

RIVER SPRINGS CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

June 11, 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 Reginald Wadlington, Vice Chair Rachel Couch, Secretary Jamie Thompson, Treasurer Carla Burke, Board Director Steffany 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 12:02 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.
 - Mr. Darrow seconded.
 - Discussion: None
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Couch, Thompson, Burke, Johnson, Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted
- 3. Action: Approval of Minutes**
 - Ms. Couch moved to approve May 14, 2020 Minutes.
 - Mr. Wadlington seconded.
 - Discussion: None

- Vote: 7 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Couch, Thompson, Burke, Johnson, Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

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

- Ms. Thompson moved to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of Warrants, Personnel Action Report, Contract Ratification: Frontline.
- Ms. Johnson seconded.
- Discussion: None
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Couch, Thompson, Burke, Johnson, Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

5. **Public Comments**

- None

6. **Information: Superintendent's Report**

- Kathleen Hermsmeyer reviewed the Superintendent's Report and provided updates regarding the steps being taken to prepare for reopening in the fall. It remains to be seen exactly what will be required, so we are making arrangements for various scenarios. Dr. Hermsmeyer reminded the Board that our virtual Graduation ceremony will take place on June 13. Our senior students received a box filled with items to help them celebrate, including a yard sign, special tassel and other fun things.

7. **Action: Approval of 2020-2021 Budget**

- Mr. Burke moved to approve the 2020-2021 Budget.
- Ms. Couch seconded.
- Discussion: Tanya Rogers reviewed the proposed budget for 2020-2021. The budget reflects the expected decrease in funding for the coming school year. Additional information will be released from the governor in the coming weeks, and will be shared with the Board when available.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Couch, Thompson, Burke, Johnson, Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

8. **Action: Approval of 2019-2020 Education Protection Account Actual**

- Mr. Burke moved to approve the 2019-2020 Education Protection Account Actual.
- Mr. Wadlington seconded.
- Discussion: Tanya Rogers explained that EPA funds provided funding equivalent to 145 teachers' salaries for 2019-2020.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Couch, Thompson, Burke, Johnson, Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

9. **Action: Approval of 2020-2021 Education Protection Account Plan**

- Ms. Thompson moved to approve the 2020-2021 Education Protection Account Plan.
- Ms. Johnson seconded.

- Discussion: Tanya Rogers explained that EPA funds are expected to provide funding equivalent to 148.8 teachers' salaries for 2020-2021.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Couch, Thompson, Burke, Johnson, Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

10. **Action: Approval of Legal Services Contract with Hatch and Cesario**

- Ms. Couch moved to approve the Legal Services Contract with Hatch and Cesario.
- Mr. Wadlington seconded.
- Discussion: Tanya Rogers explained that the law firm of Hatch and Cesario provide legal services in the area of Special Education. There was not an increase in their rates for the upcoming school year.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Couch, Thompson, Burke, Johnson, Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

11. **Action: Approval of Special Ed Contracts**

- Mr. Burke moved to approve Special Ed Contracts.
- Ms. Thompson seconded.
- Discussion: Tanya Rogers explained that efforts have been taken to reduce the amount spent on Special Ed contracts by utilizing staff to provide services, rather than contracted service providers, whenever possible.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Couch, Thompson, Burke, Johnson, Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

12. **Action: Approval of Rosetta Stone Contract**

- Ms. Johnson moved to approve the Rosetta Stone Contract.
- Mr. Wadlington seconded.
- Discussion: Amy Podratz indicated that our students use Rosetta Stone for Foreign Language instruction.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Couch, Thompson, Burke, Johnson, Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

13. **Action: Approval of Covid-19 Written Report**

- Mr. Burke moved to approve Covid-19 Written Report.
- Ms. Couch seconded.
- Discussion: Amy Podratz indicated that the California Department of Education required each school to provide information regarding the changes to program offerings made in response to school closures related to the COVID-19 emergency and the major impact on students and families. The report also highlights services for English learners, foster youth and low-income students, school meal programs, and supervision of students.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Couch, Thompson, Burke, Johnson, Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

14. **Action: Approval of Carnegie Learning Contract**

- Mr. Wadlington moved to approve the Carnegie Learning Contract.

- Ms. Thompson seconded.
- Discussion: Vivian Price indicated that we will be utilizing Carnegie Learning as one of our math curriculums. This past school year, it was used by a pilot group with success.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Couch, Thompson, Burke, Johnson, Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

15. **Action: Approval of 2020-2021 Superintendent's Contract**

- Ms. Couch moved to approve the 2020-2021 Superintendent's Contract.
- Mr. Burke seconded.
- Discussion: Doug House reviewed the terms of the Superintendent's contract, and indicated that there will not be an increase in salary for anyone in the network for 2020-2021, including the Superintendent.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Couch, Thompson, Burke, Johnson, Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

16. **Action: Approval of Position Control System and Salary Scales**

- Ms. Thompson moved to approve the Position Control System and Salary Scales.
- Ms. Johnson seconded
- Discussion: Doug House reviewed the PCS and Salary Scales for 2020-2021.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Couch, Thompson, Burke, Johnson, Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

17. **Action: Approval of Substitute Services with Kelly Services**

- Mr. Darrow moved to approve Substitute Services with Kelly Services.
- Ms. Couch seconded
- Discussion: Doug House indicated that we use Kelly Services for substitutes when we exceed the availability of our own sub-pool.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Couch, Thompson, Burke, Johnson, Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

18. **Action: Approval of Video Production Services with Parallel 40**

- Mr. Wadlington moved to approve Video Production Services with Parallel 40.
- Ms. Couch seconded
- Discussion: Kathleen Hermsmeyer explained that Parallel 40 creates our video content. The new contract will include ADA-compliant production as well as teleprompter services.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Couch, Thompson, Burke, Johnson, Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

19. **Action: Approval of Marketing Portal Contract with Star Link**

- Mr. Burke moved to approve the Marketing Portal Contract with Star Link.
- Mr. Darrow seconded
- Discussion: Kathleen Hermsmeyer indicated that Star Link will create an online portal with marketing content and flyers that our sites will be able to produce and distribute.

This will help ensure that the look and feel of the information is consistent across the network.

- Vote: 7 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Couch, Thompson, Burke, Johnson, Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

20. **Action: Approval of 2020-2021 Board Calendar**

- Ms. Thompson moved to approve the 2020-2021 Board Calendar.
- Mr. Wadlington seconded
- Discussion: Natali South presented next year's calendar and indicated that the October meeting date may be adjusted to coincide with the recently rescheduled Ignite! conference at Pechanga.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Couch, Thompson, Burke, Johnson, Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted

21. **Board Comments**

- Ms. Couch: I was excited to see that Letty Rising will be heading up the new Montessori Homeschool Voyage program. I am so impressed with the flexibility and creativity that Kathleen and staff have shown during these times. Having an online graduation is just one example.
- Mr. Darrow: This is my last Board meeting with River. It has been a fun and interesting experience. I am glad to have been a part of what Springs has accomplished over the last six years, and I wish you all the best.
- Ms. Johnson: I just want to give a quick shout-out to our graduating seniors. I am so glad we're doing a virtual graduation for them. I hope everyone has a great summer.
- Ms. Thompson: My two children each experienced "drive-through promotions" at i-Shine, which were fantastic and special for them. I also want to thank Kathleen for her transparency and integrity in communicating about our plans for next year, including the parts that haven't been determined yet. The honesty is refreshing.
- Mr. Vela: This is my last meeting as Board Chair, and I have really enjoyed it. I will turn the meeting and the role of Chair over to Reggie.
- Mr. Wadlington: I want to thank the Darrows for recommending me to the Board. I really enjoy being a part of it, and look forward to becoming Chair at our next meeting.

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

- Mr. Burke moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:52 p.m.
- Mr. Wadlington seconded
- Discussion: None
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Vela, Wadlington, Couch, Thompson, Burke, Johnson, Darrow; 0 Noes, Motion Adopted



Rachel Couch, Secretary

8/28/2020

Date