

ERIE RISE LEADERSHIP ACADEMY CHARTER SCHOOL BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
THURSDAY, APRIL 25, 2019

**Section I: Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 6:21 p.m. by the Board Chairperson Mrs. Constance M. Ratcliff. The body was led in the pledge of allegiance to the flag by Mr. Tim Kuzma followed by a prayer from Mr. Wayne Patterson.

**A. Roll Call:**

Constance M. Ratcliff (Present)  
Ed Williams (Present)  
Sonya Adams (Excused)  
Wayne Patterson (Present)  
Dr. Margaret Smith (Present)  
Shantel Hilliard (Excused)  
Michael Hooks (Present)  
Tim Kuzma (Present)  
Brenda Abreu-Baker (Present)

**Non Board Members:**

Attorney Thomas Fitzpatrick (Present)

**Rise Staff:**

Terry A. Lang, CEO  
Veronica Will  
William Butler  
Homer Smith  
Pearl Jeffries-Steele  
Aubrey Favors

**Guest:**

Steve Newman (Parent)

**B. Approval of Agenda**

Resolved that the Board of Trustees of Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School on a motion by Dr. Margaret Smith seconded by Tim Kuzma hereby approves the April 25, 2019 meeting agenda. An addendum to the motion was moved by Dr. Margaret Smith and seconded by Mr. Tim Kuzma to remove Section IV: A from the agenda. All members in favor (Motion Carried)

**C. Approval of Minutes**

Motion made by Mr. Michael Hooks seconded by Mr. Shantel Hilliard to accept the board minutes from the March 21, 2019 meeting with necessary corrections. All members in favor (Motion Carried)

## **Section II: Reports**

### **A. Hearing of Citizens (none)**

Mr. Steve Newman spoke to the board about how his son has benefitted from his educational experience at Erie Rise. Mr. Newman also addressed the Erie School Board at their April 17, 2019 meeting.

### **B. Finance & Audit Committee: presented by Sonya Adams**

#### **1. Financials-Summary of the Balance Sheet, page 3 of 16**

- Total revenues for the period, at \$ 4,904,322, were \$ 270,672 greater than budgeted.
- Total expenditures for the period, at \$ 5,016,001, were \$ 487,043 greater than budgeted
- Operating cash is down from last month
- Savings cash down
- Federal Receivables are up
- District Receivables were up
- Current ratio 4.7
- Day's Operating Cash on hand is 38.6
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century School funded expenditures are projected to be greater than budgeted. These costs are for items not paid for by the Program, but which are necessary to run the program.
- Bus contracted Service expenditures are trending higher than budgeted.
- AP Summary in the amount of \$ 262,857.00 that includes a \$ 20,000.00 retainer fee for the Law firm of Mincy & Fitzpatrick \$ 20,000

### **C. RFO Report (Written Report Submitted)**

- Title I is coordinated PSSA and PASA Prep examinations. PSSA English (ELA) April 15 – 18, 2019; PSSA Math, April 23 – 26, 2019 and PSSA Science, April 29-30, 2019.
- The BEST Team meets weekly to discuss additional scholar support services.
- Social Services continue to collaborate with counselors from the Achievement Center, Sarah Red and the Gertrude Barber Center to provide emotional support services to our students.
- The Back Pack program is servicing (80) Families
- The 6th Annual Cotillion will be held on Friday, May 17, 2019 at the Siebenburger Club.
- The RFO is conducting a Box Tops Fund drive. The RFO is encouraging Rise Families, Staff and the Board of Trustees to submit Box Tops to support the Box Tops Program.
- Senior Night for all Athletic Teams was held on Tuesday, March 25, 2019. Graduating 8<sup>th</sup> grade students who were members of the Boys Varsity, Girls Basketball Team, Cheerleaders and Step Team were recognized.
- The Varsity Boys team won the IBL Championship for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row, defeating CCDS in the Championship game. Erie Rise finished undefeated in league play, with an 11-0.
- The Girls Basketball Team and Varsity Boys Team participated in the AYD Edinboro Cage Classic, held April 13 – 14, 2019 on the campus of Edinboro University. The Varsity Boys took first place in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade division.

### **D. CEO Report: Mr. Terry A. Lang, CEO**

- Mr. Lang had Principal Will give an update on School Statistical Data. Mrs. Will presented data on the following:
  1. Enrollment
  2. Waiting List

3. Out-of-School Suspension
4. In-School Suspension
5. Character Be About It Program

- Discussion followed concerning parental engagement, workshops on trauma, home visits, parent-School collaborations; In School Events; Parent/Student Orientation.
- Update given on the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Audit, scheduled for May 6, 2019.
- Review of financials; operations; transportation; stakeholder.

### **Events Since the last Board Meeting**

- Spring Break: Week of March 25<sup>th</sup>
- Academic Awards Assembly: Friday, April 5<sup>th</sup>
- NED Show: Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>
- PSSA ELA Testing: Week of April 15<sup>th</sup>
- Career Oriented Speakers to 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Graders: April 18<sup>th</sup>
- PSSA Math Testing: Week of April 27<sup>th</sup>
- All 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade PSSA field trips

### **Upcoming Events**

- End of testing Window: Friday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century State Visit: Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup>
- Rite of Passage/Cotillion: Friday, May 17<sup>th</sup>

### **Section III: Resolutions**

#### **A. Approval of Reports**

Resolved, the Board of Directors of Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School on a motion by \_\_\_\_\_seconded by \_\_\_\_\_ accepts the CEO Report and all documents which shall be incorporated into the record of this meeting. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Resolved the Board of Directors of Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School on a motion by Mr. Wayne Patterson and seconded by Dr. Margaret Smith accepts the reports of the Finance and Audit Committee, the A.P. Summary in the amount of \$ 262,857.08 and all documents submitted thereby, which shall be incorporated into the record of this meeting. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Resolved, the Board of Directors of Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School on a motion by Mr. Michael Hooks and seconded by Mrs. Brenda Abreu-Baker accepts the RFO Report and all documents submitted thereby and a financial request of \$ 1,5000.00 to support the 2019 Cotillion which shall be incorporated into the record of this meeting. All in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

#### **Section IV: Unfinished Business**

- A. Ratification of votes, removed from the agenda.
- B. NCSC, June 30 – July 3, 2019 in Las Vegas, Nevada. The proposed process for registering at the hotel and air confirmation has been established. All travel assignments should be coordinated through Ms. Sonya Adams.
- C. Charter School reauthorization-Update presented by Attorney Fitzpatrick.

#### **Section V: New Business**

- A. 2018 Financial Interest Forms (Mr. Favors)

On a motion Mrs. Brenda Abreu-Baker seconded by Mr. Wayne Patterson to adjourn the meeting at 7:27 p.m. at which time the Board of Directors went into Executive Session.

#### **Executive Session**

1. CEO Reauthorization Committee
2. PSSA testing - PDE Response
3. Solicitor Reauthorization Update
4. Attorney Fitzpatrick advised that he be contacted first in relation to any compliance, HR or other issues related to HR/Compliance. Additionally, any staff member should be allowed and encouraged to counsel with Mr. Favors if there are any concerns.
5. Dr. Smith gave a motion that was seconded by Tim Kuzma, to accept the assistance from Dr. Nunery for the reauthorization process for a fee of \$5000.00.

