

MEETING MINUTES

Name of Foundation: The Renaissance Charter School, Inc.
Board Meeting: May 16, 2008

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:
05.16.08	10:24 a.m.	12:00 p.m.	06.27.08	10:30 a.m.	Mary Vecchione
Meeting Location:					
Charter Schools USA, 6245 N Federal Hwy, 5 th Floor, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33308					
Attended by:					
Mr. Kenneth Haiko, Chairman Mr. Dennis Clark, Vice Chairman Ms. Laura Seidman, Director Absent: Mr. Thomas Wheeler, Treasurer Mr. Clarence McKee, Secretary			Mr. Jon Hage, President/CEO, CSUSA Ms. Debbie Von Behren, Executive VP, CSUSA Ms. Lorrie Davidson, VP of School Finance, CSUSA Ms. Michelle Jacobson, Account Manager, CSUSA Mr. David Alba, Clarion Council Mr. Derek Kelmanson, Operations Manager, CSUSA Ms. Mary Vecchione, Governing Board Liaison, CSUSA		
Highlights:					

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting commenced at 10:24 a.m. with a Call to Order by Chairman Haiko. Roll call was taken and quorum was established.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Ken Haiko, Chairman

Chairman Haiko asked the Board to review the minutes from the March 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 Ms. Seidman to approve the minutes from the March 7, 2008 Renaissance Charter School, Inc. Board of Director's meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

II. SCHOOL REPORT

Renaissance Charter School, Inc.

Ms. Ana Cordal, Principal, RECS

- Student enrollment is 493 for elementary and 123 for middle school.
- An energy analysis report was performed by CSUSA. Electronic thermostats have been installed in an effort to save dollars.
- Ms. Cordal reviewed the 4th grades and 8th grades FCAT Writes. Overall, the school performed well.
- Highlights from school and community activities were discussed.

North Broward Academy of Excellence

Mr. David McKnight, Principal, NBAE

- Current enrollment is 431 students for elementary and 184 students for middle school.
- Mr. McKnight reported on staffing, operations, academics, and school and community activities.
- The annual CSUSA spelling bee was held and NBAE student, Andrew Booth placed second. Congratulations to Andrew.
- Mr. McKnight is working on a new Parent Contract for the school.

Motion made by Mr. Clark with a second by Mr. Haiko to approve the amended Parent Contract for North Broward Academy of Excellence. The motion was approved unanimously.

Hollywood Academy of Arts & Sciences

Ms. Donte Fulton, Principal HAAS

- Current enrollment is 674 students.
- Ms. Fulton reported on the 4th and 8th grade FCAT writing scores. 8th grade scored very well compared to overall for the state and 75% of the 4th graders obtained a proficiency level of 3.5 or higher.
- Ms. Fulton reviewed the academics, operations, staffing, and school and community activities.

Chairman Haiko explained to the principals the program of adopting a navy ship and they would communicate with the ship during their travels. He will get more information on this to pass along.

III. FINANCE

Ms. Lorrie Davidson, VP of School Finance, CSUSA

- Summary of student enrollment showed a positive variance of 5 students. NBAE was under enrolled at the beginning of the year so an additional kindergarten class was added to balance the shortfall.
- FTE revenue showed a positive variance of \$132. The budgets were prepared conservatively, assuming an approximate 4% increase per student from FY07. Also there have been two budget cuts this year equating to approximately \$100/student.
- There was a positive variance in school revenue of \$404 due to the combination of additional students and additional revenue per student.
- School expenses resulted in a positive variance overall. NBAE was slightly under due to adding the additional kindergarten class.
- School Surplus had a positive variance of \$552.
- Ms. Davidson gave a preview of what to expect for the FY09 Budget. FTE will be reduced by approximately \$143/student. Therefore, the budgets were built on assuming a \$150 reduction per student. RECS and HAAS enrollment will remain at FY08 levels and NBAE is projected to grow to 858 combined students with the opening of the new building.

Motion made by Mr. Clark with a second by Ms. Seidman to approve the quarterly financials for period ending March 31, 2008 for the Renaissance Charter School, Inc. The motion was approved unanimously.

Other Financial Information

- Ms. Davidson reported that Fifth Third Bank will be handling the construction loan for the North Broward expansion and will offer a multi card, commercial credit card. This will assist in paying invoices on a monthly basis.
- Partnering with Fifth Third Bank will smooth cash flow. The multi card credit card will help in managing and smoothing out cash flow and invoicing, allowing for a 30-60 day payment. This is an asset to our money management system. In addition, we will be receiving a small rebate back and could possibly produce cash back to the schools.

Motion made by Mr. Clark with a second by Ms. Seidman to allow Charter Schools USA to proceed with the application to use the multi card offered by Fifth Third Bank. The motion was approved unanimously.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Renaissance Charter School of St. Lucie

- Mr. Hage reported that we are on track with the St. Lucie and plan to open 2009-2010 school year. Currently we are negotiating the contract. We should be bringing the final contract to the Board at the next meeting.

Hollywood Academy of Arts & Sciences Building Prospect

- The neighborhood associations seem to be more receptive to the plans for the new building. A lobbyist was hired to encourage city officials pass the proposal. Mr. Hage asked that Ms. Fulton get the new PTO board involved.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Clarion Council

Mr. David Alba, Clarion Council

- Mr. David Alba presented the overview of the Character Education on behalf of the Clarion Council.
- The Clarion Council for Educational Greatness is a not-for-profit corporation (formation status) whose purpose is to enable and fortify educational greatness by developing and implementing research based programs to improve educational performance, instill character, and instruct leadership that can make an immediate and positive difference to students in our schools today.
- The Clarion Council is partnering with Charter Schools USA on a three year pilot program to embed character education in grade level curriculum making it available via an e-platform to all the educators in the CSUSA system.
- Additionally, the Clarion Council will be seeking grants on behalf of CSUSA schools to support character education and teacher performance incentives.

VI. OPEN FORUM

- None

Motion made by Mr. Clark with a second by Ms. Seidman to adjourn the Renaissance Charter School Board of Director's meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.



Kenneth Haiko, Chairman

Date: 6/27/08