



Royal Live Oaks Academy

Of the Arts and Sciences Charter School

1398 Church Road, P.O. Box 528, Hardeeville, SC 29927

Phone: (843) 784-2630 • Fax: (843) 784-2623 • www.rloacs.org

RLOACS Board Meeting

Meeting Minutes November 21, 2017

Present: Eunice Spilliards, Vice-Chair; Kelli Boniecki, Secretary; Greg Chambers, Treasurer; Amleht Alston; Anne Bridgers; Sheree Darien, Sergio Nuno; Deanne Spikes; Dr. Karen Wicks, Executive Director; Les Wicks, Facilities Development

Absent: Dr. Rob McBrayer, Chair

Venue: Student Dining Hall

A quorum was present.

Old business:

- **Open Meeting** - The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm by Vice-Chair Eunice Spilliards. Sheree Darien made a motion to approve the agenda. Anne Bridgers seconded the motion and the motion carried.
- **Approval of Minutes** – A motion was made by Sheree Darien and seconded by Anne Bridgers to accept the minutes of the October 17th Board Meeting and the motion carried.

Public Comment – An RLOA parent shared a public comment to keep up the great work.

RLOA Mission Statement – Eunice Spilliards read the mission statement of RLOACS.

New business:

- **Finance Report for October 2017 – BUDGET REPORT** Lines 79: Increased Supplies by \$2K. Lines 88: Decreased by \$2,420. Services complete for the year. Lines 115: \$2,969 is part of the 16-17 Worker's Comp Audit. Since FY17 audit is finalized, expense will hit FY18 expense. Lines 161: Increased budget by \$20K to reflect Revenue and Expense service. Lines 186: Year to Date FY18 Fund Balance Increased \$261K. September YTD Fund Balance totaled \$152K.
- Dr. Karen Wicks reviewed the October finance reports in Mr. Moser's absence. The Chair called for the Board's approval of the October financials contingent upon some expenses not being in the correct category. Kelli Boniecki made a motion to approve the October financials



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contingent upon appropriate adjustments and Amleht Alston seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Executive Session - No Executive Session was conducted.

Board Election -The Official Ballot for RLOACS was given to members to review. The ballot will be sent home with each enrolled student November 28th. Stakeholders will be reminded to complete the ballots and place them in the ballot box at the front desk before Winter Break. Ballots will be counted at the January 16th Board meeting.

Update on New Campus Financing – We are waiting on the draft Feasibility Study’s review by the USDA so the final version can be submitted. A conference call meeting is scheduled with Michele Cardwell, State Program Director, on November 22nd.

□ School Updates

ELEMENTARY:

Our Fall Festival was a success, with each grade level studying a work of literature and then creating an arts-integrated project related to the story. We have student representatives for each grade level for student council and are looking for a community project.

Teachers have been participating in PLC meetings for balanced literacy. Our next several weeks we will be talking about math instruction in the classroom.

MIDDLE SCHOOL:

Lunchtime Programming: The Middle School team has resumed attending lunches and providing lunchtime programming for students. We attempted to do duty-free lunches, but the staggered duty schedule did not work and transitions were chaotic. Instead, we are doing movie lunches and will re-introduce other activities like karaoke, dance, “working lunch” topics and other similar activities.

Clubs: Middle School clubs have been underway for a little over a month. A particular shout-out goes to Ms. Cindy Moore, who is training a group of **Computer Repair and Programming** students to repair the school’s Chromebooks during that hour. Other clubs include: Arts and Crafts, Walk and Dance, Flag Football, Intramural Soccer, Japanese Anime and Manga; Kennel Club, Natural Hair Care, Photography

HIGH SCHOOL:

Lunchtime Programming: Lunchtime programming has expanded into the high school culture. High School students started their 2017-2018 playlist (Middle School students will



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add to theirs). A request for karaoke is made and coming soon. Movies have not yet begun. Coming Movies: *Hidden Figures*; *Freedom Writers*. Dr. Wicks met with high schoolers for an hour to answer questions about the new campus project and the Charter Institute at Eskine, as well as to answer questions students had written and handed in. It was a lively and positive conversation that students enjoyed.

EOC Semester Preparation: Mr. Morse has committed himself to 30-minute push-in support sessions (blitzes) with English and Biology semester-long courses. Mastery Connect is a valuable resource (paid for by RLOA) that gives teachers access to EOC-style questions for practice in the standards taught. All High School EOC teachers have been provided with training in how to use this tool.

Junior/Senior College Visits: Ms. Barr has been instrumental in collaborating to expose our junior and senior students to postsecondary options (6 month, 1-year, 2-year and 4-year options). We have seen considerable change in students' outlooks as they discover academic programs at regional schools that peak their interests. Several students have expressed a desire to "change majors" or contact admissions departments.

ASSESSMENT:

COGAT: Thanks to Ms. Kaufman, the K-5 Interventionists (Gunderson/Ratliff) and the Grade 2 Team, COGAT was completed in a timely fashion within the state window and shipped for scoring.

TE21/Benchmarks: The 2nd round of state-aligned benchmarks for semester courses will be administered during the week of December 11. Benchmarks for regular semester courses will also occur at that time. These assessments are given before the Christmas Break to allow teachers to plan appropriate review opportunities before January exams.

2nd round benchmarks for yearlong courses will take place during the week of January 15.

It should be noted that at the time of the first benchmarks, only grade 5 and grade 6 Social Studies groups were on track to meet RLOA data goals.

Winter MAP Dates: The Winter MAP will take place during the week of January 8, 2018. At that time we will have individual and class level growth information.

LITERACY:

Elementary School is focusing on Balanced Literacy in the classroom. Teachers are planning activities in preparation for Literacy Night in February.

Middle School Intervention: Mrs. Lippmann, reading interventionist, has provided



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regular, 30-45 small-group instruction for struggling students (based on MAP scores). We anticipate that many students in her small group will test out, allowing us to provide a different level of intervention for the next tier of students. In January, we will know what shifts to make.

Current Tools: *Fountas and Pinnell* and *Great Leaps* (both purchased by RLOA)

RTI:

The RTI team met for the first time and assembled folders for students who will be participating in progress monitoring through the use of AimsWeb. The rosters have been set up in AimsWeb and we will be collecting our first benchmark after the Thanksgiving holiday.

GUIDANCE:

IGP's for Seniors have been completed. Follow-up meetings are being held. Juniors will receive their meeting notices this weekend. Junior IGP's will begin on November 28, 2017. We have toured three college campuses and completed information sessions at all 3. We visited College of Charleston, Charleston Southern, and TCL Bluffton. We will be visiting Clemson and Erskine next.

YOUNG SCHOLARS:

Our MS Young Scholars recently competed in their Model UN competition at Georgia Southern. They placed 2nd in the competition out of 14 schools and earned many other awards.

HS Young Scholars are currently preparing for their Model UN competition. They will be competing under the following countries: Gabon, Comoros, Djibouti, and Burundi. Students are using inquiry skills to investigate their countries and develop position papers and resolutions on real world topics.

Both HS and MS Young Scholars are engaging in PBL units.

PLTW/STEAM/PBL:

PBL observations have been occurring in K-12 classrooms to determine the most effective training opportunities. Many teachers are completing projects, but we are working on transitioning the projects to PBL.

Professional Development sessions have been scheduled for elementary teachers for December with Ms. Traynham and Mr. Dixon focused on Project Based Learning. MS and HS professional development sessions have been requested.



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Projects have been completed or are currently occurring in Young Scholars, PE, Art, Music, HS English, PLTW, and HS Social Studies.

HS PLTW classes are progressing on schedule with Engineering and Computer Science

TITLE I:

Time and Effort forms signed by paras and interventionists will take place the second week of December. Schedules and attendance of students to intervention is required.

A “Title I Informs” Google site was shared with the leadership team for monthly updates on Title I as each month requires different documentation from different departments supervised by the K-6 and 7-12 Directors.

ESOL/TITLE III:

Instruction in ESOL is taking place daily. All language centers, after school and Saturday School academic support are continuously providing quality instruction. We are working on implementing ESSA by posting daily objectives to be shared with students and seen by evaluators to facilitate walk-through evaluations.

Our Title III Annual meeting is on Dec. 6. We are working on this event preparation.

SPED/IDEA:

The Special Education Department is eager to collaborate with Vocational Rehabilitation as we work on Transition Services for students with special needs. The law requires that the IEP team begin no later than age 14 to address the student's need for instruction that will assist him or her in preparing for transition. Beginning at age 16 (or younger, if determined appropriate by the IEP team), the IEP must contain a statement of needed transition services for the student, including, if appropriate, a statement of interagency responsibilities. This includes a coordinated set of activities with measurable outcomes that will move the student from school to post-school activities.

Parent participation in IEP meetings is essential and we have had 100% participation.

BETA CLUB:

The Beta Induction Ceremony is scheduled for December 12, 2017.

- Executive Director’s Report** - Dr. Wicks noted the following:
 - A letter is included in all board packets that was sent to the South Carolina Public Charter



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School District regarding needed corrections for the Title I Allocations and for the Academic Assistance weightings.

- Current enrollment for 2017-18 SY is hovering at 650.
- Elementary teachers have been participating in PLC meetings for balanced literacy.
- Dr. Wicks noted Lunchtime Programming for middle school has resumed. New clubs have also been introduced into the middle school program.
- Dr. Wicks noted Lunchtime Programming has expanded on the high school level.
- The 2nd round of benchmarks for yearlong courses will take place during the week of January 15th, 2018.
- Winter MAP will take place during the week of January 8, 2018.
- IGP's for Seniors are complete. Follow-up meetings are currently being held. Juniors will receive their meeting notices this weekend. Junior IGP's begin November 28th.
- The Title III Annual meeting will be held December 6th.
- RLOACS is looking for a full-time SPED Teacher. The school currently has 55 SPED students.

Other Business – No other business was conducted.

Motion to Adjourn – With no further business to discuss, at 7:55pm Sheree Darien made a motion to adjourn. Greg Chambers seconded the motion, and it carried unanimously.