



Board Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2024

1. Call to Order: J Nosek called the meeting to order at 6:34 pm. Staff members present: M Harris, J Gaulden, A H Hughes, E Chicka, C Dudley. Board members present: J Nosek, L Walker, J Kreider, D Crockett, J Brewer (installed at this meeting, Houston Core),
2. Reading of Mission Statement: J Nosek read the mission statement.
3. *Discussion and approval of new board member**: Houston Core was introduced as the newest board member of RA. **A motion was made to add H Core as an RA board member by J Nosek and seconded by L Walker. Motion carried 5-0.** H Core joins the board at the table for the remainder of the meeting.
4. *Approval of minutes from 4.18.24**: **A motion was made by J Brewer and seconded by J Nosek to approve the meeting minutes from 4/18/24. Motion carries 6-0.**
5. Public Comment: **J Kreider made a motion to close public discussion and it was seconded by J Nosek. Motion carries 6-0.** Noone spoke during public comment.
6. PTO Report: There was not a PTO report submitted this month.
7. NWEA Spring results: M Harris presented NWEA spring testing results. Grades 8, 3, and 7 made the highest achievement in math. Grades 8, K, and 1st made the highest achievement in reading. All grades are continuing to make progress and they are seeing growth from year to year. J Kreider asked about the percentiles of achievement across the nation, M Harris reminded everyone that this is a nationally normed test, not only for charter and private but traditional public schools are taking this test as well. NWEA will be renorming to align with more grade specific standards next year which will give us a better indication of EOG scores and how students will actually score on their respective EOG tests which charter school student are required to take like traditional public schools.
8. Principal's Report: Annie Jr. Musical was presented by the students and was an amazing production. EOG testing begins on May 17th with grades 3 through 5. M Harris has begun EOY evals with teachers and staff and continue through May 28th. Contracts will also be distributed during these evaluations. Bonuses will be given to eligible employees in June paychecks. Spring survey results are in and have been distributed to board. Positive results from surveys. One area M Harris discussed in particular was homework and how administration is still working with some grades who tend to have more homework than others due to the curriculum of that grade. They are working on leveling out homework in grades that are more prone to heavier workloads. J Gaulden and C Harwell working with the teachers to even out work loads where possible. Building maintenance for the summer will occur while kids are out. Quotes were presented and discussed, hallways, main lobby, and stairwells will be painted. Sports awards and volunteer breakfast coming up in the next week. 8th grade graduation will be May 30th and 5th grade move-up ceremony will be May 29th. The new hires will begin August 7th with Core Knowledge and Shurley grammar training. The first staff development day will be in October with Alex
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Quigley leading the development training. RA will be participating in the Summerfield Founders Day activities. The Capital Campaign with Carol Wicks is continuing and making progress, information will be shared once budget for the CC has been made. Enrollment numbers are good, the school is full and continuing to process paperwork as it is completed for 9th grade and any potential opening that may arise.

9. Board Committee Updates

- a. Finance – Mrs. Walker & Mrs. Helms: J Nosek made an appointment to the finance committee, Sean Patterson. Finance committee continues to operate conservatively, continuously checking to ensure we are monitoring we are staying within the budget. J Nosek asked about our money market account as R Helms discussed where we anticipate ending the year with the projected surplus. J Kreider asked about moving more money to the money market in order to get more of a return. Board discussed that better numbers from the year would be available in July so we can then determine how much more we want to invest. The Finance Committee will discuss this in the coming months. J Nosek is waiting to hear back from Rob Ketner with regards to potential land purchase. Rob will advise as the best course of action for this.
- b. Governance- Mr. Kreider
 1. Discussion of two buildings/one school- M Harris discussed the Upper and Lower School model and how we communicate to parents, staff, and the community going forward. This model is more reflective of the classical construction too. J Nosek discussed information regarding the building and land going forward and the rise of construction costs as we look forward to building the next school and the division of grades.
- c. Academic- Mr. Crockett and Mrs. Hurley-Hughes
 1. *Discussion and approval of Math 1/Algebra I & Math 2/Geometry curriculum**: A H Hughes presented the Math curriculum that was chosen by the Academic committee. **A motion was made by J Brewer and seconded by J Nosek to approve the math curriculum for Math 1/ Algebra and Math 2/Geometry, Arts Curriculum and the CTE curriculum. Motion carries 6-0.**
 2. *Discussion and approval of Art curriculum**: A H Hughes presented information about the Art curriculum that was chosen by the Academic Committee. **A motion was made by J Brewer and seconded by J Nosek to approve the math curriculum for Math 1/ Algebra and Math 2/Geometry, Arts Curriculum and the CTE curriculum. Motion carries 6-0.**
 3. *Discussion and approval of JROTC branch*: A H Hughes also informed the board about the process of applying to be an JROTC branch. L Walker asked about the various schools in the area and which focus applied to which school and how RA would fit in that model. AHH informed that the DOD would provide partial funding for the staff and other particulars. There is a process and specific requirements that apply in order to be granted approval. J Nosek asked if RA would have enough students to fund the program. The whole process takes about a year in order to go forward with a specific program if a school is chosen. There is not a vote needed to move forward with interest.
 4. *Discussion and approval of CTE courses**: A H Hughes presented information about the CTE curriculum that was chosen by the Academic Committee. M Bardsley will be teaching these courses. **A motion was made by J Brewer and seconded by J Nosek to approve the math**

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**curriculum for Math 1/ Algebra and Math 2/Geometry, Arts
Curriculum and the CTE curriculum. Motion carries 6-0.**

10. Operations -Mrs. Harris

- a. *Discussion and approval of updates to 2024-2025 Staff handbook**: L Walker asked questions about electronic devices, cell phones, finger nails, hair. She expressed concern about these policies going forward for the high school students. She asked about the students not being allowed to have phones after school. J Kreider asked if they needed the devices more than they already have them. H Core talked about the school brand and how RA has cultivated their brand. M Harris addressed this briefly with how RA is a back-to-basics school with limited technology. She also said many parents have expressed support for this policy. A H Hughes said it was a big draw for teachers applying for jobs at RA. J Brewer discussed how cell phones can be used to help students be better citizens. D Crockett also shared his experience as a teacher and administrator. This was a lively discussion which resulted in the motions being tabled and sending back to the SIT for further review. **A motion was made by J Nosek and seconded by J Kreider to table this motion. Motion carries 6-0.**

- b. *Discussion and approval of updates to 2024-2025 Parent/ Student Handbook**: **A motion was made by J Nosek and seconded by J Kreider to table this motion. Motion carries 6-0.**

- c. *Discussion and approval of additional self-contained/adaptive OCS EC teacher**: **J Brewer made a motion to add this position to our staff for the high school, J Nosek seconded the motion. Motion carries 6-0.**

- d. *Discussion and approval of contracted services for CBC**: **J Nosek made a motion to accept the bid for the Central Baptist Church modifications from Phelps Construction, J Kreider seconded the motion. Motion carries 6-0.**

11. Closed session to discuss personnel and contract negotiations.

§ 143-318.11. Closed sessions.

To establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating (i) the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease; or (ii) the amount of compensation and other material terms of an employment contract or proposed employment contract.

To consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee. General personnel policy issues may not be considered in a closed session. A public body may not consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, appointment, or removal of a member of the public body or another body and may not consider or fill a vacancy among its own membership except in an open meeting. Final action making an appointment or discharge or removal by a public body having final authority for the appointment or discharge or removal shall be taken in an open meeting.

J Brewer made a motion to enter closed session, L Walker seconded the motion. Motion carries 6-0. Time entered closed session: 7:58 pm.

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J Nosek made a motion to exit closed session, J Brewer seconded the motion. Motion carries 6-0. Time exited closed session: 9:07 pm.

12. Discussion and approval of closed session minutes from 4.18.24*: J Kreider made a motion to approve the closed session meeting minutes from 4.18.24, J Nosek seconded the motion. Motion carries 6-0.

13. Discussion and approval of potential land site*: J Nosek made a motion to extend an offer letter to purchase land for a future school site, J Brewer seconded the motion. Motion carries 6-0.

14. Discussion and approval of new hires*: *: J Nosek made a motion approve the new hires, H Core seconded the motion. Motion carries 6-0.

15. Adjourn: J Nosek made a motion to adjourn, J Brewer seconded the motion. Motion carries 6-0.

* Requires Board action