

# RIVER SPRINGS CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Due to Shelter in Place Orders, this was a virtual meeting, accessible as follows:

+1 563-562-6393 PIN: 778 756 212# or [meet.google.com/wrq-xrnd-wpz](https://meet.google.com/wrq-xrnd-wpz)

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

April 16, 2020

12:00 p.m.

*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.*

### Present:

Chuck Vela, Board Chair	Kathleen Hermsmeyer, Superintendent
Reginald Wadlington, Vice Chair	Amy Podratz, Asst. Superintendent of Operations
Rachel Couch, Secretary	Tanya Rogers, Asst. Superintendent of Business
Jamie Thompson, Treasurer	Vivian Price, Asst. Superintendent, Education
Carl Burke, Board Director	Doug House, Interim Asst. Superintendent, Personnel
Steffany Johnson, Board Director	Natali South, Director of Executive Support
	Linda Rhoads-Parks, Legal Counsel

### 1. Call to Order

- Natali South performed a roll call to establish a quorum and called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m.
- Chuck Vela led the Pledge of Allegiance.

### 2. Action: Approval of Agenda

- Mr. Burke moved to approve the agenda with a modification. Item number 8, Approval of Revenue Anticipation Note, became an Information Item as opposed to an Action item.
- Ms. Thompson seconded.
- Discussion: None
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Burke, Johnson, Thompson, Couch; 1 Absent: Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

3. **Action: Approval of Minutes from March 12, 2020**
  - Mr. Wadlington moved to approve the Minutes from March 12, 2020.
  - Ms. Thompson seconded.
  - Discussion: None
  - Vote: 6 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Burke, Johnson, Thompson, Couch; 1 Absent: Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted
  
4. **Action: Approval of Minutes from March 27, 2020**
  - Ms. Johnson moved to approve Minutes from March 27, 2020.
  - Ms. Couch seconded.
  - Discussion: None
  - Vote: 6 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Burke, Johnson, Thompson, Couch; 1 Absent: Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted
  
5. **Action: Approval of Consent Agenda including: Warrants, Personnel Action Report, IT Recycling Report, Contract Ratifications: Sonwest, Smart Network, Ross Fence, Instructure**
  - Mr. Wadlington moved to approve the Consent Agenda.
  - Ms. Thompson seconded.
  - Discussion: None
  - Vote: 6 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Burke, Johnson, Thompson, Couch; 1 Absent: Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted
  
6. **Information: PUBLIC COMMENTS**
  - None
  
7. **Information: Superintendent Report**
  - Dr. Hermsmeyer provided an update regarding the ways in which we've adjusted to distance learning and working from home. Additionally, she reviewed revised grading expectations, particularly for our high school students.
  
8. **Information: Revenue Anticipation Note**
  - Tanya Rogers reviewed the Revenue Anticipation Note and indicated that the language will be adjusted slightly before being brought forward next month for approval. Tanya and Linda Parks answered Board members' questions regarding signature authority and other details.
  
9. **Action: Approval of Benefits Consulting Agreement with Gallagher Benefits Services, Inc.**
  - Ms. Couch moved to approve the agreement with Gallagher Benefits Services, Inc. for benefits consulting.
  - Mr. Burke seconded.
  - Discussion: Doug House explained that we have selected to partner with Gallagher again to provide our benefits. They had the most competitive package and this will allow us to remain with our current JPA.

- Vote: 6 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Burke, Johnson, Thompson, Couch; 1 Absent: Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

10. **Board Comments**

- Mr. Burke: I am proud to be affiliated with an organization that has responded as we have in this crisis. Kathleen and our staff have risen to the top, and our ability to provide instruction and food for our students during this time is really impressive.
- Ms. Couch: I am super proud of what we're doing, especially providing free instruction for students anywhere in the world. I've even been sharing this information with a lot of people, even some who are overseas.
- Ms. Johnson: As a parent with children in both our school and a traditional neighborhood school, I can say we are doing a far better job of serving our students. We've accessed the meals on a daily basis, and my kids love them.
- Ms. Thompson: I share these thoughts. My children attend Springs and I work for a local public school. The difference between the two is significant.
- Mr. Vela: I think we all agree that Kathleen and her team have risen to this challenge. On a personal note, some of you know that my father passed away on Easter Sunday. Thanks to those who have reached out with condolences.
- Mr. Wadlington: I agree, our school has done a wonderful job during this crisis.

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

- Ms. Couch moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:56 p.m.
- Ms. Thompson seconded.
- Vote: 6 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Burke, Johnson, Thompson, Couch; 1 Absent: Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted



Rachel Couch, Secretary

5/14/20

Date