

MEETING MINUTES

Renaissance Charter School, Inc.
Board Meeting: October 27, 2006

School(s): Renaissance Elementary Charter School
Renaissance Middle Charter School
Hollywood Academy of Arts & Science Elementary School
Hollywood Academy of Arts & Science Middle School
North Broward Academy of Excellence Elementary School
North Broward Academy of Excellence Middle 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:
10/27/06	10:35am	11:35am	12/8/06	10:30am	Mary Vecchione
Meeting Location:					
Charter Schools USA, 6245 N. Federal Highway, 5 th Floor, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33308					

Attended by:	
<i>Board Members:</i> Mr. Ken Haiko, Chairman Mr. Dennis Clark, Treasurer Ms. Laura Seidman, Secretary Mr. Thomas Wheeler, Director <i>Absent:</i> Mr. Shane Strum, Vice President	<i>Staff:</i> Ms. Lorrie Davidson, VP of School Finance Ms. Maria Rodriguez, Director of School Support Ms. Ana Cordal, Principal Renaissance Charter Ms. Leslie Brown, Principal Hollywood Academy of Arts & Science Mr. Michael Hoffman, Principal North Broward Academy of Excellence Ms. Mary Vecchione, Board Liaison
Highlights:	

Call to Order

The meeting commenced at 10:35a.m. with a call to order by Chairman Haiko. Roll Call was taken and Quorum was established.

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Haiko asked for corrections and/or additions to the previous minutes.

Motion made by Mr. Wheeler with a second by Mr. Clark to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2006 Board of Director's meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

II. SCHOOL REPORT

North Broward Academy of Excellence

Mr. Michael Hoffman, Principal

- A tutoring program was implemented.
- Mr. Hoffman announced the addition of a new business manager, Kathy Essik to the staff.

- Mr. Paul Hage will be leaving the school and transferring into CSUSA's Construction & Facilities Department.
- A new facility is scheduled to begin construction in November and be completed by July, 2007.
- There has been an intruder in the school twice thus far. The police were notified and came to the school but Mr. Hoffman was not satisfied with the results. Mr. Wheeler offered his assistance in resolving the issue. Mr. Hoffman will discuss and follow-up.
- Mr. Hoffman will be retiring at the end of December, 2006. He has offered to stay on for as long as the board needs him to accommodate the transition of the new principal. On behalf of the board, Chairman Haiko thanked Mr. Hoffman for a job well done.

Hollywood Academy of Arts & Science

Ms. Leslie Brown, Principal

- The state has awarded the school with an "A+" rating and the recipient of \$60,000. The voting process begins with the teaching staff and sent to the state. The staff then formulates a plan as to how the money will be distributed. It was decided that the award would be equally divided among all staff members, including, teachers, administrative, custodial, etc. It would not be given to the teachers who were dismissed or the staff recently new to the school.
- A special committee was added to the School Advisory Council. 6th & 7th graders will be represented next year. Community service hours requirements have been added and a mentoring program to begin for the younger students.
- Enrollment is currently at 650. Two teachers were released to meet the budget. The need for a new facility is important - there is a waiting list. Chairman Haiko asked when it would open - winter 2008.
- Student Dance-A-Thon will be held tonight and will be a costume party for the 4th-7th graders.
- Ms. Brown reported that Staff Development is held every Thursday night, working on the FCAT specs for the 2007 test and writing skills.
- Camp M & M (Michelangelo to Mona Lisa) will begin shortly.
- The Fall Festival will be held on Oct 31st for K-2.
- The PTO Winter Festival Fundraiser will be held November 18th.

Renaissance Elementary and Middle Charter Schools

Ms. Ana Cordal, Principal

- Enrollment is currently 500 elementary and 100 middle school students.
- Benchmark testing has been completed.
- The PTO sponsored a Safety Week which included drug awareness; fingerprinting; bikes; fire & rescue; etc.
- The City of Doral awarded \$4,000 to the PTO. They will purchase Smart Books.
- Portable labs were purchased to enhance Algebra, Science and Physics.
- The school is looking to purchase a middle school building.
- Ms. Cordal reported they were ranked 17th in the top 100 performance schools in the state.
- Ms. Rodriguez announced that Ms. Cordal was selected as CSUSA's Regional Lead Principal for the East Coast. Congratulations to Ms. Cordal.

III. FINANCE

Ms. Lorrie Davidson, VP of School Finance

- Ms. Davidson distributed the consolidated financial report for RECS.
- North Broward is currently carrying a deficit. It is a small school and has continually had difficulties meeting its financial need. CSUSA will write-off accrued management fees that will eliminate the deficit.
- A suggestion was made by Ms. Seidman to establish an Audit Committee to recommend to the board. Mr. Clark stated that this would be beneficial to the board and he would be a good resource to fill a seat on the committee. The committee would have to be publicized to adhere to the Sunshine Laws. The process will be reviewed in more detail.

Motion made by Ms. Seidman with a second by Mr. Wheeler to appoint a representative from the board of directors and gather information and meet with the external auditors. The representative would then report back to the board at the next meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

- The enrollment goal for Hollywood is being revised downward to 654 based on the schools' physical capacity. New figures will reflect the current enrollment and be presented at the next meeting.
- First Quarter financials will also be discussed at the next board meeting.

Motion made by Ms. Seidman with a second by Mr. Clark to accept the financial report as presented. Motion was approved unanimously.

Motion made by Mr. Clark with a second by Ms. Seidman to accept the financial audit reports. Motion was approved unanimously.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

- None

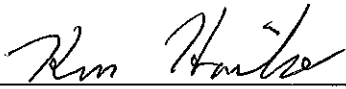
V. OLD BUSINESS

- None

VI. OTHER BUSINESS

- Chairman Haiko discussed the article in the Sun-Sentinel regarding the financial difficulties at Charter Schools. He explained that those schools were not associated with our Charter Schools and the article was misleading. Mr. Hage has asked for a correction to be printed in the paper to clarify our situation.
- Mr. Clark asked when enrollment was not at capacity, what attempts were made to recruit more students. Ms. Davidson stated that we have a Marketing Group on retainer which deals with this area but it was up to the schools to keep the students enrolled. CSUSA's enrollment process and policy is being studied and a timeline and guidelines will be created.
- The next meeting was set for December 8, 2006 (possibly the 1st if Mr. Shane Strum could attend) at the Renaissance School at 10:30am. Ms. Rodriguez will send a reminder out stating this.

Motion made by Mr. Wheeler with a second by Ms. Seidman to adjourn the meeting. Motion was approved unanimously.



Mr. Ken Haiko, Chairman

Date: 2/9/07