

RIVER SPRINGS CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Due to Shelter in Place Orders, this was a virtual meeting

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

May 14, 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:

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| Chuck Vela, Board Chair Reginald Wadlington, Vice Chair Rachel Couch, Secretary Jamie Thompson, Treasurer Carla Burke, Board Director Stefffany Johnson, Board Director Stephen Darrow, Board Director | Dr. Kathleen Hermsmeyer, Superintendent Amy Podratz, Asst. Superintendent of Operations Tanya Rogers, Asst. Superintendent of Business Vivian Price, Asst. Superintendent, Education Doug House, Interim Asst. Superintendent, Personnel Natali South, Director of Executive Support Linda Rhoads-Parks, Legal Counsel |
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1. Call to Order

- Mr. Vela called the meeting to order at 12:09 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Natali South established a quorum through roll call.

2. Action: Approval of Agenda

- Mr. Burke moved to approve the agenda.
- Ms. Thompson seconded.
- Discussion: None
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Couch, Thompson, Burke, Johnson, Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

3. Action: Approval of Minutes from April 16, 2020

- Mr. Burke moved to approve Minutes from the April 16, 2020 meeting.
- Ms. Johnson seconded.
- Discussion: None

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

4. **Action: Approval of Consent Agenda**

- Mr. Wadlington moved to approve Consent Agenda consisting of Warrants, Personnel Action Report, and Contract Ratifications: Jim Graves, OPS, OrangeHRM, Multiple Measures, Pablo Vallin, Spectrum - RVA, PLAZA, Perris, Indio, Bear River.
- Mr. Burke seconded.
- Discussion: None
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Couch, Thompson, Burke, Johnson, Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

5. **Information: Public Comments**

- None

6. **Information: Superintendent Report**

- Kathleen Hermsmeyer reviewed the Superintendent's Report and gave updates regarding the steps we have taken to continue to educate our students through Distance Learning. Additionally, she mentioned that plans for returning in the fall are still uncertain until we know what the specific requirements will be in terms of how many students can be in a classroom, and other factors that have not been determined yet. Dr. Hermsmeyer indicated that we have received an award by the National Charter School Alliance for our OPEN Classroom, which we created to provide access to free educational courses and resources to anyone, without having to be a Springs' student. Additionally, Dr. Hermsmeyer gave an update regarding how our marketing efforts have transitioned from an emphasis on in-person events to other avenues to reach families while at home. Dr. Hermsmeyer concluded with an update on the state educational budget as known at this time.

7. **Information: Budget Assumption Report**

- Tanya Rogers reviewed the Budget Assumptions Report, and indicated that many things have changed regarding the revenue expected for next year. Additional information will be released in the coming days, but clearly, the State of California is expecting a significant shortfall in funding, including education. We are expecting a negative impact on our funding for next year as well as deferral of funding owed to us for the remainder of this year. While this is not encouraging news whatsoever, plans are being made to adjust as necessary. Meanwhile, we are accessing all forms of available funding including lottery funds and any other grants or revenue streams available to us. Additionally, we do not plan on being able to give our typical 3% annual salary increase to our staff members and will have to make many other undesirable cutbacks.

8. **Action: Approval of Revenue Anticipation Note**

- Mr. Burke moved to approve the Revenue Anticipation Note.
- Ms. Johnson seconded.
- Discussion: Tanya Rogers reviewed the resolution which authorizes River Springs to obtain a Revenue Anticipation Note to help cover cashflow for the upcoming year.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Couch, Thompson, Burke, Johnson, Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

9. **Action: Approval of Consolidated Application for Funding**

- Ms. Thompson moved to approve the Consolidated Application for funding.
- Ms. Couch seconded.
- Discussion: Tanya Rogers explained that this application allows us to apply for various forms of funding without having to complete individual applications.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Couch, Thompson, Burke, Johnson, Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

10. **Action: Approval of Legal Services Agreement with Linda Parks**

- Mr. Burke moved to approve the Legal Services Agreement with Linda Parks.
- Mr. Wadlington seconded.
- Discussion: Tanya Rogers indicated that no terms of the contract have changed, and that it is being brought forward for its annual renewal.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Couch, Thompson, Burke, Johnson, Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

11. **Board Comments**

- Mr. Burke: I am proud of the leadership that has been shown, not just to our students, but also to our community and at the national level. Great job!
- Ms. Couch: I second Carl's comments. It's a full time job to keep up with everything on a political and educational level, and Kathleen and our staff are doing a great job. It was great to see everyone's face on today's virtual meeting, and I'm looking forward to when we can be together again.
 - Ms. Couch also requested that the Spectrum contracts be placed on the next agenda if she still has questions after speaking with Leilani Weiss.
- Ms. Johnson: I am so proud of Springs! The Above and Beyond award is well deserved and a great accomplishment. I am continually impressed. My daughter is engaged with her teacher as we speak and has been doing so well. Stay Safe everyone.
- Ms. Thompson: I commend you all for making this work for our kids, and for creating a survey to determine what families want for next year. Temecula schools sent a similar survey, and this will help our families communicate their needs and desires. Also, I want to personally thank Kathleen for participating in the iShine student meeting; the students loved it!
- Mr. Wadlington: As everyone has said, our school is doing such a great job. I even hear about it in my neighborhood and the community.

- Mr. Vela: At a time when so many forces are against us, we are rising above. Thanks to Kathleen and staff for all of the extra effort. I'm looking forward to when we get together again.

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

- Mr. Vela adjourned the meeting at 1:04 p.m.



Rachel Couch, Secretary

6/11/2020

Date