

## MEETING MINUTES

Name of Foundation: The Renaissance Charter School, Inc.  
Board Meeting: March 5, 2010

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

*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:
03.05.10	10:35 a.m.	12:10 p.m.	TBD	10:30 a.m.	M. Vecchione
<b>Meeting Location:</b>					
Charter Schools USA, 6245 N Federal Hwy, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33308					
<b>Attended by:</b>					
Mr. Ken Haiko, Chairman Mr. Dennis Clark, Vice Chairman Ms. Pam Houghten, Director (promptly resigned from board), teleconference  Absent: Colonel Tom Wheeler, Treasurer			Ms. Debbie Von Behren, COO, CSUSA Mr. Richard Page, VP of Bus Development, CSUSA Mr. Rob Vilardi, Financial Analyst, CSUSA Mr. Derek Kelmanson, Ops Manager, CSUSA Ms. Mary Vecchione, Governing Board Liaison, CSUSA Ms. Ana Cordal, RECS Mr. Eric Lewis, RCSSL Mr. Todd Weisbrot, HAAS Mr. Mark Hage, NBAE		
<b>Highlights:</b>					

### CALL TO ORDER

Pursuant to public notice, the meeting commenced at 10:35 a.m. with a Call to Order by Chairman Haiko. Roll call was taken and quorum was established.

Chairman Haiko announced that Ms. Pam Houghten was resigning from the Board due to personal reasons and asked for a motion for approval. Ms. Houghten thanked the Board and said she was passionate on her commitment to Charter Schools and this Board and stated she would continue her work in other avenues for this cause.

**Motion made by Mr. Clark with a second by Chairman Haiko to accept the resignation of Ms. Pam Houghten from the Renaissance Charter School, Inc. Governing Board, effective immediately. The motion was approved unanimously.**

Ms. Houghten officially signed off from the meeting and terminated her conference call.

### I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Haiko asked the Board to review the minutes from the January 29, 2010 Governing Board meeting and note any corrections or comments. The minutes stand.

**Motion made by Mr. Clark with a second by Chairman Haiko to approve the Renaissance Charter School, Inc. Governing Board minutes from January 29, 2010. The motion was approved unanimously.**

## II. SCHOOL REPORT

### Hollywood Academy of Arts & Sciences

- Mr. Weisbrot reported enrollment of 677 students, with a budgeted enrollment of 680 students.
- Leading Edge participation remains the same 5 individuals who were reported last month.
- School Improvement/Strategic plan incorporates Camp M & M Tutoring sessions, Benchmark 3 tests completed and mid-year parent and staff surveys were analyzed and reviewed.
- SAC met on January 23<sup>rd</sup> and reported on an overview of all grade level writing projects and activities. The next step will be FCAT Writes Prep Plan.
- Professional development topics included FCAT Test specifications, Data, and K-2 reading centers in the classrooms.
- Mr. Weisbrot reported on numerous school/pto/community activities. It was noted that 3 students in the MS were honored for their placement in the science fair.
- Recommits for the new school year are at 94% with new applicants of 522. 461 students are on the wait list.

### North Broward Academy of Excellence

- Mr. Hage reported enrollment of 611 students for elementary and 326 for middle school with a budgeted enrollment of 968 overall.
- Leadership and Leading Edge participation continues as previously stated. In addition, Mr. Hage reported on the SAC and PTO meetings and fundraisers.
- Professional Development is continually provided throughout the months.
- Mr. Hage also reported on numerous school/pto/community activities.
- The enrollment process has begun for the next school year with 741 recommits and 68 unknowns. 165 students were offered as new enrollments for K-6. The wait list is 142 applicants.

### Renaissance Charter School

- Ms. Cordal reported enrollment of 638 students with a budgeted enrollment of 638.
- Leadership/Leading Edge participation remains the same. Mr. Thompson, Assistant Principal, met with the Miami Downtown Charter School Leading Edge participants to share ideas.
- School Improvement/Strategic Plans are continually studied and mid-year parent and staff survey results were reviewed, intervention tutorial program was highlighted, and B1/B3 comparison data was analyzed.
- Professional Development topics included instructional strategies for Student Achievement.
- Ms. Cordal reported on facilities and numerous school/pto/community activities.
- Channel 4 will be at the school filming a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class who wrote a song for FCAT week.
- She also indicated that student enrollment for next year has resulted in 99% of the students recommitting. New enrollment opened March 1<sup>st</sup> and they have a wait list of 700 students.

### Renaissance Charter School St Lucie

- Mr. Lewis reported enrollment of 1179 students with a budgeted enrollment of 1242.



- Leadership training and Leading Edge continue with all participants engaging in their assignments.
- Updates on School Improvement/Strategic Plans include RTI Core and grade level data graphing meetings; school wide instructional focus calendar meetings; Saxon Math observations; and RCSSL has been approved to host alternative certification cohorts with the School Board.
- Facilities continue to work on new building 'bugs'.
- Mr. Lewis reported on numerous school/pto/community activities.
- Highlights

### III. FINANCE

- Mr. Vilardi reported on the Q2 financials for LEE and RECS. Student enrollment is showing a slight negative variance of (124) students.
- Renaissance Elementary is showing a FY10 forecasted surplus budget of \$161,000.00; RECS MS a surplus of \$98,000; HAAS a surplus of \$205,000; HAAS MS a surplus of \$83,000; NBAE deficit of (\$11,000); NBAE MS a break even; and RECS St Lucie a surplus of \$385,000. Overall, all the schools have a healthy financial outlook.
- It was indicated that RECS St Lucie is showing a large surplus due to a start up grant and loan for the startup of computers and FFE. Also, enrollment is higher than reflected payment and working with the District to correct this.

Motion made by Mr. Clark with a second by Chairman Haiko to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter financials for FY10 for the Renaissance Charter School, Inc. The motion was approved unanimously.

### IV. OLD BUSINESS

#### Charter Updates

- South Broward - This charter will be deferred to the 2011-2012 School Year.
- North Broward - The anticipated opening date is for fall of 2010. The management company is looking at a temporary facility to start the year and a permanent location to be announced. More information will be provided at the next meeting.
- The new charters for Duval, Broward and Dade are all in contract negotiations. The management company anticipates all these schools opening for year 2010-2011. St Lucie Tradition is with legal and we will provide an update at future meeting.
- Homestead High School and K-8 Charter - Mr. Page spoke on the process of working with the City of Homestead on a lease for the sports complex in Homestead. The City has agreed to allow us to use the baseball complex park located across the street from KGCS. This is a 130 acre complex with an old dormitory building. The letter of intent has been presented for the board to review and approve. There will 3 phases to this contract:
  1. A school will open for 2010. We will use the 6 acres surrounding the dormitory and renovate that building for temporary use of the School. This will be a long term lease of 35 years, \$1.00/year. At the end of the 35 years, it reverts back to the City with the option of renewal at this time. Overtime the dormitory will be used to house the K-8 system, anticipating moving the middle school students here. In addition, a

soccer and athletic field park will be built and used by both the school and the public.

2. To build a permanent, new School for the High School for the year 2011-2012. Two more parcels of land will be allocated for this use. Again, the dormitory, over time, will be used for the K-8 system.
3. The remainder of the 130 acre parcel of land would allow the City the option of having the Foundation take over the operation and maintenance of the entire complex.

A document of agreement between the Renaissance Charter School, Inc. and the City of Homestead will be presented at the Special Meeting of the City and will describe the timeline set forth as discussed. The Board requested, in order to expedite this agreement, a motion be called to allow for the Chairman to sign and execute any documents, as discussed today, to move forward in a timely manner.

**Motion made by Mr. Clark with a second by Chairman Haiko to allow the Chairman to execute the documents necessary to move forward with the agreement of the leasing of the land, designated as the Sports Complex, based on discussions set forth at this Board meeting. In addition, move forward with this presentation at the Special Meeting of the City of Homestead for approval by the City Council. The motion was approved unanimously.**

#### **V. NEW BUSINESS**

##### Benchmark 3 Results

- Each principal reviewed the Benchmark 3 results and data for the Board. This presentation indicated the strengths and opportunities in each area. This will allow each grade level to focus on those areas for improvement for FCAT testing.

##### Staff Survey

- Mr. Coleman reviewed the staff survey results taken in December 2009. He indicated the overall satisfaction of the staff and reviewed the strengths and opportunities that will be addressed.

##### Parent Survey

- Ms. Von Behren reviewed the parent survey results taken in November 2009. She indicated the overall satisfaction of the parents and reviewed the strengths and opportunities that will be addressed.

##### Annual Meeting Date

- The annual meeting has been postponed again and a date will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

#### **VI. OPEN FORUM**

- None

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting of the Renaissance Charter School, Inc. Governing Board. Motion was approved unanimously.



Ken Haiko, Chairman

Date: 4/23/10