

MEETING MINUTES

Name of Foundation: The Renaissance Charter School, Inc.
 Board Meeting: February 13, 2009

School(s): Hollywood Academy of Arts & Sciences
 North Broward Academy of Excellence
 Renaissance Charter School

The minutes of Sunshine Law meetings need not be verbatim transcripts of the meeting. These minutes are a brief summary of the events of the meeting.

Date:	Start	End	Next Meeting:	Next time:	Prepared by:
02.13.09	12:45 p.m.	2:00 p.m.	03.27.09	10:30 a.m.	Mary Vecchione
Meeting Location:					
Gateway Charter School, 12950 Commonwealth Drive, Fort Myers, FL 33913					

Attended by:	
Mr. Kenneth Haiko, Chairman Mr. Dennis Clark, Vice Chairman Mr. Clarence McKee, Secretary	Mr. Jon Hage, President/CEO, CSUSA Mr. Mike Essik, Director of Finance, CSUSA Mr. John O'Brien, Principal, GCS Ms. Brooke Kaufman, Assistant Principal, GCS Ms. Deb Tracy, Principal, BSCS Dr. Deborah Nauss, Principal, CCCS Mr. Joe Roles, Principal, GCHS Ms. Sara Abraham, Principal, SMCA Ms. Theresa Brown, Dean of Students, GCHS Several Staff Members, GCS Several Staff Members, GCHS Ms. Ana Cordal, Principal, RECS Ms. Donte Fulton, Principal, HAAS Mr. David McKnight, Principal, NBAE Mr. Bill Price, McGarvy Development Mr. Rick Losy, Architect
Absent: Mr. Thomas Wheeler, Treasurer	

Highlights:

CALL TO ORDER

Pursuant to public notice, The Renaissance Charter School, Inc. Governing Board meeting commenced at 12:45 p.m. with a Call to Order by Chairman Haiko. Roll call was taken and quorum was established.

Mr. John O'Brien hosted the Board meeting at his school, Gateway Charter School. The Board members toured the building and were given a demonstration of the SMART boards used in classrooms.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Kenneth Haiko, Chairman

Chairman Haiko asked the Board to review the minutes from the November 7, 2008 Board of Director's meeting and note any corrections or comments. The minutes stand.

Motion made by Mr. Clark with a second by Mr. McKee to approve the November 7, 2008 Board minutes for the Renaissance Charter School, Inc. The motion was approved 3-0 (1 absent; 1 open seat).

II. SCHOOL REPORT

Renaissance Charter School

Ms. Ana Cordal, Principal, RECS

- Ms. Cordal reported that elementary enrollment is 501 students with a budgeted enrollment of 490 and 100% in attendance for the month of January; Middle School enrollment is 128 with a budgeted enrollment of 128 and 100% attendance for January.
- FCAT tutoring has begun and will continue to March 5th. Parents have been called if targeted students have not been participating.
- Benchmark 3 has been administered and individual student goals have been developed.
- Ms. Cordal reported on facilities and relevant school/community activities.
- Ms. Cordal acknowledged that the United States Southern Command rewarded Renaissance Charter School with the Certificate of Appreciation of their outstanding achievements and exceptional dedication in providing the highest level of academic excellence to the US Southern Command's Service members and their families.

North Broward Academy of Excellence

Mr. David McKnight, Principal, NBAE

- Mr. McKnight reported that K-8 enrollment is 551 and MS enrollment is 288, with a budgeted enrollment of 550 and 308 respectively.
- Staffing has an addition of an ESE teacher and a permanent substitute was hired to replace the Media Specialist.
- Benchmark 3 was administered and data evaluated. Instructional focus calendars were developed to target specific skill deficits and aid in evaluating pre-assessment, teaching skills and post assessment.
- FCAT Writes was administered this week for the 4th & 8th graders.
- Academic remediation has begun for after school tutoring.
- Mr. McKnight reported on facilities and school/community activities.
- The Grand Opening for the new building was held and guest speaker was Sheriff Al Lamberti. Mr. McKnight thanked all who attended.
- Mr. McKnight also reported that a parent from NBAE submitted an article on the PTO and it was awarded honorable mention.

Hollywood Academy of Arts & Sciences

Ms. Donte Fulton, Principal, HAAS

- Ms. Fulton reported that student enrollment was at 680, with the budgeted enrollment being 683. Over 95% of the families have recommitted their enrollment for next school year, with open enrollment beginning now.
- Currently the school is fully staffed.
- Benchmark 3 was administered and the data has been analyzed, the administrative team meetings have been completed, grade level lesson planning and instruction has been realigned according to the data, after school tutoring has begun, and FCAT Literacy Night was held.
- Ms. Fulton reported on facilities issues. The land south of the school was finally transferred to CSUSA and the demolition of the buildings began immediately.
- Ms. Fulton also reported on school/community activities.

III. FINANCE

Mr. Mike Essik, Director of Finance, CSUSA

- Mr. Essik reviewed the quarterly financials ending December 2008 for The Renaissance Charter School, Inc.
- Student enrollment is showing a positive variance of 5 students and overall, favorable to plan. The shortfall at NBAEMS was offset by over enrollment at NBAE elementary. HAASMS is showing a shortfall but is incorrect due to an error on invoice. The correction will show in Q3 with the actual count being 227.
- Revenue per student was favorable in all schools through the second quarter of activity with the exception of RECSMS. FTE revenue per student for RECS and RECSMS reflects the 1.93% state budget cut. The same cut will be reflected in the remaining schools in Q3.
- The summary of school revenues shows a favorable variance for RECS and HAAS and an unfavorable variance at NBAE.
- School expenses, overall, are showing a deficit at RECS elementary, Hollywood Middle, and North Broward elementary.
- Summary of School surplus/deficits are contributed to NBAE and NBAEMS due to true enrollment not reflected in the FTE revenue for the first quarter and expenses over budget.
- The forecasted enrollment is favorable by 27 students overall, with NBAE additional students offset by the shortfall at the middle school.
- The forecasted revenue reflects State budget cuts in FTE funding for all schools.
- A \$414,000 surplus is projected through June 2009 for all schools combined.

Motion made by Mr. Clark with a second by Mr. McKee to approve the quarterly financials ending December 2008 for The Renaissance Charter School, Inc. The motion was approved 3-0 (1 absent; 1 open seat).

IV. OLD BUSINESS

St. Lucie Charter

Mr. Jon Hage, President/CEO, CSUSA

- Mr. Hage reviewed the timeline for the St. Lucie Charter. We have identified the land and photos were available for the Board members to see. The announcement should be made on Monday and the application process will begin for the enrollment of 90-100 students. The building will be completed in approximately 6 months, prior to the opening of the next school year. The schools capacity will be 1500 students with 75 + teachers and staff.
- Mr. Hage also shared with the Board that CSUSA has been approached by Tory Pines Molecular Institute, a bio medicine research firm, which is building headquarters in the Port St. Lucie area. They have asked CSUSA about building a charter school for their employee's families with an anticipated opening date of fall 2010. Work place employees would get preference to enrollment.

Homestead Charters

Mr. Jon Hage, President/CEO, CSUSA

- Mr. Hage reported that the charter schools in Homestead have been stalled. The City and CSUSA are still working through the traffic mitigation fee. The city has indicated that they will be working on a new traffic study in the area and will keep CSUSA updated.

Broward Charter

Mr. Jon Hage, President/CEO, CSUSA

- We currently hold a charter for a K-8 school in Broward County. CSUSA found a private school that is for sale and we are looking into buying the property. If

this school appears to be advantageous, CSUSA will approach the Board for their approval. This would be a feeder school for CSCS.

Start-up and Implementation Grant Applications

Mr. Jon Hage, President/CEO, CSUSA

- Mr. Hage reviewed the funding available through grants for start-up charter schools with the State. He asked the Board to approve the applications to submit to the state for St. Lucie, Homestead, and Broward Charters.

Motion made by Mr. McKee with a second by Mr. Clark to approve the process of submitting an application for the start-up and implementation grant for the St. Lucie Charter. The motion was approved 3-0 (1 absent; 1 open seat).

Motion made by Mr. Clark with a second by Mr. McKee to approve the process of submitting an application for the start-up and implementation grant for the Homestead Charters. The motion was approved 3-0 (1 absent; 1 open seat).

Motion made by Mr. McKee with a second by Mr. Clark to approve the process of submitting an application for the start-up and implementation grant for the Broward Charter. The motion was approved 3-0 (1 absent; 1 open seat).

V. NEW BUSINESS

Resignation of Ms. Laura Seidman

- It was acknowledged that Ms. Laura Seidman resigned from the Lee Charter Foundation, Inc. Governing Board.
- A letter from the Board will be drafted for signature thanking Ms. Seidman for her service as a Director on the Board.
- Due to time constraints, the parent survey and staff survey results will be presented at the next board meeting.

Motion made by Mr. Clark with a second by Mr. McKee to accept the resignation of Ms. Laura Seidman as Director of the Renaissance Charter School, Inc. The motion was approved 3-0 (1 absent; 1 open seat).

VI. OPEN FORUM

- None



Kenneth Haiko, Chairman

Date: 3/27/09