

MEETING MINUTES

Name of Foundation: The Renaissance Charter School, Inc.
 Board Meeting: August 29, 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:
08.29.08	10:30 a.m.	11.34 a.m.	TBD	TBD	Mary Vecchione
Meeting Location:					
Charter Schools USA, 6245 N Federal Highway, Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33308					
Attended by:					
Mr. Kenneth Haiko, Chairman Mr. Dennis Clark, Vice-Chairman Teleconference: Mr. Clarence McKee, Secretary Absent: Ms. Laura Seidman, Director Colonel Thomas Wheeler, Treasurer			Ms. Debbie Von Behren, Exec VP, CSUSA Mr. Richard Page, VP of Ops, CSUSA Ms. Lorrie Davidson, VP of Finance, CSUSA Mr. Derek Kelmanson, Ops Manager, CSUSA Ms. Mary Vecchione, Governing Board Liaison, CSUSA Ms. Ana Cordal, Principal, RECS Ms. Donte Fulton, Principal, HAAS Mr. David McKnight, Principal, NBAE Mr. Paul Thompson, Assit Principal, RECS		
Highlights:					

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting commenced at 10:30 a.m. with a Call to Order by Chairman Haiko. Roll call was taken and quorum was established.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Haiko asked the Board to review the minutes from the June 27, 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 minutes from the June 27, 2008 Renaissance Charter School, Inc. Board of Director's meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

II. SCHOOL REPORT

Hollywood Academy of Arts & Sciences

Ms. Donte Fulton, Principal

- Current enrollment is 668 students with a budgeted enrollment of 683.
- The school is fully staffed.
- Ms. Fulton reported Benchmark One will begin on September 3rd.
- FCAT scores were reviewed.
- The painting in the school has been completed and the facilities department is working hard to keep the school clean and pest free.
- A new mural has been painted at the entry way - "The HAAS Knight" with new carpeting in the same area with the school logo.

- Ms. Fulton reported on the school and community activities.

North Broward Academy of Excellence

Mr. David McKnight, Principal

- Current enrollment is 536 students with a budgeted enrollment of 550.
- The school is fully staffed.
- Mr. McKnight announced that the new food service vendor, Preferred Meals, has begun. Costs should be lower and the quality of the food should be higher.
- The school grade for the year 2007-08 was a "B", one point shy of making an "A".
- FCAT scores were reviewed.
- The new building opened for the new year for the elementary students. The teachers and students are very excited. A grand opening will be planned in the next few months.
- Mr. McKnight reported on the school and community activities.

Renaissance Elementary School

Ms. Ana Cordal, Principal

- Current enrollment is 496 students with a budgeted enrollment of 490.
- The school is fully staffed.
- Ms. Cordal reported their "A" school grade for the year 2007-08.
- FCAT scores were reviewed.
- A new playground has been completed with artificial turf, which is lower maintenance than grass and a longer life for wear and tear.
- SMART boards are now being used in most of the classrooms. They cost approximately \$3,000/board.
- The new lunch vendor, Preferred Meals, began with the new year. This has been well received.
- Mayor of Doral honored all the principals in the city who achieved an "A" grade.

Renaissance Middle School

Ms. Ana Cordal, Principal

- Current enrollment is 131 students with a budgeted enrollment of 125.
- Ms. Cordal reported that the middle school met or exceeded the grade level proficiency goals for the 2007-08 FCAT school year for all grades 6th thru 8th in Reading, Math, and Science. (with the exception of 8th grade reading.)
- The roof is leaking due to the A/C unit and this is being worked on. In addition, there are a few leaks from windows and wall.
- Preferred Meal Systems began the new lunch program and this has been well received.
- Ms. Cordal reported on all school and community activities.

III. FINANCE

Ms. Lorrie Davidson, VP of Finance

- Ms. Davidson reported that the 2008-09 Capital Outlay plan is required to have board approval and submitted to the Florida DOE to ensure receipt of the estimated allocation of charter school capital outlay funds for Renaissance Elementary and Middle School.

Motion made by Mr. McKee with a second by Mr. Clark to approve the 2008-09 Capital Outlay Plan for submission to the Florida DOE. The motion was approved unanimously.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Update on St. Lucie Charter

Mr. Richard Page, VP of Operations

- Mr. Page went through the progress of where we are on the new charter school in St Lucie. We are currently in the planning and zoning phase with site plans being drawn and permits are pending. Everything is on schedule and the school will open for the 2009-2010 school year.

Update on Georgia Petitions

Mr. Richard Page, VP of Operations

- Mr. Page reviewed the progress of the Georgia petitions submitted this year. He indicated that Cherokee County is very strong and receptive to our petition and talks have taken place regarding the petition and what areas need to be modified. CSUSA is planning on going to Cherokee County next week to meet with the district. The deadline has been extended until the end of the year.

Management Agreements

Mr. Richard Page, VP of Operations

- Mr. Page asked the board to review the two management agreements under "attachments" in the board book. The first one is for St. Lucie and the second is for Homestead. He stated that both documents are our standard contracts and have been reviewed by our legal department. The Board has signed similar contracts in the past. Mr. Page also indicated that both schools will house approximately 1090 students.

Motion made by Mr. Clark with a second by Mr. McKee to state that the Renaissance Charter School, Inc. has reviewed and accepted for signature the Management Agreement between CSUSA and The Renaissance Academy of South Dade. The motion was approved unanimously.

Motion made by Mr. Clark with a second by Mr. McKee to state that the Renaissance Charter School, Inc. has reviewed and accepted for signature the Management Agreement between CSUSA and The Renaissance Charter School of St. Lucie. The motion was approved unanimously.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Out of Field Waivers

- The Board acknowledged the reading of those teachers who submitted an Out of Field Waiver for the school year. Ms. Vecchione read the names and the Board approved.

Motion made by Mr. Clark with a second by Mr. McKee to approve the Out of Field Waivers and ESOL for Hollywood Academy of Arts & Sciences for the school year 2008-09. The motion was approved unanimously.

Motion made by Mr. Clark with a second by Mr. McKee to approve the Out of Field Waivers and ESOL for North Broward Academy of Excellence for the school year 2008-09. The motion was approved unanimously.

Motion made by Mr. Clark with a second by Mr. McKee to approve the Out of Field Waivers and ESOL for The Renaissance Elementary and Middle Charter School for the school year 2008-09. The motion was approved unanimously.

Staff Survey

Ms. Diane Ratcliff, Dir of HR

- Ms. Ratcliff reviewed the staff survey results for June of 2008 for Renaissance Charter School. She indicated that the response rate was low and she has been speaking with the school staff on ways to improve this.
- Results improved slightly in almost every category.
- The focus for the next year will be staff retention. Currently the turnover rate is 25-30% over all our schools. We would like to see improvement in this area.
- Performance evaluations were implemented and along with budgetary constraints, we are anxious to see the results for the next survey.

Governing Board Satisfaction Survey

Ms. Debbie Von Behren, Exec VP

- Ms. Von Behren reviewed the Governing Board Satisfaction Survey results from June of 2008. Overall the scores were very positive.

Parent Survey

Ms. Debbie Von Behren, Exec VP

- Ms. Von Behren reviewed the Governing Board Survey categories and explained the thought process in sending the survey. They were aligned with Robert Marzano's educational philosophy.
- Opportunities, Strengths, and areas for Improvement were discussed.
- Discussion revolved around how to increase the participation of the survey so that more parents would respond.

School Reporting Timeline

Mr. Richard Page, VP of Operations

- Mr. Page reviewed the graph handed out at the board meeting on school reporting and the timeline involved. He explained that the board should become familiar with the schedule and expect reports as the calendar suggests. It gives the Board a clear indication of what reports to expect and when.

VI. OPEN FORUM

- The next meeting is to be held in Lee County at Gateway Charter School. The Board would like to see a presentation of the SMART board as it is used in a classroom setting. Ms. Vecchione will coordinate the date and email the board members.

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



Mr. Kenneth Haiko, Chairman

Date: 11/7/08