

MEETING OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Riverview Charter School
December 13, 2018, 6:00 pm
81 Savannah Highway, Beaufort, S.C.

Mission: Riverview Charter School's mission is to create a small, diverse community that actively engages students in meaningful and innovative learning experiences. Emphasizing "learning by doing," family and community involvement, and engaged citizenship, Riverview is committed to nurturing the whole child and preparing each student for a global society.

Members Present: Jim White, Aby Bandoh, Gayle Carroll, Kathryn Ferguson, Cathy Hoogenboom, Denise Jones, Mary Jordan Lampesis, Scott Lee, Arthur O'Kelley, John Troutman, Julia Wittschen-Price

Leadership Present: Alison Thomas, AnnMarie Bowden, A.K. Harper, Donna Haram, Elizabeth O'Brien

Call to Order: Jim White called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Public Session

- Approval of the Agenda - John Troutman proposed that a vote be taken to approve the agenda. Scott Lee seconded the motion and it was passed by the group.
- Statement of Compliance with Freedom of Information - Jim White announced that we were in compliance with FOIA.
- Public Comments to the Board - There was no one present who had concerns to present to the Board.

Finance Committee

- Audit Report Presentation - Michelle Jones was present to hand out and to go over major points found in Audit Report. One major point brought to the group's attention was an entry showing the "underfunding for retirement fund" and its impact on the report findings; a question was asked about future structuring for donations to allow for funding of special projects and how it might prevent raising questions by BCSD about financial needs/concerns of RCS. Michelle Jones recommend that the Board consult with school auditors (McKay/Kittie) before making decisions about such a change. There were no other questions at this time for Ms. Jones.
- As the Financial segment of the meeting continued, members were encouraged to hold questions until the end of each session and to pursue any follow-up questions after reading/studying reports following the end of the meeting.
- Monthly Financial Report - Cathy Hoogenboom reported on July-October budgets (does not include November). Official 45 Day count information was extended because of the hurricane days and will be not available until January. February will be when information will impact funding. Numbers show a Favorable but small balance. Funding in February will help if any future problems arise. A question about the Wordware balance from a previous month was explained as now a positive. The unfavorables listed were explained as not being an issue since they are temporary/timing issues. This does not include PEBA or Tidewatch. There is a furniture order that is outstanding and will come in December and show on a later

statement. There is a \$168,000 projected amount owed through November because of 45 Day Count being incorrect

People and Programs Committee

- Slate of Candidates for Board Membership- Election will close soon and the five candidates on the slate sent to be voted on included: Vincent Brennan, Lamar Cooler, Joey Grice, Nicole Johansen, Scott Lee. Those involved in the nominating and selection process were pleased with the proposed candidates and their contribution to Riverview Charter School in the capacity of future board members.
- The school charter sets the first meeting of the new year as the first Monday in January. This meeting will be January 7th at 6:00. There will be a need for a second meeting in January to complete timely business such as the approval of the charter renewal application before it is sent to Beaufort County School Board at end of January (25th).

Director's Report - Alison Thomas

- DRAFT Annual Report for 2017-2018 - This is due December 31 to superintendent. This is the tenth year in a row that the school has met all charter goals and objectives. The school continues to exceed BCSD and the state in performance on data testing. Included in the annual report is the school audit and state report card results. BCSD has thirty days to review the Annual Report and ask questions or express concerns.
- State Report Card for 2017-2018 - A report card has not been issued for past three years, but a report for this year has just been released. Scott Lee asked if there were any concerns about any particular area. There were none raised at this time, but like all new documents reflecting information for all in state there might be a need for changes or questions to come in future if needed. Riverview received two report cards; one for the Elementary school with a score of 55 = good. One for the Middle School of 77 which is rated excellent. Overall the expectation is that if reported as one school it would be an average of the two ratings which would reflect a rating of excellent even though not reported that way in local paper. The State School Report Card Data can be accessed OnLine...A Guide was handed out to allow for additional explanation. It was pointed out that now schools are graded on more than test scores but also in four domains in **Elementary Schools**; School Quality is based on engagement which is compiled from student online survey taken in spring; Academic (**ELA and Math** values 40 points out of 100 points; 10 points is value for **Science/Social Studies**)- **School Quality** is valued at 10 points - excellent this year at 9 points; **Middle School**: 77- excellent **Student Progress** - excellent; **School Quality** - excellent; 8 points; Leadership Team analysis included the major points that the longer students are at RCS the better they perform because of foundational skills established and Leadership is always trying to understand how to "close the gap" on every level...grow them all! Two schools reported by media with excellent ratings were Coosa Elementary and May River High.
- Charter Renewal - The process continues with Alison Thomas scheduling meetings with the interim Superintendent and also with State Department and Charter School officials. The school attorney has been consulted who emphasized a focus on three points: to report on progress over ten years; financial statements including budgets; any changes to be implemented over next ten years. The meeting with Dr.Berg is next week and a report will be made back to the group on January 7 or at the later January meeting. Scott Lee asked a follow-up question about the Reserve Funding Shortage and if there had been any response from State or District that might impact our renewal. RCS has not received any response from letter sent to Moss in the summer with the proposal requested to meet that demand. A question was asked about the expressed desire to change class size and when that should

be done. Mrs. Thomas answered that it could be done as part of renewal charter change or requested at a later date. Arthur O'Kelley asked if the staff has expressed any desire to increase or not to increase class size. The Director responded that it is believed that the staff is generally positive except at 7th and 8th grade. It is thought that this would correlate with the difficulty these students have adapting and a possible solution would be if students leave during the term at this level it might be best not to replace them. This discussion continues as other benefits are weighed such as smaller classes for Carnegie credit classes.

With Gratitude to our outgoing Board Members: Thank you and gift to come from a very grateful school to the following who are leaving the Board at the end of their term on December 31: Denise Jones, John Troutman, Jim White

Executive Session

Arthur O'Kelley moved to accept the minutes from the November meeting. The motion was seconded by Julia Wittschen-Price and passed by the group.

Adjourn: Denise Jones moved to adjourn at 8:00 and the motion was seconded by Arthur O'Kelley. The motion was passed and the meeting was adjourned.