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Mission

RFK Charter School prepares, motivates, and supports students to achieve their college and career goals

in partnership with their families and the community.

**Governance Council Meeting Minutes**

**Thursday, May 19, 2022**

**4:30 PM**

**All council members:**

**Roll Call:**

Mark Walch

Lawrence Barela

Tina Garcia-Shams

Clyde Ortiz

Absent:

Sylvia McCleary

Trey Hammond

**Quorum:** Yes

**Staff:**

Robert Baade

Irene Sanchez

Shawn Morris - Virtual

Aaron Arellano

**Approval of Agenda:**

Lawrence makes the motion to approve the May agenda. Tina seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

**Approval of meeting minutes:**

Clyde makes a motion for approval of the April meeting minutes. Lawrence seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Public Comment:**

Guest: Kati Avery

Kati was at PED and leaving. Background is nearly childhood Montessori program. Her background is in community. And she is Bilingual. Kati Works with a company that honors student voice. Kati had been doing a lot of community voice meetings/work. She is interested in the board position. Robert met with her and recommends that we meet with her about the board position. Why is she interested in board position: thinks all children should see potential for success and loves the mission of RFK. Kati believes educators should honor the needs of the community and families and hear what they need and how we can meet them where they are.

**Middle school update:**

Completed the IMASA test. ASR is completed. The Avant Spanish testing is completed. Next week is the last test of the year (Sept. Dec, May). Teachers are wrapping up their lessons and will be celebrating 8th grade to high school on Wednesday May 23 at the high school gym. Everyone is invited. Had a great Arbor Day work/festival. Had a great turn out and planted 4 trees moved mulched, rock, dirt. No one complained. Aaron was so impressed…kids were engaged and after the work they did art projects, etc. They have asked to do more activities like that. Next week they will be doing on-boarding of new hires and starting HR process. Celebrating Seniors tomorrow. Proud of the work and effort and staff has done a great job getting them to the finish line. 39 graduates this year. We will have the IMASA in June but other testing results will be Sept./October.

**High School Update:**

Graduation is tomorrow at 4:30. 39 graduates. Doing on-boarding of new hires. Have filled all open positions. Hoping everyone shows up. Juniors took SAT at the end of April…this is baseline year. Hoping to get the results by July. Submitted community schools grant and this will pay for a coordinator. Finalizing professional development schedule for next school year. Finals for students will be next week After memorial day they will be doing family meetings. Lawrence says we need to make sure we are tracking the data/scores for the student results so that we can hopefully see improvement year over year. Shawn agrees this is good data to use and hopes we get the results sooner rather than later. Also will allow the school to adjust as needed. RFK is going to implement a capstone model and hired a teacher that was at Siembra and working with PED to establish/developing Capstones for the students.

RFK does the Illuminate ED testing (was presented by Linda Sanchez in earlier board meeting). This helps teachers know what students are struggling with so they can adjust the curriculum and teaching.

**Finance Committee Report for April - Discussion and Approval:**

Lawrence makes the motion to approve the finance committee report for April. Mark seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

**Cash Disbursement for April- Discussion and Approval**

Tina makes the motion to approve the cash disbursement for April. Mark seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

**Bars Approval:**

Lawrence makes the motion to approve BAR 001-051-2122-0062-IB $59,339. Clyde seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

Lawrence makes the motion to approve BAR 001-051-2122-0064-I $150 (Donation to activity fund). Clyde seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

Lawrence makes the motion to approve BAR 001-051-2122-0065-D $4,135 (Decrease) Clyde seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

**Disposal of Assets:**

Chromebooks and Dell Laptops

Lawrence makes the motion to approve the disposal of assets. Clyde seconds the motion. The motion passes unanimously.

**Lease Assistance:**

Irene needs signatures for the lease assistance. They have not released the application and will probably release in June.

No vote is needed

**Graduation Rates for 2022:**

There were 51 seniors and 39 are graduating. 4 may still be eligible to graduate. Some don’t graduate because they get jobs but there are so many reasons. Most will return next year. Middle school students that come to high school are most successful.

**Equity Council:**

Equity training will move forward this school year.

Board members are eligible to take the equity training as well as Teachers, families, students.

**Executive Directors Report:**

Robert was in Baltimore for a conference – Linda Ortega and Zia Martinez presented at the conference Everyone Graduates. Zia presented on the school farm project as well as the welding and bee-keeping. Also spoke on the buy-back gun project. Keith Sanchez did a presentation on ethic studies to students. Getting ready for next year and on-board new staff members to get them ready for the new school year. Budget is in great shape. Recognize Irene for her work and keeping the budget solid. Need to get the 27 students we lost over the year to solidify the budget. Going to add students to middle school and growing the evening school. Thank Aaron and Shawn but this was a transition year and was tough year. Favorite things for next year is Civic Academy which has really gone away over the course of the last years. The teacher who is overseeing this is a CYFD attorney and is leaving that position to come to RFK and running the Civic Academy. Works on Native American family issues and will be a great asset to the equity council. RFK is looking for 1 math teacher. Thrilled about YCC program – 36 students working at the farm – ages 13-24 at $12/hr and 2 are leads and make $15/hr $300,000 total to students/families. Apply, 3 staff recommendations, interview. Program runs all summer through October. Irene does the financial on-boarding for the students and Nusenda also has a financial lit component.

**Housekeeping:**

Possible New Board Members: Our visitor Kati is a possible board member as well as April who can start after June. Can’t bring new members until after June.

Lawrence is putting together a financial audit team. How is money managed, etc.

Clyde will try to make the graduation

**Adjourn:**

Lawrence makes the motion to adjourn the meeting. Mark seconds the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 6:28 pm.

Robert F. Kennedy Charter School

Governance Council Meeting

May 19, 2022

Next Board Meeting: June 16, 2022