



Rochdale Early Advantage Charter School

Minutes

REACS Board Meeting

Date and Time

Monday February 28, 2022 at 6:30 PM

Location

Via Zoom Online Meeting Platform

Directors Present

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

Directors Absent

Ex Officio Members Present

Guests Present

C. Walden (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 February 28, 2022 at 6:36 PM

R. Wilson made a motion to Approve Agenda.

C. Williams seconded the motion.

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

C. Approve Minutes

M. Anglin made a motion to Approve Minutes from January 24, 2022.

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 – 36
- K-8 STUDENTS – 429
- SPED STUDENTS – 54
- ELL – 5
- ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGE STUDENTS – 67%

2022-2023 Applications:

- As of 2/24/22 a total of 415 have been received
- Lottery applications are due on April 1, 2022
- Lottery will be held on Tuesday, April 19, 2022

COMPLIANCE/FINANCE:

- Preparing for 2023 preliminary budget, due in March
- Financial and Cash disbursement reports were given to the board

III. School Leader Report

A. Dr. Claytisha Walden

Renewal Next Steps

- 2/14/22 Submitted the Edits to DOE requested Draft Regents Item
- 3/1/22 Meeting scheduled to review Chancellor's renewal recommendation along with any conditions to be shared if any.
- Board of Regents Decision – anticipated March/April/May

School COVID Update

- Continued weekly scholar testing every Friday.
- We are no longer testing staff members randomly. We are looking for reliable agency to come in.
- We have had 2 COVID positive cases in the school community since January 24th.

Teacher Development & Support

- Teachers continue to be observed by Administrators.
- Coaches & Admin conduct Instructional rounds to support ongoing Teaching and Learning.
- Professional Learning takes place during our Wednesday schedule.
- We have completed the Formal Observation process with the staff. All staff were provided with a written evaluation of their observations and performance. Electronic copies are on file.
- The instructional coaches and outside coaches have supported teachers with improved pedagogy and data analysis.
- Data meeting with Data coach Rashid Johnson to review ANet A2 on 2/16/22

Student Achievement

- We have administered A2. The data in the attached presentation addressed both A1 and A2 with a comparison. We will need to focus on the key standards to address any gaps.
- Teachers are working on specific action plans to address gaps. We will focus on middle school to increase their growth.

- Admin began conducting one to one meetings with scholars to review data and set goals with grades 6-8.
- After the mid-winter Break, we will focus on test sophistication, testing stamina. We are increasing instructional time in Reading/ ELA and Mathematics. STEAM periods will focus on Math; Social Studies will focus on the short and extended responses.
- We are preparing for the NYS ELA exams. A mock exam was administered. A major trend noticed is that scholars need to work on stamina to complete the exam.
- Promotion In Doubt Scholars were identified based on all available assessment data. Parents were notified. Teacher Actions plans were developed to continue supporting these scholars.
- Parents can help with having students practice on iReady and independent reading daily.

New York State Grades 3-8 Exam Schedule

- ELA Exam - March 29-30, 2022
- 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.

Reading Initiatives

- In conjunction with Read Across America Day, March 2, 2022, scholars will continue reading logs, which will be reviewed monthly and prizes will be awarded based total minutes read, most books read (by class and by grade).
- Reading buddies between the Middle School grades and Elementary School grades

Mathematics Initiatives

- Pi Day Mar 14, 2022
- March Olympics- TBA

PBIS Leadership Incentives

- Continuing to be developed by the leadership team as well as the Leader in Me team. Surveying scholars to find incentives that are appropriate and relevant to them.
- RESPECT FOR ALL WEEK - February 14-18th

Enrichment Scholar Activities

- Mondays
 - My Brother's Keeper - Male initiative started on January 31st.
 - Pretty Brown Girls continued
- Basketball Club Tuesdays - Vaccinated scholars in grades 5-8
- Cheerleading – TBA

Black History Month

- REACS had a Black History Month Celebration kick-off. The theme was "I am Black History."
 - 1 student from Pre-K, Elementary and Middle School will share a 3-to-4-minute speech, dance, poem etc. letting us know what Black History means to them.
 - Additionally, following the Mid-Winter break there will be a Black History Showcase- the purpose will be to highlight Black excellence from the past all the way up to the present.

Personnel Report

- Current vacancies are 8th Grade Math, Interventionist, Elementary STEAM.
 - New teacher hired to fill MS Math role. (pending)
- TA who declined the vaccine continues to be on leave.
- Dean of Culture Request - Awaiting Board Decision

Staff Benefits Package – Staff Retention

We seek to enhance our total benefits/compensation package for REACS staff, to remain competitive with NYCDOE, Charter Schools, Long Island Schools and Private Schools. We have had a number of individuals who have declined offers or

left, and after hearing feedback from our current staff members, one vital area that we would like to look into is how we can improve the health insurance package that is offered to staff. Improving this would allow us to increase retention, attract certified teachers and our lower turnover rate.

IV. PTO Report

A. Shinequa Brown – No Meeting

- Provided Pizza and Soda for students on 2/14/22
- Next PTO meeting 3/16/22 next meeting via Zoom

V. CEO Report

A. Bishop Calvin Rice – NO REPORT

VI. Finance Report

A. Mrs. Marcia Anglin – NO REPORT

VII. Academic Accountability Report

A. Mrs. Chene Williams

- Met 2/16/22 @ 6:30 pm via Zoom
- Went over Admin report (behavior, test scores, etc)
- Teacher action planning template was discussed

VIII. Personnel Committee Report

A. Mrs. Kamala Sandiford

- Met after academic accountability meeting on 2/16/22 at 7:18 pm via zoom
- Continuing to address teacher vacancies and middle school concerns

Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:13 PM. Next meeting scheduled for March 28, 2022. The meeting was adjourned for executive session.

Respectfully Submitted,
R. Wilson

In executive session:

A motion was made (K. Sandiford) to allow C. Rice to sign a check from allocated construction funds to begin construction (excavation, general contracting) for the new REACS school building (R. Wilson seconded); vote was passed, one opposed. A motion was made (M. Anglin) to make provisions in the budget for a dean of student affairs for the junior high school starting August 2022 (R. Wilson seconded) vote was passed. Recruitment for all staff for all positions is ongoing.