

MEETING MINUTES

Name of Foundation: The Renaissance Charter School, Inc.
Board Meeting: October 16, 2009

School(s): Hollywood Academy of Arts & Sciences
North Broward Academy of Excellence
Renaissance Charter School
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:
10.16.09	11:35 a.m.	1:00 p.m.	12.04.09	10:30 a.m.	Mary Vecchione

Meeting Location:

Renaissance Charter School St Lucie, 300 Cashmere Blvd., St Lucie, Florida

Attended by:

Mr. Ken Haiko, Chairman
Mr. Dennis Clark, Vice Chairman
Mr. Clarence McKee, Secretary
Mr. Thomas Wheeler, Treasurer

Ms. Debbie Von Behren, Exec Vice President
Mr. Eric Lewis, Principal RECSSL
Mr. Derek Kelmanson, Operations Manager
Ms. Mary Vecchione, Governing Board Liaison
Ms. Donte Fulton, Principal, HAAS
Mr. David McKnight, Principal, NBAE
Mr. Paul Thompson, Assist Principal, RECS
Mr. Allen Coleman, Accounting Manager, CSUSA

Highlights:

CALL TO ORDER

Pursuant to public notice, the meeting commenced at 11:35 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 October 16, 2009 Governing Board meeting and asked for a motion of approval.

Motion made by Mr. McKee with a second by Mr. Wheeler to approve the Renaissance Charter School, Inc. Governing Board minutes from October 16, 2009. The motion was approved 4-0.

II. SCHOOL REPORT

Hollywood Academy of Arts & Sciences

- Enrollment is 677 students with 680 as the budgeted enrollment. The wait list is 520 applicants.
- Ms. Fulton reported that Benchmark 2 has been administered and results will be analyzed against Benchmark 1 to compare the success of each student. Data will be provided at the next board meeting.
- Facility repairs include carpet installation scheduled and a cooler repair is pending.
- Ms. Fulton commented on School and Community activities.

- Mr. Clark asked Ms. Fulton to explain the RTI process. Ms. Fulton responded that Response to Intervention starts as Kindergarteners and interacts with those students who are not making adequate progress. Specific details were explained.
- It was noted that Ms. Stefanie DeGiorgio was honored as Outstanding Young Educator. The Board sends their congratulations to her.

North Broward Academy of Excellence

- Enrollment was reported as 926 students for the month of September with budgeted enrollment of 968 students.
- Mr. McKnight reported on CSUSA site visit; benchmark 2 testing completed; various school activities.
- Title One budget submitted in the amount of approximately \$39,000.
- Facility updates included safety light switches installed in all restrooms; pads installed on Basketball posts; and refrigerator being repaired.
- Mr. McKnight commented on additional School and Community activities.

Renaissance Charter School

- Enrollment was reported as 638 students with budgeted enrollment of 625 students. The wait list is currently over 800 applicants.
- Benchmark 2 testing was administered and results will be reported at the next meeting.
- MAP awards were distributed to the teachers.
- ESSAC approved A+ recognition bonus was also administered.
- Facility concern was the A/C unit not working properly in parts of the building and in need of repair.
- Mr. Thompson reported on School and Community activities.
- A Cyber Safety Awareness assembly was presented, offering middle school students informative information on internet safety. Colonel Wheeler commented that the state makes this available to all schools and also for parents. The Board would like to make sure that this is presented in the other Renaissance Schools, for both students and parents. Mr. Thompson will send out the necessary information to Ms. Von Behren for distribution.

Renaissance Charter School of St. Lucie

- Mr. Lewis reported enrollment of 1170 students with the budgeted enrollment of 1255 students.
- Benchmark 2 assessment was completed and will be reported on at the next board meeting.
- First site visit conducted with excellent reporting for school improvement and procedural improvements for teacher effectiveness.
- Teacher professional development continues.
- Facility concerns have been addressed for the drainage to the soccer field and playground area.
- Ongoing improvements to HVAC are being made.
- Mr. Lewis also reported on School and Community activities. Weekly "Coffee with the Principal" parent meetings are being held and Open House meetings are being conducted for all grades.
- Mr. Lewis noted that RECS St Lucie uses the SIS 40% more than any other school in the CSUSA network.
- Facility updates include all interactive white boards installed and operational, with the accompanying software and teacher training being provided.

III. FINANCE

Audits

- Mr. Coleman reported on financial audits for the year 2008-2009 for all the RECS, Inc. schools.
- He noted that each school has a positive fund balance and the auditors found no negative findings in the report.
- Mr. Clark asked about the policy and procedures manual and updates from the previous years' findings. Mr. Coleman mentioned that these have been updated and an ongoing process has been implemented. Mr. Clark asked that finance provide a response in each category where these have been updated.

Motion made by Mr. Clark with a second by Mr. Wheeler to approve the Audits for The Renaissance Charter School, Inc. Schools for the academic year 2008-2009. The motion was approved 4-0.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Charter Application Updates

- Duvall County - Chairman Haiko reported that we received approval for a K-8 school in Duvall County, Florida. We are in final contract negotiations.
- Broward County - The interview for the 4 Broward applications went well. Board members and CSUSA members were in attendance. We do not anticipate any problems with approval on these applications.
- Homestead - The Homestead High School is still pending and working with the City of Homestead. Positive discussions on negotiations between the Board, City and CSUSA have been in progress and we have a hopeful outcome. The consolidation with the Homestead Charter Foundation, Inc. plans is underway.
- Orange County - The application in Orange County, Florida has been denied.
- St Lucie County - The application for the ST Lucie Tradition School In the Work Place is in the process and we are working with the District on the rules for the interview. The District has requested that only the Board attend the interview and the Board feels they have the right to bring CSUSA as representatives and this is being worked through. The Board has agreed to a 60 day extension for the interview.
- Dade County - The interview for the Dade County application has not been set.

V. NEW BUSINESS

Wellness Plan

- Ms. Vecchione established that the Wellness Plan needed the Board to reaffirm approval on the plan established last year. This is a process which helps appropriate funds for the National School Lunch Program and provides information to demonstrate that we encourage a healthy lifestyle, healthy eating habits, and promote physical fitness awareness.

Motion made by Mr. Wheeler with a second by Mr. McKee to approve the Wellness Plan presented for the Academic Year 2009-2010. The motion was approved 4-0.

Fingerprinting Requirement, St. Lucie School District

- Board members will be going to the School District for fingerprinting following the meeting today. Compliance will be established.

Charter School Conference

- Mr. Kelmanson mentioned that to qualify for the Implementation Grant, a Board member is required to attend the Charter School Conference and represent the Board. Chairman Haiko, Mr. Clark, and Mr. Wheeler expressed an interest. Mr. Kelmanson will be in contact.

VI. OPEN FORUM

- The next RECS Governing Board meeting will be held on December 4, 2009 at CSUSA at 10:30 a.m.

Motion made by Mr. Wheeler with a second by Mr. Clark to adjourn the Renaissance Charter School, Inc. Governing Board meeting. The motion was approved 4-0.



Ken Haiko, Chairman

Date: 12/4/09