RIVER SPRINGS CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

43448 BUSINESS PARK DRIVE • TEMECULA, CA 92590

REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES

May 14, 2015

12:00p.m. – 4:00p.m.

43448 Business Park Drive / Temecula, CA 92590

I. PRELIMINARY

Our mission is to empower students by fostering their innate curiosity, engaging their parents, and promoting optimum learning by collaboratively developing a personalized learning program for each student.

1. Action: **Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance**
   a. Board Chair, Jennifer Mejares-Pham, called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance at 12:13 p.m.

PRESENT:

Jennifer Mejares-Pham, Chair Charlene Ponzio, Vice Chair Sheila Ryle, Secretary (arrived at 1:07pm) Charles Vela, Treasurer Carl Burke, Director Stephen Darrow, Director Jessica Mercer, Director	Kathleen Hermsmeyer, Superintendent Phil Hermsmeyer, Assistant Supt – IT & Facilities Natali South, Executive Assistant to the Board Linda Rhoads-Parks, Legal Counsel Diane Anvari, Assistant Supt - Personnel Heather Schaffner, HR Generalist, Benefits & Personnel Jeanne Schaffner, School Safety Manager Sarah Hutcheson, Executive Assistant Kathy Cox, Director of Special Education

2. Action: **Approval of Agenda**
   a. **Mr. Burke moved to approve the agenda as revised, adding 2 items – herein named as items 13 and 15.**
   b. **Mr. Darrow seconded.**
   c. Discussion: None.
   d. **6 AYES (Mejares-Pham, Ponzio, Burke, Darrow, Vela, Mercer); 0 NOES; 1 ABSENT (Ryle). Motion adopted.**

3. Action: **Approval of Meeting Minutes – April 16, 2015**
   a. **Mr. Burke moved to approve the April 16, 2015 meeting minutes.**
   b. **Ms. Ponzio seconded.**
   c. Discussion: None
   d. **6 AYES (Mejares-Pham, Ponzio, Burke, Darrow, Vela, Mercer); 0 NOES; 1 ABSENT (Ryle). Motion adopted.**

4. Activity: **Oath of Office – Jessica Mercer**
    a. **Ms. Mercer reviewed the Oath of Office and agreed to uphold its tenants.**

II. CONSENT AGENDA

Consent agenda items are considered routine and may be enacted by a single motion. Any Director of the Board may request removal of any item from the consent agenda for consideration under the regular agenda if discussion of the item is desired. Items not removed from the consent agenda will stand approved upon motion of a Board Director, followed by a second and majority vote.

5. Action: **Ratification of Warrant Listing & Personnel Action Report**
6. Action: **Approval of Legal Services Agreement with Linda Rhoads Parks, 2015-2016**
    a. **Ms. Ponzio moved to approve the Consent Agenda**
    b. **Mr. Darrow seconded.**
    c. Discussion: None
    d. **6 AYES (Mejares-Pham, Ponzio, Burke, Darrow, Vela, Mercer); 0 NOES; 1 ABSENT (Ryle). Motion adopted.**

III. COMMUNITY RELATIONS

This is an opportunity for community members to speak to any item on the agenda or regarding subjects or concerns that do not appear on the agenda. Any person wishing to speak is requested to complete the "Request to Speak" form found at the entrance to the meeting and to bring it forward to the Board Secretary. Presentations are limited to five minutes. Government Code Section 54954.2 and Education Code Section 35145.5 prohibit the Board from discussing or acting upon matters not on the agenda.

7. Information: **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
    a. Ms. Carol Skinner addressed the Board to commend Sue Miller Hurst and the teachers of the i-Shine Student Center. Ms. Skinner indicated that the staff at i-Shine, as well as at River Springs, goes out of their way to tailor instruction suitable to each individual child, and is worthy of being told that they are doing a fabulous job. She thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak to them.

IV. STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

8. Information: **Update from the Superintendent**
    a. **Dr. Hermsmeyer reviewed the Superintendent's Report and provided an update regarding student achievement, recent additions to our staff and current projects.**

V. BUSINESS

9. Discussion/Activity: **LCAP Stakeholder Engagement Activity**
    a. **Amy Podratz led the Board in an online LCAP survey.**

10. Information: **2014-15 Financial Update**
    a. **Amy Podratz reviewed the 2014-15 Budget and provided information about projected vs. actual expenses, Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF) & Local Control Accountability Plan (LCAP) updates.**

11. Information/Discussion: **Introduction of Borrower's Bond Counsel**
    a. **Chip Eady from Procopio, Cory, Hargreaves & Savitch, LLP addressed the Board on the topic of issuance of tax-exempt bond financing for the acquisition and improvement of real property.**

12. Information: **Update on E-Rate**
    a. **Phil Hermsmeyer provided information regarding changes to the FCC's E-Rate program and the impact of the changes on our telecom subscription and equipment budget.**

13. Action: **Approval of Resolution to Join CCS JPA**
    a. **Mr. Burke moved to approve the Resolution to Join CCS JPA**
    b. **Ms. Ponzio seconded.**
    c. Discussion: Diane Anvari explained the benefits of joining this JPA for the purpose of securing more affordable liability and health insurance, with better coverage.
    d. **7 AYES (Mejares-Pham, Ponzio, Ryle, Burke, Darrow, Mercer, Vela); 0 NOES; 0 ABSENT. Motion adopted.**

VI. GOVERNANCE

14. Action: **Approval of Out-of-state Travel for four (4) Homeschool staff and three (3) IT staff to attend the InstuctureCon 2015 Canvas Conference, June 16, 2016-June 18, 2015 in Park City, Utah**
    a. **Ms. Ryle moved to approve the Out-of-State Travel Request**
    b. **Mr. Burke seconded.**
    c. Discussion: None
    d. **7 AYES (Mejares-Pham, Ponzio, Ryle, Burke, Darrow, Mercer, Vela); 0 NOES; 0 ABSENT. Motion adopted.**

15. Action: **Approval of Out-of-state Travel for two (2) Academy staff to visit the Raisbeck Aviation Academy in Tukwila, WA.**
    a. **Ms. Ponzio moved to approve the Out-of-State Travel Request**
    b. **Mr. Vela seconded.**
    c. Discussion: None
    d. **7 AYES (Mejares-Pham, Ponzio, Ryle, Burke, Darrow, Mercer, Vela); 0 NOES; 0 ABSENT. Motion adopted.**

16. Action: **Approval of the Specific Waiver Request for Resource Specialist Caseload**
    a. **Ms. Ponzio moved to approve the Specific Waiver Request for Resource Specialist Caseload**
    b. **Ms. Ryle seconded.**
    c. Discussion:

    Mr. Burke: When we have reviewed this same type of request in the past, there was more information provided; how many students were affected, etc.

    Ms. Mejares-Pham: Yes, the actual waiver request form was part of our packet before. That is helpful.

    Mr. Darrow: Why does this say "stipend" instead of just additional pay? Do they actually get a stipend?

    Ms. Podratz (in response): We use that term for the benefit of the county so that it is not considered a salary increase or overtime.

d. 7 AYES (Mejares-Pham, Ponzio, Ryle, Burke, Darrow, Mercer, Vela); 0 NOES; 0 ABSENT. Motion adopted.

17. Action: **Approval of the 2015-2016 Board Calendar of Reports**

a. Ms. Mercer moved to approve the 2015-2016 Board Calendar of Reports

b. Mr. Burke seconded.

c. Discussion:

Ms. Mejares-Pham: Since we seem to always have a special called meeting in April, is there any reason that we don't just schedule it? We could always cancel if staff felt that the meeting was unnecessary, but that way we would already have the date blocked in our calendars.

Ms. Ponzio: It would definitely be easier to have them scheduled and then cancel them if we need do. I would say the same for November as well. We could always forego the meal if cost is a consideration.

Ms. Mejares-Pham: Personally, I think we should write it into our agreement that we should pro-rate our stipend if we have to leave early or if we arrive late.

Dr. Hermsmeyer: Many districts pay their board members regardless if they attend the meetings or not. I was just at RCBE and that specific thing was on their agenda.

Linda Parks: I would suggest if you wish to discuss the various methods that board members can be paid – monthly stipends, meeting stipends, having the ability to purchase health insurance with their stipend – that you put this topic on a future agenda.

Chuck Vela: Since we have more than one Board, wouldn't you have to get all of the Boards to agree?

Linda Parks: It is more convenient for staff when all of the Boards have the same agreements and processes, but the truth is, we are all different Boards, and can establish our own guidelines.

Natali South: I will adjust the calendar with tentative dates for November and April meetings, and bring it back for a second reading and approval next month.

d. 7 AYES (Mejares-Pham, Ponzio, Ryle, Burke, Darrow, Mercer, Vela); 0 NOES; 0 ABSENT. Motion adopted.

VII. COMMUNITY RELATIONS

18. *Information*: **BOARD COMMENTS**

a. Sheila Ryle: Life has been very busy for me as I am planning a huge gala event and dealing with my father's health issues. It is wonderful to meet with this group in the midst of everything else.

b. Jessica Mercer: Thank you for welcoming me; I am very happy to be a part of this Board. I am a little overwhelmed by all of this information, but I have been taking careful notes.

c. Charlene Ponzio: Welcome to Jessica. Thanks to Natali for the new calendar format; it's easy to read and understand.

d. Stephen Darrow: Yes, I appreciate the new calendar and the organization that Natali has offered.

e. Carl Burke: Welcome, Jessica. Can we review the upcoming events? There are several things on the calendar over the next couple of weeks.

f. Jen Mejares-Pham: Can we organize the calendar of events in the agenda by date, rather than by event or location? I think it would be easier when considering which things we could attend. I signed up for the CERT Training and want to encourage my fellow Board members to consider

doing so as well. Being trained in offering emergency assistance could be very beneficial. Politically, there is situation going on with the Temecula school district where a principal has been let go, and there is a public request for their entire Board to be recalled. With that said, my request is that our Board always be kept current with any situations that arise within our school so that none of us be taken by surprise.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

19. Action: **Motion to Adjourn the Meeting**

a. **Ms. Ryle moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:33 p.m.**
b. **Mr. Burke seconded.**
c. Discussion: None
d. **7 AYES (Mejares-Pham, Ponzio, Ryle, Burke, Darrow, Mercer, Vela); 0 NOES; 0 ABSENT. Motion adopted.**

IX. NEXT REGULAR MEETING

Thursday, May 14, 2015, 12:00p.m. – 4:00p.m.
Temecula Administrative Offices – Executive Conference Room – 43448 Business Park Drive / Temecula 92590

Sheila Ryle, Secretary — Date: 6/11/15

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