

**RIVER CITY SCIENCE ACADEMY
GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
Minutes**

Thursday, October 6, 2022
5:30 pm

Board members present: Mr. Shahriyar Mammadov (Mr. Yar), Mr. Baybars Bakay, Mrs. Lakesha Burton

Staff members present: Dr. Dogan Tozoglu, Executive Director; Cihan Ozturk, Business Manager; Sel Buyuksarac, Parent Representative

Auditor: Michelle Martinez, CPA

1. Meeting was called to order by Mr. Yar at 5:30 pm.
2. Public Remarks
None
3. Approval of agenda items
Motion to approve agenda items by Mr. Yar and seconded by Mr. Bakay. Approved unanimously.
4. Approval of last board meeting minutes
Motion to approve the last board meeting minutes by Mr. Yar and seconded by Mr. Bakay. Approved unanimously.
5. Approval of audit reports
Auditor Michelle Martinez, CPA, was present at the board meeting. She presented audit highlights to the school board members. There were no findings or management letters for any school audit reports.
Motion to approve audit reports by Mr. Yar and seconded by Mr. Bakay. Approved unanimously
6. Approval of out of field teachers for 2022-23SY
Dr. T. presented field teachers with their certification area and corresponding out-of-field areas for each RCSA campus. The majority needed an ESOL course. The School provides ESOL courses yearly for staff so they can comply with this or attend district courses.
Motion to approve out-of-field teachers for 2022-23SY by Mr. Yar and seconded by Mr. Bakay. Approved unanimously
7. Approval of TSIA (teacher salary increase allocation plans)
Dr. T. presented the TSIA plans for each campus; he mentioned Mr. Ozturk and his team worked with the state rep back and forth to finalize the plans.
Motion to approve TSIA plans and authorize Dr. T. and/or his designee to make changes based on the feedback coming from the State or the District by Mr. Yar and seconded by Mr. Bakay. Approved unanimously

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8. Approval of RCSA Southeast campus land acquisition

Dr. T. reminded the Board about the Southeast campus land and construction and getting finances. He informed the Board about the search for obtaining financing for this project. The land is already under contract by the developer. Dr. T. informed the Board that if the School did not get the finances on time, the School would purchase and secure the land. Even if we could not secure the finances, we could have the land and defer the opening another year.

Motion to approve RCSA Southeast land acquisition in case the finances to fund the project has not been secured by land closing contract deadline and authorize the executive director to execute and finalize the process by Mr. Yar and seconded by Mr. Bakay. Approved unanimously.

9. Approval of asset disposal and processing of unused and outdated items

Mr. Ozturk updated the Board about the asset disposal process that they have been working with the district since March. This agenda item was treated as an agenda item update.

10. Approval of the contract with Employment Simplified, Inc., for staff recruitment

Dr. T. informed the Board about state and nationwide teacher shortages and tools that the schools have been using to recruit their staff. He presented another venue and contract with the Employment Simplified, Inc. The Schools do not have any obligations to use them, and it will be utilized as needed.

Motion to approve the contract with Employment Simplified, Inc., for staff recruitment by Mr. Yar and seconded by Mr. Bakay. Approved unanimously

11. Approval of MOU with UNF.

Dr. T. presented MOU with the UNF College of Education and Human Services. UNF will be placing interns to RCSA school, and there will be a joint Resident Clinical Faculty position. This will be a significant contribution to our schools in addressing teachers shortage and staff development.

Motion to approve MOU with UNF by Mr. Yar and seconded by Mr. Bakay. Approved unanimously

12. Approval of RCSA Intracoastal facility use

Dr. T. informed the Board about the facility use option for the prior owner of the RCSA Intracoastal campus. He told the Board the school attorney would be consulted in this process, making sure the request was aligned with the current charter and bond restrictions.

Motion to approve RCSA Intracoastal facility use by Mr. Yar and seconded by Mr. Bakay. Approved unanimously

13. Review of Financials

Mr. Ozturk presented financials for each campus. There was no outstanding issue.

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Motion to approve school financials by Mr. Yar and seconded by Mr. Bakay. Approved unanimously

14. School assessment update

Dr. T. informed the Board about the new state assessments and schedules. All schools finished the PM I flawlessly in addition to the baseline assessments. State will have two more PM tests this year and use them as a baseline to make determination.

15. RCSA Innovation renewal update

Dr. T. informed the Board about the upcoming renewal site visit for the Innovation campus. The district held an informational meeting and briefed the schools on what was expected from the renewal process. They provided a guideline to get ready and host the renewal site visit. The School has already started getting renewal documents ready and expects a successful renewal visit.

16. RCSA Southeast project permitting and financing

Dr. T. updated the Board about the land, permit, and timeline on the southeast project. All permits have been submitted to the city and waiting for approval. DOT is asking for additional requirements in which the GC has been working on to remedy. Dr. T. has been working with the school financial advisor on financing for alternative options. The School has been working with three different banks so far. Depending on the outcomes and direction from the financial advisor, the School will evaluate the options or continue looking into additional revenues.

17. Closure of the Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Mr. Baybars Bakay,
Board Secretary