

RIVER SPRINGS CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

27740 JEFFERSON AVE • TEMECULA, CA 92590

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

December 7, 2023

12:00 p.m.

27740 Jefferson Ave, Temecula, CA 92590

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:

Steffany Johnson, Chair	Kathleen Hermsmeyer, Superintendent
Louis Fetherolf, Vice Chair	Amy Podratz, Asst. Superintendent, Admin Ops
Stevie Heiliger, Secretary	Tanya Rogers, Asst, Superintendent, Business
Jenny Adamo, Treasurer	Natali South, Senior Director of Charter Relations
Rachel Couch, Board Director	Tammy Jackson, Senior Director of ILP
Jamie Thompson, Board Director	Dave Black, Senior Director of Facilities
James McCallion, Board Director	Courtney Cook, Senior Director of Special Education
	Karl Yoder, Chief Financial Advisor
	Jon Webster, Legal Counsel
	Shane Wickwire, Principal
	EJ Whitehead, Principal
	Valerie Walker, Principal

- 1. Closed Session - in Accordance with Gov Code Section 54956.9/54957: Entered into at 1:00 p.m.**
 - Approval of Special Education Settlement - Student ID#9156558677
 - Approval of Special Education Settlement - Student ID#3596800116
 - 54956.9 - Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation ID#22860
 - 54956.9 - Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation ID#294378
 - Evaluation of Superintendent
- 2. Open Session - Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance**
 - Ms. Johnson called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3. Report of Action Taken in Closed Session**
 - Approval of Special Education Settlement - Student ID#9156558677

- The board approved the settlement
- Approval of Special Education Settlement - Student ID#3596800116
 - The board approved the settlement
- 54956.9 - Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation ID#22860
 - No action to report
- 54956.9 - Conference with Legal Counsel - Existing Litigation ID#294378
 - The board approved the settlement
- Evaluation of Superintendent
 - The board reviewed the evaluation document and thanked Dr. Hermsmeyer for her excellence and dedication to our school.

4. Approval of Agenda

- Mr. Fetherolf moved to approve the agenda.
- Ms. Adamo seconded.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Adamo, Couch, Fetherolf, Heiliger, Johnson, McCallion, Thompson; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

5. Action: Approval of Minutes from October 12, 2023

- Ms. Thompson moved to approve the Minutes from October 12, 2023.
- Ms. Heiliger seconded.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Adamo, Couch, Fetherolf, Heiliger, Johnson, McCallion, Thompson; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

6. Action: Approval of Consent Agenda

- Ms. Adamo moved to approve the Consent Agenda consisting of: Warrants, Personnel Action Report, Approval of Disposal of Obsolete Electronic Equipment, and Contract Ratifications as Posted: Mastery Portfolio Contract, InSpace Contract, Asana Contract, Benchmark Express Invoice, Carson Delloso Education, Language Tree, Smart Network Solutions 41866 Kalmia Street/Murrieta, Diversified Contracting Inc. 27740 Jefferson Ave/Temecula, Herron + Rumansoff Architects, Inc. 27740 Jefferson Ave/Temecula, Sonwest Air Conditioning Inc. 4260 Tequesquite Ave/Riverside, Tri Valley Glass Tinting 26800 Newport Road/Menifee, and iHeart Media - Led by Chair
- Mr. McCallion seconded.
- Vote: 7 Ayes: Adamo, Couch, Fetherolf, Heiliger, Johnson, McCallion, Thompson; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

7. Public Comments

- None

8. **Presentation/Activity: Student Spotlight - Bear River Karaoke Christmas - The Musical**
 - Principal Shane Wickwire and students from Bear River performed two holiday songs for the board.

9. **Presentation/Activity: Student Spotlight - Corona - Savannah**
 - Principal EJ Whitehead introduced a student from the Corona Student Center who spoke to the board about her experience with River Springs. She indicated that she loves River Springs and never wants to attend a different school.

10. **Presentation/Activity: Student Spotlight - Temecula - Felisha, Drake, Caden, and Alexis**
 - Valerie Walker, principal of Temecula Student Center, introduced several students who spoke about the opportunities available to them as high school students at Temecula Student Center. All students spoke about the CTE program offering opportunities to grow and take ownership of the education.

11. **Information: Superintendent's Report**
 - Dr. Hermsmeyer reviewed the Superintendent's report and provided network-wide updates including her recently posted Op-Ed about Flex-based schooling options, our recent Federal Program Monitoring audit which resulted in zero findings, and the Credo report that named Springs as a gap-busting school for our academic achievement.

12. **Information: Comprehensive School Safety Plan**
 - Tanya Rogers explained that each school must create a safety plan and update it every year. This plan is shared with multiple agencies in order to provide necessary information needed in the event of an emergency. Public-view copies are available with sensitive and private information redacted.

13. **Information/Presentation: Recovery High Schools Presentation**
 - Tammy Jackson provided information to the board regarding a conference she recently attended regarding supporting high school students who are battling addiction.

14. **Presentation: Charter Cash Management Program (CCMP) and FAQ**
 - Karl Yoder reviewed the Cash Management Program which allows the school to invest excess cash reserves and earn interest. This is a fairly new opportunity for charter schools. This likely will earn the school approximately \$80,000 - \$100,000 in a year.

- 15. Information: First Reading of Investment Policy - BP 4016.1**
- Karl Yoder presented proposed policy 4016.1 - Investment Policy. This policy outlines the general framework for investing school funds, and will be brought back for a second reading and approval at a future meeting.
- 16. Action: Approval of Fourth Amendment to Lease with Realty Income Corporation**
- Ms. Adamo moved to approve the Fourth Amendment to Lease with Realty Income Corporation.
 - Ms. Couch seconded.
 - Discussion: Dave Black explained that this would allow us to extend our lease at the Corona Student Center. Dr. Hermsmeyer added that if Corona moves to a new location, the existing Corona site would continue to serve early learners.
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Adamo, Couch, Fetherolf, Heiliger, Johnson, McCallion, Thompson; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted
- 17. Action: Approval of the Resolution Authorizing Participation in the Charter Cash Management Program**
- Mr. McCallion moved to approve the Resolution authorizing participation in the Charter Cash Management Program.
 - Mr. Fetherolf seconded.
 - Discussion: Karl explained that this resolution allows the school to participate in the CCMP as explained earlier in the meeting. Karl will be asking for the set-up fee to be waived.
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Adamo, Couch, Fetherolf, Heiliger, Johnson, McCallion, Thompson; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted
- 18. Action: Approval of 2024-25 Attendance and Credentialed Staff Calendar**
- Ms. Thompson moved to approve the 2024-25 Attendance and Credentialed Staff Calendar.
 - Ms. Heiliger seconded.
 - Discussion: Amy Podratz reviewed the proposed calendar and explained that it reflects 175 student days, per legal requirement.
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Adamo, Couch, Fetherolf, Heiliger, Johnson, McCallion, Thompson; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted
- 19. Action: Approval of Innovative School Solutions Contract**
- Mr. Fetherolf moved to approve the Innovative School Solutions Contract.
 - Ms. Thompson seconded.
 - Discussion: AmyPodratz explained that OASIS is our student information system, and this is the annual contract.
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Adamo, Couch, Fetherolf, Heiliger, Johnson, McCallion, Thompson; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted

20. **Action: Approval of 1st Interim Budget 23-34.**
- Ms. Couch moved to approve the 1st Interim Budget for 23-24
 - Ms. Heiliger seconded.
 - Discussion: Tanya Rogers reviewed the 1st Interim Budget which is the first look at the current school's budget as compared to enrollment and expenses. Trevor indicated that we're in a good financial position.
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Adamo, Couch, Fetherolf, Heiliger, Johnson, McCallion, Thompson; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted
21. **Action: Approval of Acceptance of Annual Audit for Fiscal Year 2022-23**
- Ms. Couch moved to approve the acceptance of the Annual Audit for Fiscal Year 2022-23.
 - Mr. Fetherolf seconded.
 - Discussion: Tanya Rogers reviewed the annual audit and indicated that this is a draft version with some final details to be added, but it reflects a clean audit with no findings.
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Adamo, Couch, Fetherolf, Heiliger, Johnson, McCallion, Thompson; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted
22. **Action: Approval of Special Education Contract Addition to Budget**
- Ms. Adamo moved to approve the Special Education Contract Addition to Budget.
 - Ms. Heiliger seconded.
 - Discussion: Tanya Rogers explained the need for additional funds for our Special Education service contracts.
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Adamo, Couch, Fetherolf, Heiliger, Johnson, McCallion, Thompson; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted
23. **Board Comments**
- Ms. Johnson: I love the Student Spotlight! It's always so inspiring. Today's performance was particularly good.
 - Mr. Fetherolf: It's wonderful to work with all of you.
24. **Action: Motion to Adjourn the Meeting**
- Mr. Fetherolf moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:07 p.m.
 - Ms. Adamo seconded.
 - Vote: 7 Ayes: Adamo, Couch, Fetherolf, Heiliger, Johnson, McCallion, Thompson; 0 Absent; 0 Noes; Motion Adopted


Stephanie Heiliger, Secretary

February 8, 2024

Date