



Rochdale Early Advantage Charter School

Minutes

REACS Board Meeting

Date and Time

Monday January 22, 2024, at 6:30 PM

Location

Via Zoom Online Meeting Platform

Directors Present

L. Hamer, L. Stephens, C. Williams-Hagins (remote), R. Wilson (remote), K. Sandiford (remote), M. Townsend (remote), D. Barron (remote), M. Anglin (remote)

Directors Absent

Ex Officio Members Present

C. Rice (remote)

Guests Present

Sylvia Fairclough-Leslie (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 January 22, 2024 at 6:37 PM

R. Wilson made a motion to Approve Agenda with an additional addition.

D. Barron seconded the motion.

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

C. Approve Minutes

K. Sandiford made a motion to Approve Minutes from December 18, 2023

L. Stephens 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 (Pre-Enrolled) – 438
- SPED STUDENTS – 47
- ELL – 7
- ECONOMIC DISADVANTAGED STUDENTS – 65%

ENROLLMENT: 2023 - 2024

- Seats to be filled: 1st (6), 2nd (5), 8th (1)
- Total applications on waitlist: 310
- 2024-2025 Applications are available in the portal as of January 1, 2024; so far there are 175 applicants; registration closes April 1st.
- Marketing campaign has begun

COMPLIANCE/FINANCE:

- Pending verification of
 - W2
 - 1099
 - Accountability reports due 2/9/24
 - Annual comprehensive review is due 2/9/24, working with Dan Pasek

ATTACHMENTS

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

III. School Leader Report

Mrs. Sylvia Fairclough-Leslie/ Ms. Kimylene Hover

Teaching and Learning

- Grades 5 & 8 completed the simulations as they continue preparing to take the NYS ELA, Math, and Science exams online this spring. Our IT specialist ensured the secure browser was in place on every scholar device.
- We have extended the Afterschool and Saturday School classes to scholars of all grades 2-8.
- At Risk Plan (Intentional Reteach with Interventionist, Classroom Small Groups, After School, Skills period, and Saturday School (started on January 6th).
- ANET and other assessment data are continuously analyzed as teachers hone in on the standards scholars need to improve. This data will also be used to identify Promotion in Doubt scholars at this Midyear timeframe.
- Consultants from Teaching Matters and the National Training Network will help teachers implement the new curriculum resources.
- STEM equipment from the \$100,000 grant from the Borough President was set up with the IT Specialist and the STEM Team by the A+Plus Stem Lab technician. An initial training overview was provided, with additional training to follow. Included were the following:
 - MS Science Pack (which is the rolling charging/storage cart with Data loggers and probe ware.)
 - Drone Blocks Drone Pack
 - Drone Blocks Robo Dog Kit
 - MakerBot Sketch Small Bundle (four 3D printers, Material, Mobile Stands.)
 - 13 Lego Spike Essential
 - 13 Lego Spike Prime
 - Merge Cube Class Pack

School Culture

- SMILE Dentist saw 120 scholars at REACS from January 5th -12th
- The monthly scholar recognition Cultural Assembly was held on January 7th. As always, scholars were recognized for academics, leadership, and character.
- REACS 2nd Staff versus Student Basketball game was successful. This is also a fundraising venture for the 8th-grade seniors. Families donated towards their concession stand. Profits will offset their senior activities.

- Black Latinx Asian Charter Collaborative honored 2nd-grade teacher Ms. Heather Tullock at the BLACC & White gala at the Sugar Hill Museum in Harlem on January 11, 2024. REACS selected Ms. Tullock for having the highest ANET Math scores.
- REACS Girl Scout Troop began on January 9, 2024

Upcoming

- Leader in Me Coaching Day at REACS – All Staff January 23, 2024
- 113 Precinct Youth Officers Antiviolence Awareness presentation on January 23, 2024, for REACS Middle School scholars.
- Queens South Spelling Bee – January 25, 2025. A 6th-grade scholar will represent REACS at Queens Metropolitan HS.
- BookBlast, February 6, 2024 – Special reading event: all scholars receive a free book to start the reading challenge.
- National Read Aloud Day -February 7, 2024
- 8th Grade NAEP Test – February 13, 2024
- Schoolwide Valentine Social during the day – February 14, 2024
- Black History Celebration – REACS Choir, Your Queens Inc. performance

Personnel Report

- STEM Teacher position filled
- School Aide Resigned
- PREK TA on leave
- TA extended the leave due school schedule

IV. PTO Report Margie Townsend

The January monthly meeting of the PTO took place on Wednesday January 17, 2024. The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm by me. Parents were asked to place their names in the chat to be eligible for the giveaway at the end of the meeting. The parent must be present at the time of the drawing to claim the prize. The minutes of the December meeting were read by the Recording Secretary, Ms. Johnson.

I followed with the President's Report. There are two open positions on the PTO Executive Board for 2nd VP and Communications Secretary. While asking for people to consider running for these positions, I also alerted the meeting that all PTO positions will be up for election at the end of this school year and that we hope they will begin to think about running for a position. My report was followed by the Treasurer's Report given by Ms. Seabourne. She congratulated the winners of the popcorn fundraiser and announced the highest selling class. Ms. Seabourne announced the date of the next Pizza Pop-Up which will take place on Friday, February 2^{ns}. She then went over the current financial information of the PTO, and her statement is attached below. At the conclusion of her report, Ms. Seabourne reminded the meeting that the PTO was still collecting dues for the school year.

Next, Ms. Leslie addressed the meeting. Apart from the information that she will present at this meeting she asked parents to be mindful of the weather as they send their scholars to school so that they do not arrive wet and cold. She also reminded parents that the doors of the school do not open before 7:45am and scholars will not be let into the building before that time.

Our Parent Coordinator Ms. Brown spoke about the upcoming Shark Tank that Mr. Dauphin is putting together. Scholars in grades 5-9 will present their business ideas, and the top three will be chosen to showcase their business to a panel of judges. The winner of Shark Tank will be awarded a monetary prize from the PTO. Ms. Brown then congratulated Ms. Tulloch who taught class 2-01 on being named Educator of the Year from BLACC.

The Parent Workshop was led by Mr. Drummond, the Middle School Physical Education Teacher who presented on Health and Wellness. Mr. Drummond thoroughly went over what the middle school scholars are learning about their physical and mental well-being. He also spoke about some of the things Mr. Anderson is doing with the elementary scholars. It was a very informative presentation and we at the PTO were very thankful for Mr. Drummond's participation.

1st VP Ms. Holmes conducted the family giveaway where the PTO gave out a \$25 gift card. This was followed up with Ms. Holmes reminding the meeting of upcoming important dates, including letting everyone know that there will not be a PTO meeting in February.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35pm.

V. CEO Report

A. Bishop Calvin Rice

Energy rating approval is in; sprinkler system on first floor is in and will be done shortly; elevator installation will begin 2/12/24 and will be done in March. 30% of classrooms are complete with framing and lighting. Electrical work is continuing along with HVAC work. Tile work on bathrooms on 2nd floor is complete. Foundation work is progressing; exterior work is complete. Looking to remove a tree and fire hydrant that's blocking a potential compactor. Signage is complete (Walgreens has donated the signage). Bricklaying campaign has begun. Potential funding for the cafeteria for the new building

- * **Ms. S. Brown and Ms. S. Francis gave a presentation on B.L.A.C.C. (Black LatinX Asian Charter Collaborative) ***

VI. Finance Report

A. Mrs. Marcia Anglin

Finance committee met 1/12/24; Stephens, M. Anglin and L. Hamer were in attendance. Looked over financial reports and discussed staff salaries, and new expenses pertaining to the new building

VII. Academic Accountability Report

A. Mrs. Chene Williams

The Academic Accountability Committee met on January 16, 2024 at 6:30 pm. The attendees were: C. Williams; S. Fairclough-Leslie; L. Hamer; M. Anglin; M. Townsend.

The meeting began with a discussion concerning the follow-up of the data results presented at the November meeting. Ms. Leslie gave a summary of the ongoing changes that have been taking place since that report. The rest of the meeting responded to the specific questions listed on the agenda. Highlights of those responses are:

- First and Second Graders are being taught to bubble in answers to prepare them for third grade testing procedures;
- There is more focus on the curriculum standard areas for lower performing scholars;
- I-READY criteria was used to select students for the Afterschool and Saturday programs;
- Obstacles blocking or interfering with student academic growth have been identified and have led to interventions for Level 2 scholars to advance to level 3.
- The A-Net Cycle 2 is scheduled for the week of Jan. 22 – Feb. 5. Results should be available before the March Academic meeting;
- The number of PID students (if any) will be determined by the end of January;
- Technology equipment purchased by the Grant has been loaded on the student laptops.
- Part 1 and 2 Self-Care Workshop follow-ups are ongoing, and Part 3 is scheduled for the end of January;
- Ms. Townsend gave parent feedback from the recent workshops;
- Upcoming activities and events were announced;
- An inquiry was made concerning any current or suggested end of the year student incentives.

There are no recommendations to the Board at this time.
The academic meeting adjourned at 7:01 pm.

VIII. Personnel Committee Report – NO REPORT

A. Mrs. Kamala Sandiford

Adjourn Meeting

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
R. Wilson

The meeting was adjourned for executive session.

In executive session:

- R. Wilson made a motion that the REACS school board renews its contract with Board on Track for a new year tenure. L. Stephens will present the board on track features in the next board meeting.
- An H/R issue was discussed
- L. Stephens made a motion to accept urgent ops to begin work at REACS including deliverables: handbook, benefits, etc. K. Sandiford seconded; vote was passed.