

RIDGEVIEW CHARTER BOARD MINUTES

Date: Saturday, October 31, 2020,

Time: 10:00 am

Facilitator: Shezarrah Keane

In Attendance

Board members: Shezarrah Keane, Jennifer Stepp, Reshall Williams, Mikal Brown and Colleen Samuels.

Location

Ridgeview Charter School

Meeting Called to Order:

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve by

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve by

Principal's Report

The enrollment goal continues to be 250 students. Our current enrollment is 205. At this time, 180 students are attending in person and 25 and attending remotely.

We are still enrolling students and are looking at ways to advertise the school. The school held a community engagement meeting with some leaders in the local community and 5 of the 9 invited attended. It was an informative and positive meeting. A marketing flier will be created and sent out after we the next address from the governor on his plans for schools considering the rise in Covid cases.

The current lease of the building is coming to an end and Mrs. Williams requested that the board meet with Bishop Mccullough to negotiate a new lease for the term of 2 years.

The roof has been repaired and there have been no leaks during recent heavy rains.

Mrs. Williams requested that the board increase the hours of the maintenance/janitorial services. The crew starts at 12:00 pm for clean up after lunch and returns after school hours to do the heavier cleaning. She would like for the cleaning crew to come in from 10:00-1:00 to assist with garbage disposal, cleaning spills, dusting, and sanitizing and other necessary tasks so that teachers and administrator do not have to be responsible for them. The new hours would begin on November 1, 2020 with a nominal increase in our payment to the cleaning company. A motion to approve the request was made by Mrs. Stepp, second by Mrs. Samuels, unanimous vote.

The school is looking to provide a refrigerator for the teachers to use. This will be located in the teachers lounge. At this time, we are hoping to find one through a donation or a surplus/used appliance store.

The new Chromebooks have arrived and have been distributed. We received 140 new Chromebooks. All students will have a computer. The new computers were not configured for Google but that will be set up in the coming week. We also have 32 Hotspots for families who need them in order to do remote learning. We will need to consider upgrading technology for the teachers soon and will likely need to replace their computers next year.

The school is in the last stages for being approved for the free and reduced lunch program. The stove in the kitchen was red tagged and needs to be cleaned again. Once that is complete, we should receive approval. This is normally a six-month process but has been a twenty-month process.

At this time, we have no confirmed cases of Covid-19 but two staff members are awaiting test results. The school continues to be diligent in following safety protocols. Everyone is required to wear masks, have temperature checks, and wash hands frequently. The rooms are cleaned, and sanitized and UV lights are used when no one is in the classroom. Social distancing is also used as much as possible. The governor is expected to address the issue after the election.

Kelly Staffing Services contract begins this week, and they will now staff us with our substitute teachers.

There is a need to amend our teacher leave policy concerning FMLA. We have been advised by our attorney that we do not have to offer FMLA because our staff is under 50 persons and it would financially strain a small school. We do have one staff member who has requested FMLA and we will offer it to her because it was policy and stated in the handbook when she requested it. The board voted to repeal the current policy stating the school offers FMLA as of November 1, 2020 and remove the statement from the handbook. Staff will be made aware of the change. The motion was made by Mrs. Samuels, second by Mrs. Stepp, unanimous vote.

The board went into closed session to discuss a personnel matter at 11:02 and returned to open session at 11:16.

Mrs. Williams requested that the board work to recruit more board members from the community.

There were no legal updates.

Presidents Report

We are awaiting an update from the state concerning our allotment. Local monies were received.

A flier will be sent out to potential students to inform them we still have seats open and are offering full time in person instruction.

We are in need of a new phone system that allows teacher communication with the office. AT&T has a new system that is both mobile and wireless. It would increase our monthly bill by approximately \$400 a month. The board will be sent more information for a vote in the upcoming days.

The website management contract expires on November 1, 2020. The board agreed to renew the contract for 2 years at a discounted price.

Old Business

None

New Business

None

Comments and Announcements

None

Next Meeting

November 21, 2020 | 10:00 am | Ridgeview Charter School

Adjournment: 11:21

Motion by Mrs. Samuels, Second by Mrs. Stepp, Unanimous vote