

RIVER SPRINGS CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS
27740 JEFFERSON AVE • TEMECULA, CA 92590

REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES

February 11, 2021

12:00 p.m.

Due to CA safer at home order, meeting was held electronically.

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:

Reginald Wadlington, Board Chair Rachel Couch, Vice Chair Jamie Thompson, Secretary Steffany Johnson, Board Treasurer Carl Burke, Board Director Louis Fetherolf, Board Director Chuck Vela, Board Director	Kathleen Hermsmeyer, Superintendent Amy Podratz, Asst. Superintendent, Admin Operations Tanya Rogers, Asst. Superintendent of Business Vivian Price, Asst. Superintendent, Education Doug House, Asst. Superintendent, Personnel Debbie Daniel, Asst. Superintendent, Program Improvement Natali South, Director of Executive Support Linda Rhoads-Parks, Legal Counsel
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1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

- Mr. Wadlington called the meeting to order at 12:01 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Action: Approval of Agenda

- Mr. Burke moved to approve the Agenda.
- Ms. Thompson seconded.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Burke, Couch, Fetherolf, Johnson, Thompson, Vela, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

3. Action: Approval of Minutes from December 10, 2020 Meeting

- Mr. Fetherolf moved to approve the Minutes from the December 10, 2020 meeting.
- Ms. Thompson seconded.
- Discussion: None
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Burke, Couch, Fetherolf, Johnson, Thompson, Vela, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

4. **Action: Approval of Minutes from December 14, 2020 Meeting**
 - Ms. Couch moved to approve the Minutes from the December 14, 2020 meeting.
 - Mr. Fetherolf seconded.
 - Discussion: None
 - Vote: 6 Ayes: Burke, Couch, Fetherolf, Johnson, Vela, Wadlington; 1 Abstention: Thompson; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

5. **Action: Approval of Consent Agenda**
 - Ms. Couch moved to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of: Warrants, Personnel Action Report and Donations Report.
 - Mr. Burke seconded.
 - Discussion: None
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Burke, Couch, Fetherolf, Johnson, Thompson, Vela, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

6. **Information: PUBLIC COMMENTS**
 - None

7. **Information: Presentation**
 - Dr. Corey Loomis from the Riverside County Office of Education presented an overview of best practices for charter school governance based on the book, *Governing for Greatness* by Brian Carpenter.

8. **Information: Superintendent's Report**
 - Dr. Hermsmeyer reviewed the Superintendent's Report and provided updates regarding plans to allow families to choose options that they are comfortable with regarding attending class in person or doing Distance Learning. Additionally, she indicated that at this point, we will be encouraging staff to receive the Covid-19 vaccine, but will not be requiring it. Lastly, Dr. Hermsmeyer provided legislative updates.

9. **Information: School Meal Program Update**
 - Tanya Rogers provided an update regarding offering meals at no cost to our students, other children in their families, as well as youth in the community.

10. **Information: School Accountability Report Card 2019-20**
 - Amy Podratz reviewed the School Accountability Report Card and indicated that the data is from 2019-20. It has been posted on the website, per the legal requirement.

11. Information: College and Career Dashboard Information

- Debbie Thurston reviewed the College and Career Dashboard report with the Board and answered their questions.

12. Action: Approval of Auditor Selection

- Ms. Thompson moved to approve the Auditor Selection.
- Ms. Couch seconded.
- Discussion: Tanya Rogers indicated that staff is very pleased with our auditors and would like to retain them for next year's audit.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Burke, Couch, Fetherolf, Johnson, Thompson, Vela, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

13. Action: Approval of Resolution for Wiring Funds

- Mr. Vela moved to approve the Resolution for Wiring Funds.
- Ms. Johnson seconded.
- Discussion: Tanya Rogers indicated that a Resolution is required in order for River Springs to be able to wire funds when necessary.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Burke, Couch, Fetherolf, Johnson, Thompson, Vela, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

14. Action: Approval of Revenue Anticipation Note

- Mr. Fetherolf moved to approve the Revenue Anticipation Note.
- Ms. Thompson seconded.
- Discussion: Tanya Rogers indicated that due to deferred funding from the State, it will be necessary to borrow funds.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Burke, Couch, Fetherolf, Johnson, Thompson, Vela, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

15. Action: Approval of Attendance and Staff Calendar for 2021-2022

- Mr. Burke moved to approve the Attendance and Staff Calendars.
- Ms. Couch seconded.
- Discussion: Amy Podratz reviewed the proposed calendar for 2021-2022.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Burke, Couch, Fetherolf, Johnson, Thompson, Vela, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

16. Action: Approval of Ratification of Safe School Reopening Plan

- Ms. Johnson moved to approve the Ratification of Safe School Reopening Plan
- Mr. Fetherolf seconded.
- Discussion: Debbie Daniel indicated that schools are required to develop a plan for safe reopening of schools. The approved plan must be posted on the website and submitted to various agencies.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Burke, Couch, Fetherolf, Johnson, Thompson, Vela, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

17. Action: Approval of Community Advisory Council Members

- Mr. Burke moved to approve the Community Advisory Council Members.
- Mr. Fetherolf seconded.
- Discussion: Jamie Rios explained that having a Community Advisory Council is required, and indicated that two parents have volunteered to be members.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Burke, Couch, Fetherolf, Johnson, Thompson, Vela, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

18. Action: Approval of Second Reading and Approval of BP 5024.1 - Suicide Prevention

- Ms. Johnson moved to approve the Second Reading and Approval of BP 5024.1 - Suicide Prevention.
- Ms. Thompson seconded.
- Discussion: Kristin Turner indicated that the Suicide Prevention policy had been presented at a previous meeting. No changes were requested, and the policy is presented now for approval upon second reading.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Burke, Couch, Fetherolf, Johnson, Thompson, Vela, Wadlington; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

19. Closed Session - in Accordance with Gov Code Section 54957.1/54957.9 - entered into at 1:29 p.m.

- Evaluation of Public Employee - Superintendent Kathleen Hermsmeyer

20. Open Session - Report of Action Taken in Closed Session - entered into at 1:39 p.m.

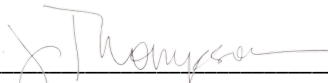
- The Board approved a favorable review for the Superintendent and thanked her for her service.

21. Board Comments

- Ms. Thompson: I had the opportunity to join "Soda with the Superintendent" yesterday. I was very impressed with the number of staff members in attendance. Speaking as a 20-year employee of a school district, I can say how rare it is for staff to have this level of access to their Superintendent!
- Mr. Vela: I look forward to when we can meet again in person. I only have two Board meetings left in my term, and will be sad to say goodbye.
- Mr. Fetherolf: I agree that Soda with the Superintendent is just one more way that Kathleen demonstrates effective leadership. Along those lines, I have enjoyed reading things written by Dr. Thomas Sowell for many years. I would highly recommend all of his many books, including *Charter Schools and their Enemies*. He is an insightful man of 90 years.
- Mr. Wadlington: As you all know, my mother recently passed away. We were able to conduct her funeral yesterday, which was difficult but brought a sense of closure. I appreciate your thoughts and prayers.

22. Action: Motion to Adjourn the Meeting

- Mr. Fetherolf moved to adjourn the meeting at 1:43 p.m.
- Ms. Johnson seconded.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Burke, Couch, Fetherolf, Johnson, Thompson, Vela, Wadlington;
0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted



Jamie Thompson, Secretary

March 11, 2021
Date