

Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

September 16, 2021

The meeting was called to order by Constance Ratcliff, Board Chair at 6:10pm.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Shantell Hillard.

The Prayer was led by Dr. Anthony Wilson, Principal

Roll Call was done by Mr. Aubrey Favors, Interim CEO

Attendance: Board of Directors

Constance Ratcliff, Chairperson

Ed Williams, Vice Chair

Tim Kuzma

Dr. Margaret Smith

Michael Hooks-excused

Atty. Fitzpatrick

Shantel Hilliard

Attendance: Staff

Mr. Aubrey Favors, Interim CEO

Mr. Dejon Tucker, Director of Education

Dr. Anthony Wilson, Principal

Mr. Homer Smith

Mrs. Sarah Bridgett

There was a motion to accept the agenda (as read) made by Dr. Margaret Smith, 2nd by Shantel Hillard. The motion passed unanimously.

The reading of the minutes was suspended at this time.

Introduction of new staff members, done by Mr. Aubrey Favors, Interim CEO

New staff members are as follows:

Sadie Tobin- 5th and 6th grade Science Teacher

Lauren Schroeder- 5th and 6th grade English Teacher

Darlene Jones – School Social Worker

CEO Report Given by Mr. Aubrey Favors, Interim CEO

The first quarter here at Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School has started. We began our first day of school with a grand opening “Red Carpet” event in which the parents were pleased and the students felt welcome.

We are still feeling the effects of the Pandemic and the National Teacher shortage, we are working with local and regional agencies to close the instructional gap.

Thanks to the Finance Committee for making funds available to deal with key positions that need to be filled.

ERLACS along with the after-school program are launching several programs that will ensure that ERLACS students are college and career ready. We are partnering with agencies that will produce pilot programs in robotics, computers/hardware, and Occupational Health.

Rise has also formed a partnership with the Salvation Army that will ensure that all 2nd graders learn to read. This program will start late October, November.

We have also teamed up with State Trooper Matt Harris and will implement his character-building program call “Character Be About It.” The school is requesting approval of Mr. Harris’s program to supplement our positive behavioral support program in the building.

Human Resource Report

HR is requesting approval of the document titled Erie Rise Policies and Procedures under act 34 CFR 300.101 – 300.176.

During the Orientation, all teachers and staff received CPI training. An effective tool in managing difficult situations and disruptive behaviors. Other trainings regarding our commitment to improving the learning environment will follow throughout the year.

ERLACS is looking to provide a Screen-Testing tool to prevent the spread of COVID 19. HR will report to the BOT as more information regarding this tool is made available.

Principal Report: Given by Dr. Anthony Wilson

Dr. Wilson is thankful for the opportunity and is excited about the mission and the vision of the school.

First Day

- Red Carpet Event was a success.
- Great relationships were formed with the Teachers
- 3 Assemblies that covered Rules, Regulations and what students can do.

October 1, 2021 – there will be a spotlight display of staff, students, and teachers who will be recognized for their hard work.

Response to Intervention A plan that is Data Driven

-Students need 1 on 1

-student needs assistance with instruction

-We want to help students learn how to love education.

Want to ensure that we keep the school store running. (keep the store items stocked)

What to expect:

-Restorative Justice

-Instagram Page

-3rd Saturday in October, students can get extra help

-Parent Academy

-September 23, 2021, Annual Meet and Greet Night. Before the fun and games, there will be a small orientation.

Mr. Dejon Tucker reports:

We are now entering Phase 2 of the School Improvement Plan. We are focusing on Technical Data -CDT Data to determine the strengths and weaknesses of the individual students.

Our PSSA Data will all be computerized. No more papers.

We are focusing on Data Association

K-3: Data Instruction K-8: a screening process that will consist of aggressive monitoring.

We are taking measures to improve the quality of instruction. It is expected that all teachers are:

1. Student Focused
2. Using Respect and Professionalism
3. Constantly Learning
4. Perseverance
5. Teamwork
6. Leadership.

“He who fails to prepare must prepare to fail.” Benjamin Franklin.

The Rise Instructional Protocol (RIP) is one of the tools that we are going to be using for our daily programs and development.

Human Resources and Compliance Report: Given by Mr. Aubrey Favors, Interim CEO

Part of the Annual Report required us to submit our administrative procedure for internal controls of IEP development. The document is titled: Erie Rise Policies and Procedures under 34 CFR 300.101- 300.176.

We have a candidate for security. Mr. Lynell Stevens who will assist with bus transportation, maintaining order in the school and all other security related issues.

The CEO report was approved on a motion made by Dr. Margaret Smith, 2nd by Mr. Tim Kuzma. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made to receive and approve contracts for Dr. Wilson, Mr. Tucker, and Mr. Favors-along with changes and additions for Mr. Favors based on amendments and signing bonus of \$2,500.00. The motion was made by Ed Williams and 2nd by Dr. Margaret Smith. The motion passed unanimously.

Finance Committee Report: Done by Mr. Ed Williams

All invoices are due in by the Wednesday, one week and a day before the Board Meeting. Charter Choices is the Friday after that Wednesday.

Conferences attended will be in the next months report. There was a motion made by Dr. Margaret Smith and 2nd by Mr. Tim Kuzma to accept the \$176,694.18. The motion passed unanimously.

Unfinished Business

Nomination Committee –

Constance Ratcliff, Chairperson of the Board nominated Dr. Margaret Smith as Chairperson of the board for the 2021-2022. Dr. Margaret Smith accepted the nomination as Chairperson for the 2021-2022 school year.

Dr. Margaret Smith nominated Chairperson Constance Ratcliff as Secretary of the board for the 2021-2022 school year. Constance Ratcliff accepted the nomination of secretary.

There was a motion to approve the new Executive order of the ERLACS Board of Directors made by Mr. Tim Kuzma and 2nd By Dr. Margaret Smith. The motion passed unanimously.

There was a motion to receive Ms. Diva Rickert to gain membership on the ERLACS Board of Directors made by Dr. Margaret Smith and 2nd by Mr. Tim Kuzma. The motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

Fundraiser – Looking to do a fundraiser this spring. Looking into a spring date.

Academic Report – Mr. Favors is looking into some FDL trainings and will team up with Atty. Fitzpatrick to provide trainings for teachers and parents.

Looking into a Grant on Crime Prevention in conjunction with Mr. Shantel Hilliard

There was a motion made to adjourn the general session made by Dr. Margaret Smith 2nd by Ed Williams. The meeting was adjourned to Executive Session.

General Session Resumes

There was a motion to receive and approve contracts for Dr. Wilson, Mr. Tucker and Mr. Favors and the changes and additions for Mr. Favors to be entered into the contract based on amendments and a signing bonus of \$2,500.00 for the CEO was made by Ed Williams 2nd by Dr. Margaret Smith. The motion passed unanimously.

There was a motion made to adjourn the meeting by Dr. Margaret Smith. The meeting was adjourned at 8:37pm.

