



**Renaissance  
Academy**  
CHARTER SCHOOL

*Building Lifelong Learners*

413 Fairview Street, Phoenixville, PA 19460  
610-983-4080 [www.rak12.org](http://www.rak12.org)

**MINUTES  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES VOTING MEETING**

August 18, 2022 - 6:30 PM

**Google Meet link:**

<https://meet.google.com/dqs-baqp-mwz>

**1. Call to order - 6:30 pm**

**2. Opening Matters**

- **Pledge of Allegiance - [Flag](#)**
- **Attendance -**  
**Board of Trustees & Administration**

Dan Rufo (President - Presiding);  
Elizabeth Falcone (Vice-President);  
Monica Reynolds (Secretary),  
~~Greg Scott,~~  
~~Greg Queen,~~  
Mark Greiner,  
Sujaya Narahari,  
Yvan Francois,  
G. Anne Waskiewicz;  
Gwendolyn Supplee;  
Seyi Akinfenwa

**Administration:**

Dr. Gina Guarino-Buli,  
David Cosme, Jr.,  
~~Harold Smith;~~  
Jordan Miller  
Tara Webber  
Michelle Boyd;  
Carol Schaeffer;  
Heather Rinker;  
Kendra Gruber;

- **Opening statements – Dan Rufo**
  - Special Meeting held August 8, 2022

**3. Consent Agenda -**

- **Approval of Agenda**
- **Review & accept minutes from past meetings**
  - **June 2022 [Minutes](#)**
  - **August 8, 2022 - [8.8.22 Minutes, 8.8.22 Resolution Adopted](#)**
- **Administration Reports - [Principal Reports](#)**
- **Staff Roster by Business Manager**

**Result: Any objections to approval and acceptance of Consent Agenda items? NONE**

#### 4. **Public Comment**

- If not submitted as an email, please use the “Raise Hand” feature and you will be called upon - [publiccomment@rak12.org](mailto:publiccomment@rak12.org). **None.**

#### 5. **Administration Reports**

- High School Principal Report – Michelle Boyd. Nothing formal to report. Good energy getting back and training/planning for first day next week. Good week so far, teachers are excited and ready.
- Middle School Principal Report – Heather Rinker. No formal report. Middle school administration coming together and preparing for consistent expectations beginning day one. Few remaining details to iron out, but very pleased with new hires and team seems to have good adhesion and good energy.
- Elementary School Principal Report – Kendra Gruber. Eager for school year to start. Happy to be fully staffed.
- Deans of Students
  - Jordan Miller. No formal report, but discussed week’s activities for himself, Mr. Smith and Ms. Webber. Deans met with all respective staff on expectations for upcoming year. Will have remaining CPI training for second half of staff that still need
- CEO Report – Dr. Buli - [August CEO](#). FSO planning and conducting a number of back to school activities, including back to school for kindergarteners in Collegeville. Number of grants continued to be worked on. Did include enrollment report for June and July, as well as waitlist as of January and currently. Update on Pandemic team – no requirement of ongoing need for pandemic team, so not going to hold future pandemic team meetings unless need going forward. Recommending removal of vaccine policy for staff and masking policy. Procedurally going to continue with some aspects of health and safety plan (transportation). COVID protocols: expected to follow Pa. Department of Health (Chester county and PDE no longer going to be issuing and updating guidelines).

#### 6. **Committees Meeting updates – Committee Chairs**

- Development Committee – Committee met intermittently over the summer but not this year.
- Curriculum & Achievement - Dan Rufo. Has not met this year yet.
- Standing Executive Session on HR – Beth Falcone provided report for meeting held August 11, 2022. Current openings are listed. Recommending removal of COVID vaccination policy and updates to tuition reimbursement program.
- Finance Committee – Yvan Francois – acting chair. Met yesterday. Focus was and how to drive visibility. Want to have everyone have access to and knowledge of key metrics: looking to some kind of dashboard reporting for these metrics. Are anticipating audits based on number of grants we have been able to obtain. Discussed need for cross-committee meetings based on overlaps between committees and defining responsibilities where overlap exists. Details of cash balance in folders, as are purchasing journal details. Also intend to differentiate what is presented in committee report and business manager’s report.

- Strategic Planning Committee – Yvan Francois. Did not meet yet. Right now planning for re-setting date and time for committee meeting. First meeting will be for defining goals for upcoming year, building on marketing and communication goals achieved last year. Website update – progress was slower over the summer to transfer teacher content, as it was updated.
- Legislative Committee – Getting ready for legislative day in October. Cooperative event between committee and social science classes. Already gotten some RSVP’s. More details to come.
- Equality and Equity Committee - Sujaya Narahari. Did not meet so have no report. Dr. Buli did share that part of staff training on “making safer spaces” – mural update was that nearing completion.
- Ad-Hoc Climate and Culture Committee - Mark Grenier/Dan Rufo. No meeting yet. Recall at final meeting of year, that it was decided we would start year
- Business Manager’s Report – Carol Schaeffer. Reports were in folder. Only receivables not in yet are from state. Update on receivables due from school districts. Discussion of “PDE 363” rates and how grants are not included in that calculation.

**7. Policy Reviews/Resolutions**

- **Removal of Vaccination Policy** – Motion to Approval Removal of Vaccination Policy from RA Board Policies made by E.Falcone; Seconded by A.Waskiewicz. Votes cast as follows:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstained</u>
<b>D. Rufo</b>	√		
<b>E. Falcone</b>	√		
<b>M. Reynolds</b>		√	
<b>M. Greiner</b>	√		
<b>S.Narahari</b>	√		
<b>Y.Francois</b>	√		
<b>G.Anne Waskiewicz</b>	√		
<b>G.Supplee</b>		√	
<b>Total</b>	6	2	0

**Result:** 6 in favor and 2 opposed; Motion carries. **The Vaccination Policy is REMOVED from RA’s Board Policies.**

- **Removal of Masking Policy (go to mask optional pending CDC recommendations)** – Motion to amend masking policy to remove paragraph relating to high transmission rate and masking required and allowing for masking to be optional regardless of transmission rate made by D.Rufo; Seconded by E.Falcone. Votes cast as follows:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstained</u>
<b>D. Rufo</b>	√		
<b>E. Falcone</b>	√		
<b>M. Reynolds</b>		√	
<b>M. Greiner</b>	√		

<b>S.Narahari</b>	√		
<b>Y.Francois</b>	√		
<b>G.Anne Waskiewicz</b>	√		
<b>G.Supplee</b>		√	
<b>Total</b>	6	2	0

**Result:** 6 in favor and 2 opposed; Motion carries. **The Masking Policy in Board Policies is AMENDED to remove paragraph relating to high transmission rate and masking required and allowing for masking to be optional regardless of transmission rate.**

**8. New Business**

- Handbooks –Discussion held regarding handbook provisions that incorporate policy on for delinquent student lunch accounts and offering choice for lunch with consideration for student’s health restrictions. Questions and discussions relating to enforcement of dress code during lunchtimes. Discussion held regarding change of wording on enforcement of infractions and potentially different across 3 handbooks and checking that any language that should align across the 3 handbooks does, in fact, align.
- Motion to approve and adopt updated Handbooks as presented made by E.Falcone; Seconded by M.Reynolds.
- Votes cast as follows:

	<u>Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Abstained</u>
<b>D. Rufo</b>	√		
<b>E. Falcone</b>	√		
<b>M. Reynolds</b>	√		
<b>M.Greiner</b>	√		
<b>S.Narahari</b>	√		
<b>Y.Francois</b>	√		
<b>G.Anne Waskiewicz</b>	√		
<b>G.Supplee</b>	√		
<b>Total</b>	8	0	0

**Result:** All in favor and none opposed, Motion carries. **The Handbooks are APPROVED and ADOPTED, as presented.**

- New Board Member Interviews - discussion/committee formation. Mark, Anne and Dan are available on the 29<sup>th</sup>, after 6 pm.

**9. Adjournment.** Motion to Adjourn made at 7:58 by D.Rufo, Seconded by M.Reynolds. All in favor and none opposed. Motion carries. **Meeting ADJORNED.**

**10. Executive Session - Legal Matter**

*Monica Mathews Reynolds*

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Monica Mathews Reynolds, Trustee and Recording Secretary