

Riverview Charter School
81 Savannah Highway, Beaufort, S.C. 29906
Minutes for Board of Directors Meeting
August 23, 2018, 6:00 pm. Conference Room

Mission: Riverview Charter School's mission is to create a small, diverse learning 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.

Board Members Present: John Troutman, Aby Bando, Gayle Carroll, Katherine Ferguson, Cathy Hoogenboom, Denise Jones, Mary Jordan Lampesis, Scott Lee, Arthur O'Kelley, Julia Wittschen-Price
Leadership Team Present: Alison Thomas, AnnMarie Bowden, Donna Haram-Deines, A.K. Harper, Elizabeth O'Brien

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:06 pm by the Vice-Chairman John Troutman.

Public Session:

It was made known that requirements were met for Freedom of Information Act. There were no public comments made to the Board.

Director's Report:

The Director's report included the following:

Updates to Handbooks- Changes for the new year were procedural and showed no policy changes. If no changes/corrections are proposed they will be sent to faculty, staff and parents in a week.

Enrollment Report- 663 students are enrolled in RCS - two priority students to enter on Monday. There are 355 white students (53.5% of total -target for the year not to exceed 54.4%). Day #10 will be Wednesday, August 29.

Daily Bus Transportation- Beaufort County is charging RCS last year's rate of \$6,000 per bus. This was not included in the 2018-2019 budget. The amount must be negotiated for 2019-2020. Because 74 students had signed up for one bus route by the 3rd day of school there is a need for a fourth bus. Bus capacity is between 55-57. One bus has 10 students on it. There was discussion about the bus routes and why some buses were serving specific schools/locations. Originally RCS shared a bus with an elementary program and was charged by mileage. It was determined necessary to investigate cost by January so that decisions can be made about busing before next school year. Any student may sign up to ride a bus. The question was raised if most bus usage was out of necessity or convenience and it was stated that there is some of both. Mrs. Thomas will negotiate for better use of the three buses and determine if Beaufort County is receiving allocation for bus riders from the state. The Board approved funding for the extra bus until the next Board meeting.

Finance Committee Report:

Monthly Statements for June - Cathy Hoogenboom provided a written report and led a discussion of specific points. Statements show a negative in Fundraising, Field Trips, Personnel, Supplies, Operations, Athletics, and Board Membership. July statements were not available and will provide some possible explanations. There was a discussion of the new School Supplies option for students and it was reported that 180-200 students opted out. The bulk purchase by the school allowed it to be advantageous for parents and allowed the teachers to have their desirable supplies provided. The question was raised as to the advantage of the option considering the time investment made by the office staff. It is predicted that the process in the future will be easier and less labor intensive for the office staff and would involve the faculty.

Pupils in Poverty Funding - There is a \$263,000 drop in 2019 for student funding which is weighted that includes Gifted and Talented, Academic Assistance, Special Education Services, and ESOL. No guidance is given as to how to fund. BCSD decided to use Free and Reduced Lunch qualification (there are 180-190 pupils at RCS in the program). Questions were raised as to how students “qualify” for the Free and Reduced Program and if criteria such as Food Stamps, Medicare, Homeless/Foster Care are used and the process for qualifying. Riverview was paid for 17 students for July and August. Questions were raised about the \$214 million given to BCSD and what portion is allowed to Riverview and how it is determined. Alison will ask for an update from the District by day #45 and believes that since the State Department used Power School for the number it used it will expect accuracy or correction. The Board requested that a resolution or explanation from BCSD be made before the next meeting on September 20 or no later than school day 45, October 20.

Consent Agenda:

Denise Jones moved to approve the minutes from the May and June meetings. The motion was seconded by Mary Jordan Lampesis and passed without objection.

Executive Session**Adjournment:**

The group was reminded of the next meeting on September 20. Scott Lee moved to adjourn the meeting. After the motion was seconded it was voted on and approved by the majority.