

Rockford Charter School Organization

Board Meeting Minutes

August 20, 2020 11:30am – 1:00pm

Meeting Held VIA Ring Central Pursuant to COVID-19 Executive Order No. 16

1. Call to Order – 11:35 a.m.

Present: Carla Redd, William Cunningham, Scott Anderson, Nathan Bryant, Anisha Grimmert, Jay Ware (Joined meeting at 11:40 a.m.)

Not Present: Antonio Turner

Also Present: Executive Director Mike Williams, Principal Shavina Baker, Chief Financial Officer Rick Alyward, Attorney Roxanne Sosnowski, Attorney James Kane

2. Approval of Agenda

a. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Scott Anderson and seconded by Nathan Bryant.

i. Roll Call Vote: 5 ayes. 2 absent. Motion Passes

3. Public Comment – Mike Williams noted for the record that Board member Jay Ware was experiencing difficulty logging into the meeting. Shavina Baker indicated that she would send Mr. Ware the link.

4. Review/Approve Minutes of Prior Board Meetings – Action Item

a. A motion to approve minutes from April 3, 2020, June 18, 2020 and July 30, 2020 Board Meetings was made by Nathan Bryant and seconded by Scott Anderson. Attorney Sosnowski noted for the record that the meeting on April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020 was adjourned for lack of a quorum.

i. Roll Call Vote: 5 Aye. 2 absent. Motion passed.

\*\* Jay Ware joined the meeting at 11:40 a.m.

5. Resolutions – Action Item

a. Resolution of the Board of Directors of Rockford Charter School Organization to amend the Rockford Charter School Organization Employee Handbook.

i. A motion was made to approve the Resolution of the Board of Directors of Rockford Charter School Organization to amend the Rockford Charter School Organization Employee Handbook was made by Nathan Bryant and seconded by Carla Redd. In discussion, Attorney James Kane gave an overview of the 2020 amendments to the Employee Handbook. Anisha Grimmert asked questions regarding FFCRA. Attorney Kane responded to clarify.

1. Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes. 1 absent. Motion passes.

b. Resolution of the Board of Directors of Rockford Charter School Organization to amend the Rockford Charter School Organization Student Handbook.

i. A motion was made to approve the Resolution of the Board of Directors of Rockford Charter School Organization to amend the Rockford Charter School Organization Student Handbook by Nathan Bryant and seconded by Anisha Grimmert. In discussion, Attorney Kane gave a lengthy overview of all revisions to the Student Handbook including changes to the language

regarding valid reasons for excused absences with regard to the Five-Day Rule, the removal of out of school suspensions from the Unexcused Absences section, changes to the Truancy Policy to include truancy intervention steps, changes to the Dress Code Policy to include a face mask requirement, changes to the Major Offenses section regarding Zero Tolerance Policies, changes to the Exclusion Considerations section to reflect state statute, and the addition of a Re-Engagement Policy.

1. Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes. 1 absent. Motion passes.

c. Resolution of the Board of Directors of Rockford Charter School Organization to adopt staff COVID-19 Policies 100.1 and 100.2.

i. A motion was made to approve the Resolution of the Board of Directors of Rockford Charter School Organization to adopt staff COVID-19 Policies 100.1 and 100.2 by Scott Anderson and seconded by Anisha Grimmitt. In discussion, Attorney James Kane provided a summary of the policies and how they address COVID-19 protocols and practices and information and forms for employees who wish to request a leave of absence under the FFCRA.

1. Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes. 1 absent. Motion passes.

\*\* Attorney James Kane left the meeting at 12:03 p.m.

6. Financial Report July 2020 – Discussion/Action

i. Rick Aylward gave a report on the financial position of the school. Mr. Ware inquired as to the deficit spending and the overall financial health of the school. Mr. Aylward advised Mr. Ware that the goal would be to not deficit spend for future budgets.

7. Facility Repair Priorities – Discussion/Action

a. Executive Director Mike Williams explained all potential facility repair projects that were needed for the school. Discussion occurred over what projects should be prioritized. A motion was made to approve facility repair priorities that included the PA system replacement for \$13,000.00 and the security camera upgrade for \$19,000.00 by Scott Anderson and seconded by Anisha Grimmitt.

i. Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes. 1 absent. Motion passes.

8. Executive Session – 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) 1 – Personnel

a. A motion was made to enter Executive Session by Nathan Bryant and seconded by Carla Redd.

i. 6 ayes. 1 absent. Motion passes. Executive Session stated at 12:27 p.m.

b. A motion was made to exit Executive Session and re-open Regular Session by Nathan Bryant and seconded by Carla Redd.

i. Present for Roll Call at Open Session: Jay Ware, Carla Redd, William Cunningham, Scott Anderson, Anisha Grimmitt 6 aye. 1 absent. Motion passes. Executive Session ended at 1:06 p.m.

9. Necessary Action as a Result of Executive Session Discussion – None. Attorney Sosnowski noted for the record that the next meeting would be scheduled for October. Anisha Grimmitt asked the Board if a September meeting would be advisable. A consensus was reached for a meeting of the Board on September 17<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 a.m. Attorney Sosnowski's office will send out a calendar invite for the next Board meeting.

10. Adjournment

- a. A motion to adjourn was made by Scott Anderson and seconded by Nathan Bryant.
  - i. Roll Call Vote: 6 ayes. 1 absent. Motion passes. Meeting Adjourned at 1:08 p.m.

