

RISING STARS ACADEMY
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 19, 2021

1. Call to Order at 6:30 p.m.
 - a. Attendance: Bob Nowak, Susan Uhl, Sean McGillen, Annette Duda, Charisse Cossu-Kowalski
 - b. Others Present: Debbie Prentiss, Mark Prentiss, Marsha Salome, Frank Patterson (MM1/payroll), Lori Monti, (1) guest: Center Line Superintendent, Mr. Harvey
2. Citizen Non-Agenda Items: none
3. Communication: none
4. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of July 15, 2021
 - a. Motion made by Sue Uhl
 - b. Seconded by Bob Nowak
 - c. Roll Call vote: 5 Yes 0 No – approved by Bob Nowak, Susan Uhl, Sean McGillen, Annette Duda, Charisse Cossu-Kowalski
5. Acknowledgement of check register July 2021
 - a. Motion made by Annette Duda
 - b. Seconded by Charisse Cossu-Kowalski
 - c. Roll Call vote: 5 Yes 0 No – approved by Bob Nowak, Susan Uhl, Sean McGillen, Annette Duda, Charisse Cossu-Kowalski

6. Financial Report

Frank Patterson (MM1) asked about combing check register and financial report. Mr. Nowak stated makes sense to keep separate. Mr. Patterson reported \$380K in cash, \$314K in revenue, \$258K in checks/fees for a 7/31/21 total of \$436K in cash remaining for July. \$318K for August. No need to borrow for September.

Mr. Patterson reported state approved \$8,700 per student for funding for 21/22 SY. This amount is based on 90% October/Fall Count and 10% February/Spring Count. Per pupil funding was \$8,111. State refund in amount of \$1,093 per pupil. Spring Count for 20/21 SY was 112. Currently have 124 students enrolled for 21/22 SY.

Mr. Patterson spoke about grants.

Gear grant: \$20K was used to hire two paraprofessionals, one of which is a former employee who resigned due to Covid in the 20/21 SY.

SR grant: \$5,600 will be used to purchase computers for computer lab.

ERate Grant: federal grant used to subsidize internet costs. Also used to purchase 75 chromebooks. RSA will be reimbursed 85% (approximately \$16,362.50) of \$19,250 cost to purchase.

7. Approval of Board of Education Spring 2021 Policy Update
 - a. Motion made by Sue Uhl
 - b. Supported by Charisse Cossu-Kowalski
 - c. Roll Call vote: 5 Yes 0 No – approved by Bob Nowak, Susan Uhl, Sean McGillen, Annette Duda, Charisse Cossu-Kowalski
8. Approval of Online Curriculum
 - a. Motion made by Sean McGillen
 - b. Supported by Annette Duda
 - c. Roll Call vote: 5 Yes 0 No – approved by Bob Nowak, Susan Uhl, Sean McGillen, Annette Duda, Charisse Cossu-Kowalski
9. Approval of Masks being Optional/approval for Debbie Prentiss to change to required if needed in the future/revisit at monthly board mtgs if necessary
 - a. Motion made by Bob Nowak
 - b. Supported by Annette Duda
 - c. Roll Call vote: 5 Yes 0 No – approved by Bob Nowak, Susan Uhl, Sean McGillen, Annette Duda, Charisse Cossu-Kowalski
10. Superintendent Report
 - a. Information shared about buses being parked behind gate due to thefts of catalytic converters.
 - b. Window replacement
 - c. Future staff presentations
 - d. Future Superintendent reporting on goals
11. Motion to Adjourn Meeting
 - a. Moved by Bob Nowak
 - b. Supported by Sean McGillen
 - c. Call vote: 5 Yes 0 No – approved by Bob Nowak, Susan Uhl, Sean McGillen, Annette Duda, Charisse Cossu-Kowalski

Meeting ended: 8:08 p.m.