

RIISING STARS ACADEMY
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES
MAY 12, 2022

1. Call to Order Time: 6:33 p.m.
Attendance: Bob Nowak, Annette Duda, Sue Uhl, Charisse Cossu-Kowalski, Jenni Allen, (5) RSA students, Nancy Forster, Ms. Kobylak, Ms. Vice, Lori Mochty, Deb Prentiss, Mark Prentiss, Marsha Salome, Sarah Grzebyk
ABSENT: Robert Spada
2. Citizen Non-Agenda Items: None.
3. Communication: Acknowledgement of receipt of resignation of Bob Nowak as a member of the Rising Stars Academy Board of Education. Presentation to Bob Nowak by students of a blanket and travel map.
4. Presentation by J. Allen and Robotics Team
Students and staff provided a demonstration of the robot used in the robotics competition this year. Students share what they liked about the program.
5. Approval of Minutes of Regular Meeting of April 21, 2022
 - a. Motion by Bob Nowak
 - b. Supported by Charisse Cossu-Kowalski
 - c. Roll Call Vote: 4 Yes 0 No – approved by Annette Duda, Sue Uhl, Bob Nowak, and Charisse Cossu-Kowalski
ABSENT: Robert Spada
6. Acknowledgement of receipt of check register April, 2022
 - a. Motion by Sue Uhl
 - b. Supported by Annette Duda
 - c. Roll Call Vote: 4 Yes 0 No – approved by Annette Duda, Sue Uhl, Bob Nowak, and Charisse Cossu-Kowalski
ABSENT: Robert Spada
7. Business Manager Report
Lori Mochty reviewed income and outgoing financials.
8. Building and Grounds Report
Deb discussed:
Bumler working on HVAC.
Fire system now running through Detroit Fire. National Time/Vanguard USED to monitor.
Grosse Pte. Alarm is now the company RSA uses for security.
Seeking new pest control company. RSA not happy with performance of Elite Pest (current company). Elite Pest charges \$46.00 a month. Spider Control provided a quote of \$200.00 per month. Seeking other quotes.

Working on changing letters over the front entrance from the old building name to Rising Stars Academy.

9. Superintendent Report

Deb discussed:

Staff appreciation day lunch, arranged by Emily Bregier.

Enrollment/tours are flowing and doing well.

Waiting on the grow grant.

Electives are good – ended on 5/6/22

Garden will have assigned beds for students to work in.

Plants were picked up.

11(t) application is being finished.

Bob Nowak inquired about the soft opening of restaurant. He asked if it will be open over the summer. Mark stated possibly. Deb stated there will be a few staff that will work all summer in Home Hub. The store will be open all summer; however, no food can be served through the store.

Job site: Deb asked if anyone knows of any businesses that might be interested in becoming a job site for students, please let her know.

GM donation for bowling fundraiser was quick and smooth. When GM volunteers come in, their time goes into a system that then converts the time into cash. The cash is then donated. Bob said this is a “Dollars for Doers” program. Bob suggested to perhaps prepare a flyer about donation to RSA Foundation. Sean O’Sullivan is a contact, per Bob.

Bowling fundraiser: RSA already has 3-4 sponsorships. Raffle prizes are being assembled.

May 17, 2022 is the Dine and Dash fundraiser taking place at three restaurants with 10% of all proceeds of food and liquor purchases being donated to RSA.

OTs left 5/6/22.

Discussion took place concerning the surveys and 11(t) grant. Results of surveys showed the following results in order of concern:

#1 Social Emotional Learning

#2 Problem Solving

#3 Reading

Deb discussed the “Positive You” program and bringing that to RSA.

Deb discussed the “Base Camp” program in Flint. She shared that she will have a professional development day in August wherein ALL RSA and Home Hub staff will be attending and learning about the program in Flint. Program will train staff in social emotional/problem solving. Deb said she would like to send students monthly to the program throughout the school year. Cost to send 24 students and 4 staff once a month for 3 hours is \$300 each visit.

Deb stated that the 11(t) funds allow for reimbursement of expenses going back to 2020.

Deb shared that RSA teachers will now be able to earn SCECHs. She shared that SCECHs are professional development hours that teachers need to renew their teaching certificates. These hours will be earned free of charge for teachers as well. DPPD (District Provided Professional Development) can be scheduled for as many as 5 days each year. These days can also be counted as days of school.

10. Motion to Adjourn Meeting

Moved by Bob Nowak

Supported by Charisse Cossu-Kowalski

Meeting ended: 8 p.m.