade 2 scholars went on trips during testing days to free up classroom space to accommodate scholars with testing modifications.
- REACS track team
- Testing Pep Rally
- NJWC Volunteers supported during testing
- Upcoming Events
  - Staff Appreciation - May 8-12, 2023
  - Mother & Me Brunch – May 12, 2023
  - Field Day - May 19, 2023

#### Personnel Report

- Custodian resigned.
- PK School Aide resigned
- Interventionist position filled.
- Assistant Principals Dr. Clay and Ms. Hover attended the 2023 ASCD Annual Conference and Professional Learning in Denver Colorado March 31-April 3, 2023
- Coaching - Director of Operations - UrgentOps

- Trauma-Informed Pedagogy Staff Support
  - Session 1 April 28, 2023
    - These programs will help with:
      - career sustainability,
      - retention,
      - staff mental health,
      - professional boundaries,
      - communication,
      - team support, and
      - your scholar-focused social-emotional learning initiatives.
  - Session 2 – May 26, 2023

A keynote presentation (my solo show) with a 1 session workshop on recognizing the signs and symptoms of compassion fatigue and burnout (as well as some ways to alleviate those symptoms). A creative reflection workshop(s) that gives teachers a tool to support their own emotional wellness.

#### **IV. PTO Report** **Shinequa Brown**

##### **PTO PRESIDENT REPORT**

- Meeting held on Wednesday, April 19, 2023
  - Theme: Seeing Your Health Through Your Own Eyes w/ Iridologist Nancy Pierre & Holistic Health Expert, Dr. Pooch
  - School Leadership addressed questions/concerns (List attached)
  - National Volunteer Week (April 16 through April 22)
    - REACS PTO gave our volunteers rose gold pens on April 19<sup>th</sup> (Picture attached)
    - Volunteers
      - Parent volunteers donated their time to help distribute a pizza lunch from PTO on April 19<sup>th</sup> & returned on April 20 to help Ms. Leslie's team do the same
      - Volunteers are needed to help distribute lunch from PTO on Tuesday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> for NYS Math Test
      - Volunteers are also needed for Field Day
      - Volunteer form on PTO Linktree; info can also be found on REACS website
      - Contact Ms. Roxanne Phoenix, Volunteer Chair at [reacsvolunteerchairsperson@gmail.com](mailto:reacsvolunteerchairsperson@gmail.com)
      - Must be prepared to show vaccination card
    - PTO presented each female staff member with a single rose on March 28<sup>th</sup> in honor of Women's History Month
    - REACS PTO Community Walk-a-thon Fundraiser (<https://www.givingzone.com/z/uTnOw8jgm8>)
  - With support of NJWC Youth Ministry Leadership, we want to bring the community together
  - Saturday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 11am – 2pm
  - Baisley Pond Park
    - Check-in is at starting point at entrance on 155<sup>th</sup> St. and 118<sup>th</sup> Ave. by tennis/handball court
  - Each active participant will receive bib number, bracelet and water to start; snacks and water/juice once completed
  - Scholars get to unwind with family and friends after taking ELA and Math state tests
  - \$5 per active participant; donations to sponsor scholars/classes
- Field Day
  - Friday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at Baisley Pond Park
    - One day for all grades this year
    - PTO has been reaching out for donations, as we must provide food for about 600 people
  - NYS Test Prep Resources for NYS Math Exam

- Khan Academy (Khanacademy.org)
- NYSED (nysedregents.org)
- IXL (ixl.com)
- I-ready
- Speaker for Middle School Scholars & Parents
  - Contacted someone to speak to scholars/parents regarding transition to high school and available options
- PTO Bank Balance as of April 19<sup>th</sup>: \$7,133.43(cash flow statement attached)
- Happy Birthday to all April babies!
- Upcoming Events
  - Scholar Shark Tank
    - REACS scholars, mentored by Dean Dauphin, will present proposals
    - Best proposal will receive gift card from PTO to help buy business supplies
  - Half day on Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup>
  - Next PTO meeting is on Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm via zoom and we will focus on unwinding and giving our REACS parents the opportunity to open up about their school year experience, what we can improve on, etc.

## **V. CEO Report**

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

- Building progress is continuing; roof will be completed soon; all steel construction will be completed soon as well.
- All Electrical, plumbing, rough work has been completed
- Sprinkler system will start next week (3-week timeframe)

## **VI. Finance Report**

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

- TBD

## **VII. Academic Accountability Report**

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

The Academic Accountability Committee met on April 18, 2023, at 6:30 PM. After the initial greetings the meeting officially began at 6:34. Administration presented first with the following report:

- The testing data from ANET is still being finalized and will be sent to the Committee.
- In answer to Dr. Hamer's request for access to PowerSchool, a password will be made available for her.
- The testing schedule for the students was given and accommodations were set up for students with testing accommodations. Arrangements for the lower grades to be out of the building were made as well.
- Ms. Leslie informed the committee that there was a pep rally, gifts, and special lunches, to motivate the students to do their best.
- Reading incentives continue to be given to qualifying students at the monthly assemblies. A suggestion was made to request Admin, the Board, and the Parent Body to come up with a higher value end of the year incentive award for: "the Most Improved Student(s)", which would be fair competition for all, and would involve the parents to work with their child even more to receive the benefits for the award. Details of the title of the award and the prize itself to be discussed and determined with the three "bodies" before the next meeting if the idea is acceptable.

Other issues discussed were:

- The effect of media influence on our middle school students.
- Staff activities for Appreciation Week.
- Observations and Evaluations are ongoing, and a report will be generated for the Board.

- The pre-school Summer Boost Program component was presented and discussed. Ms. Leslie also informed us that a free pilot program from Columbia University called the “Early Bird Screener” will be used with the scholars.
- Ms. Brown gave a report on upcoming activities sponsored by the parents.

The meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.

### **VIII. Personnel Committee Report**

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

- Met 4/18/23 via Zoom
- Discussed vacancies as per the Admin report
- Discussed teacher observations

### **Adjourn Meeting**

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
R. Wilson

The meeting was adjourned for executive session.

In executive session:

- R. Wilson made a motion that the terms of a grant writes for the school be accepted; L. Stephens seconded; the motion passed.
- A student matter was discussed.