



Rochdale Early Advantage Charter School

Minutes

REACS Board Meeting

Date and Time

Monday March 24, 2025, at 6:30 PM

Location

Via Zoom Online Platform and In-Person

Directors Present

L. Hamer, D. Barron, Sandiford, R. Wilson (remote), S. Francis (remote), J. Hurt (remote), M. Anglin (remote)

Directors Absent

Ex Officio Members Present

C. Rice

Guests Present

Sylvia Fairclough-Leslie, Ms. Kimylene Hover (remote), T. 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 March 24, 2024 at 6:37 PM

R. Wilson made a motion to Approve Agenda.

J. Hurt seconded the motion.

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

C. Approve Minutes

M. Anglin made a motion to Approve Minutes from February 24, 2025

R. Wilson 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 – 34
- K-8 STUDENTS (Pre-Enrolled) – 439
- SPED STUDENTS – 66
- ELL – 8
- ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS – 66%
- Temp. Housing – 5

ENROLLMENT: 2024 – 2025

- Seats needed for the following grades: K=4, 1st=1, 3rd=2, 4th=1, 8th=2
- REACS has 230 applications on the waitlist for 2024-2025
- REACS has received 365 applications for the next school year; the applications will close April 1st to qualify for the lottery.
- Lottery will be held April 24th.

COMPLIANCE/FINANCE:

- Projected per pupil is estimated to be \$19,903 for SY 2026. 4.8% increase
- REACS can apply for Security reimbursement from NYC in our 2026 budget
- School is in a good fiscal position as we enter the final quarter of the school year
- Application to apply closes on 4/1/25.
- Working on last DOE invoice that will be submitted tomorrow
- Draft budget submitted to the Treasurer; need to add in new rent amount, once confirmed will send to finance committee.

ATTACHMENTS

- Budget vs. Actual and Cash disbursement reports were given to the board

III. School Leader Report

Mrs. Sylvia Fairclough-Leslie/ Ms. Kimylene Hover/Ms. LaShona Chapman

Performance Focus - Strengthening Teacher Practice

- Professional Development and Teacher Collaboration in Grade Teams
 - Weekly Coaching to develop teacher practice. Areas of focus include content, pedagogy and classroom environment.
- **Professional Development (Reading, Science, and iReady):** To improve instructional practices and student outcomes, all teachers participated in targeted professional development. The training focused on the HMH curriculum for each course and strategies for analyzing student data using the iReady platform. This ensures teachers can leverage data-driven insights to meet students' diverse needs and promote academic growth.
- Online NYS Testing
- Preparing Scholars in grades 3 to 8 NYS Exams

Celebrate Progress and Success

- **The Black History Showcase:** Led by our amazing instructional coaches, scholars, and staff came together to celebrate Black Excellence. Through performances, art, and presentations, they shared their talents and highlighted what Black Excellence means to our school community.
- **Pi Day Celebration:** Extending gratitude to our Math Instructional Coach Mr. Murphy and 6th Grade SPED Teacher Ms. Cross for leading our school-wide Pi Day celebration! Their creativity and passion brought Pi Day to life in such a fun and engaging way.
- **ANet and iReady Assessments Completed:** Our scholars have successfully completed both the ANet and iReady assessments
- Instructional coaches are receiving 1-1 and group coaching with SLS based on their areas of growth
- Summer BOOST Grant Application completed
- 8th grade Senior Trip to DC is next Friday
- Parenting Journey – 12 parents participating

Data Summary

iReady

- ***Gradual increase across all grade levels in Math and ELA

ELA

- Strengths:
- 78% of K-8 students showed proficiency with Phonics
- 90 % of K-8 students showed proficiency with High-Frequency Words

Math

- Standard-Based
- 47% (25% increase) of K-8 students showed proficiency with Numbers and Operations
- 47% (24% increase) of K-8 students showed proficiency with Algebra and Algebraic Thinking

Overall Proficiency

- 52% of 8th-grade students are on or above grade level for Math in comparison to 32%
- 4th grade ELA 30% in comparison to 32 % (47% 23/24) decreased 17%
- 5th grade ELA 40% in comparison to 37% (49% 23/24) 3% increase compared to the network.

ANet

- Scholars outperformed the ANet District across almost all content areas and grade levels (Except 5th grade Math).

ELA/ Literacy

Strengths

- Consistent Performance in A2(Grades 2-4): ANet 2 maintains a relatively steady performance across all grades, with scores ranging from 55% to 51% and a school average of 54%. This suggests there are some teaching strategies or curriculum that meets the students' needs consistently.
- Steady increase from A1 to A2 across the majority of the grade levels (except 8th grade)

Areas of Growth

- 8th Grade ANet Decrease: The drop in ANet's performance in 8th grade may point to transitional challenges or curricular gaps that need addressing to ensure steady growth.
- Despite the slight increase in the data, there is room for developing more consistent teaching practices and support systems across the level.

Math

- In early grades, particularly in 2nd grade, A1 and A2 display robust performance with A1 at 69% and A2 at 65%, indicating effective teaching or curriculum strategies right from the start.

Areas of Growth

- Performance Drop: There's a noticeable decline in performance for several groups in 3rd grade, particularly ANet, which drops from 50% to 43%, 5th grade (42% to 38%), and (8th grade 78% to 63%). This may indicate the increase of rigor in the curriculum and different standards assessed that need to be addressed.

School culture

▪ **Middle School Culture Reset Meetings:**

The assistant principal, dean of culture, and Math instructional coach conducted grade-level reset meetings for grades 5-8 to review school expectations, accountability measures, and goals based on ANet 2 results.

- **Success with the Conduct Tracker:** Teachers provide daily ratings on behavior, participation, attendance, and assignment completion for students with behavioral challenges. The assistant principal, dean of culture, and restorative justice counselor review this data daily, setting weekly goals, with students earning incentives based on their progress.
- **CT3:** Received intensive training with CT3 this week on leveraging and structuring systems for accountability and incentives for our scholars. Focused on creating effective frameworks to drive scholar performance and engagement through clear accountability and tailored incentives.

Upcoming Events

- College and Career Day Mar 20, 2025
- Dr. Rice's 20 Anniversary April 13-14, 2025

Personnel Report

Newly hired

- Mr. Derien. School Aide
- **Open position**
- Interventionist (Mr. Watson resigned)
- Mandarin Teacher - Long-Term Leave
- Elementary STEAM Teacher (sub agency)
- Custodial- Open (using the Agency)
- 1 School Aide- Open
- 1 TA Prek (using the sub agency)
- Admin Assistant (Long Term Leave)
- Charter School Job Fair - Wednesday March 26th (AP and Instructional Coach Attending)

Challenges:

- Accusation of misconduct. (Teacher against Teacher) UNFOUNDED BASED ON THE LAPSE IN TIME AND THE RANGE OF WHEN IT ALLEGEDLY OCCURRED BETWEEN JANUARY AND MARCH 2024.
- Confrontational Parents
- Scholar disruptions

IV. Personnel Report

A. Kamala Sandiford

- Done with staff observations for mid-year
- Some staff members are working on time and attendance
- Staff issues to be discussed in executive session

V. CEO Report

A. Bishop Calvin Rice

- All inspections passed, waiting for a temp C of O
- Legacy bricks are completed
- Landscape will be replaced

VI. PTO Meeting

A. D.A. Seabourne/S. Francis

Summary of the PTO Meeting on Wednesday, March 19, 2025

Attendance: 50 attendees

Meeting Theme: *"The Power of Literacy: Encouraging a Love for Reading."*

Meeting Overview:

- The meeting was called to order by Jennifer Steele, Vice President.
- Present: Co-Presidents Ms. Debbie Ann Seabourne and Ms. Shaena Francis, Secretary Ms. Carnelia Johnson, Communications Secretary Ms. Quana Richards, and Volunteer Chair Ms. Crystal Alexander.
- Absent: Treasurer Ms. Margie Townsend.

Giveaway Announcement:

- Attendees were encouraged to enter their names and scholar's class in the chat for a giveaway for Dr. Rice's anniversary dinner.

Acknowledgments:

- Thank you to all who contributed to the success of the Scholastic Book Fair and Spring Pictures. Especially Ms. Quana Richards who was our photographer.

January Meeting Minutes Reviewed

- Ms. Johnson presented the January 2025 meeting minutes.

Co-President's Report: **Presented by Ms. Debbie Ann Seabourne**

- Celebrated International Women's Month and emphasized the PTO's commitment to collaboration with school leaders and the community.
- February and March saw successful events including two Pizza Pop-Ups with

90% participation, the Book Fair, and Spring Pictures.

- Announcement: All PTO Executive Board positions are open for the 2025-2026 school year. A Google form and robocall will be sent soon.
- Next Pizza Pop-Up: Friday, April 4th.

Presented by Ms. Shaena Francis

- Summarized feedback from the parent PTO form, highlighting interest in volunteering, event planning, and donations.
- Outlined priorities for next year:
 - Classroom support
 - Teacher appreciation
 - Parent workshops
 - Community engagement
- Ideas for fundraisers include family-themed events, talent shows, and community service initiatives.
- Emphasized commitment to improving communication and ensuring timely updates for financial planning and participation.
- The feedback form link was shared for continued input.

Treasurer's Report: *Presented by Ms. Steele in Ms. Townsend's absence*

- February's Beginning Balance: \$5,703.44
- February's Ending Balance: \$8,319.72
- Noted successful fundraising efforts through events like the Pizza Pop-Ups.

Leadership Report:

- No representatives from leadership were present.
- Questions were invited to be dropped in the chat.

Giveaway Winners:

- Congratulations to Beatrice (301 parent) and Debbie Ann (501 parent).

Educational Resources & Test Prep: *Presented by Ms. Belo, Middle School ELA Instructional Coach*

- Emphasized the importance of preparing for the upcoming state tests.
- Resources for test preparation were distributed by the PTO.
- Test dates and tips were shared to help scholars succeed.

Parent Coordinator Updates: *Presented by Ms. Brown*

- Encouraged parents to update contact information with the main office.
- Shared positive feedback from parent-teacher conferences.
- Celebrated high school acceptances for 8th graders, including those accepted into the HBCU Early College Prep High School.

Upcoming Events:

- HBCU Fair: March 22nd at Eagle Academy of Queens.
- 8th Grade Senior Trip: March 28th to Howard University.
- Career and College Day: Parents are encouraged to engage their scholars about what they learned.
- Pizza Pop-Up: April 4th.
- Next PTO Meeting: April 9th at 6:30 PM.

Community Recognitions:

- Congratulations to Ms. Loriann Andrews and Ms. Shinequa Brown as Women's History Month Honorees.
 - Ms. Andrews, a third-grade teacher, published a children's book with her daughter.
 - Ms. Brown, Parent Coordinator and former PTO President, was recognized for her dedication to the school community.
- Celebrating scholar achievements:
 - Zaiyah Greer Murray (502) had artwork displayed at Roy Wilkins Park.
 - Averi (502) was recognized for her achievements as a Girl Scout.

Closing Remarks:

- Encouraged parents to participate in the PTO and volunteer.
- Emphasized the importance of building a strong school community through collaboration.
- Reminded parents to attend the next PTO meeting on April 9th at 6:30 PM.

VII. Academic Accountability Report – NO MEETING/REPORT

A. Mrs. Chene Williams

VIII. Finance Committee Report – NO MEETING/REPORT

A. Mrs. Marcia Anglin

Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:07 PM; next meeting will be April 28th at 6:30 pm. Meeting was adjourned for executive session.

In executive session the following items were discussed:

- A staff incident was discussed
- Parent concerns were discussed
- Protocol items for parent concerns were discussed

Respectfully Submitted,
R. Wilson