

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

Thursday, December 14, 2023
5:30 pm

Board members present: Mr. Shahriyar Mammadov (Mr. Yar), Mr. Baybars Bakay, Mr. Emre Mese, Dr. Sakhavat Mammadov, Mr. Fatih Kurt, Mr. Serkan Dogan

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

1. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Yar at 5:40 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 new board members

Mr. Fatih Kurt and Mr. Serkan Dogan were introduced to the board members. As of January 1, 2024, Mr. Yar and Mr. Bakay will step down from the board. Mrs. Burton has also informed the board of her decision to step down on November 15th due to her personal obligations. The board members and Dr. T. expressed their gratitude to all these departing members for their commitment and contributions to the RCSA Community.

Subsequently, Mr. Bakay nominated Mr. Fatih Kurt and Mr. Serkan Dogan as new board members, and there were no objections.

Motion to approve new board members by Mr. Yar and seconded by Mr. Bakay. Approved unanimously.

6. Election of board officers

After Mr. Yar and Mr. Bakay leave, the board needs new officers to replace them. Mr. Bakay nominated Mr. Emre Mese as Board Chair, Mr. Fatih Kurt as Board Secretary, and Mr. Serkan Dogan as Vice Chair. There were no objections.

Motion to approve board chair, vice-chair, and secretary as nominated by Mr. Yar and seconded by Mr. Bakay. Approved unanimously.

7. Approval of 2022-23FY single audit and 990

Dr. T. shared the highlights of the audit reports provided by the auditor for the single audit. There were no findings and no recommendations to improve financial management. The financials met the Debt Service Coverage Ratio requirement of 1.1 to 1.0; for the fiscal year, our ratio is 4.07 to 1.0. Additionally, we surpassed the minimum 45 days cash on hand requirement, as for the fiscal year, we have 133 days. An extension was filed for the

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

Thursday, December 14, 2023
5:30 pm

990 submission, and it was approved by the IRS. The 990 will be finalized in a couple of weeks.

Motion to approve 2022-23FY single audit and authorize executive director and business manager to approve 990 when it is ready by Mr. Yar and seconded by Mr. Bakay. Approved unanimously.

8. Approval of mid-year budgets and review of financial

Dr. T. presented the mid-year budgets and financials to the board. He mentioned budgets were updated based on Survey-2 figures.

Motion to approve mid-year budgets and financials by Mr. Yar and seconded by Mr. Bakay. Approved unanimously.

9. Approval of holiday gift cards

Dr. T. reminded the board annual holiday gift cards to staff in the amount of \$100.00 and asked for approval.

Motion to approve holiday gift cards by Mr. Yar and seconded by Mr. Bakay. Approved unanimously.

10. Approval of Florida Consortium of Charter Schools Evaluation tools

Dr. T. presented the evaluation tools that RCSA Schools have been using to evaluate staff and administration. The evaluation tools from the Florida Consortium of Charter Schools are state-approved and include an online component. Additionally, RCSA will utilize school grade conversion scores for the student growth category.

Motion to approve Florida Consortium of Charter Schools Evaluation tools by Mr. Yar and seconded by Mr. Bakay. Approved unanimously.

11. Approval of Board Policies – Credit Recovery, Student Welfare Complaints, Teacher Apprenticeship Program, Material Objection Template

Dr. T. presented various policies and procedures that have emerged from the new rulings by FLDOE. These have been reviewed and formatted by our school legal team.

Motion to approve Board Policies – Credit Recovery, Student Welfare Complaints, Teacher Apprenticeship Program, Material Objection Template by Mr. Mese and seconded by Mr. Bakay. Approved unanimously.

12. Approval of asset disposal

Dr. T. shared the asset disposal lists from each campus which mainly consisted of broken furniture fixtures and Chromebooks.

Motion to approve asset disposal lists by Mr. Mese and seconded by Mr. Bakay. Approved unanimously.

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

Thursday, December 14, 2023
5:30 pm

13. Initial Duval Property Tax 1 mil Referendum funds and approve to authorize executive director and business office team to calculate and work on the distribution plan to staff

Dr. T. presented the initial funding from the Duval Property Tax 1 mil Referendum. The funding will be provided for the remainder of the months, and the funds are allocated based on the Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) numbers in each school.

Motion to authorize executive director and business office team to calculate and work on the distribution plan to staff by Mr. Mese and seconded by Mr. Bakay. Approved unanimously.

14. Approval of security agreements for the remaining of the funds for RCSA Southeast project

Dr. T. presented the security agreement with Renasant Bank for the remaining funds from the Southeast Project. These funds are earmarked for the construction of traffic lights on the project. Although the main project has already been completed on time, the remaining traffic light project is expected to take 6 to 8 months to finish. The funds will remain in the checking account but will be secured for project expenses.

Motion to approve security agreements for the remaining of the funds for RCSA Southeast project by Mr. Mese and seconded by Mr. Bakay. Approved unanimously.

15. School updates

Dr. T. provided the board with the following updates:

FLDOE released the school grades, and all RCSA Schools received A grades. All campuses have been celebrating our successes, and we have received numerous congratulatory messages from the community and stakeholders. We recently held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the RCSA Southeast campus, which was well attended by many distinguished community leaders and elected officials.

Additionally, we hosted our annual holiday party for all campus staff and families, creating a fun and productive event for our staff, their families, and children. Our programs and extracurricular activities continue without interruption. Each campus is actively hosting various events, including parent nights, festivals, STEM days, clubs, and more.

16. Closure of the Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 06:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Mr. Baybars Bakay, Board Secretary