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Richmond College Prep (RCP) Board Meeting Minutes
Thursday, December 20, 2018
1014 Florida Avenue, Richmond CA 94804

Board Members Present: David Rosenthal (Chair), Leonard Pitt, Patricia Scott, Tom Meyer

Staff: Peppina Liano - CEO
 Maria Trejo – Business Manager

1.0	The Board attended After-School All-Stars Holiday Showcase	5:00 PM
2.0	Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 5:52 PM	5:52 PM
3.0	Roll Call/Attendance	5:52 PM
4.0	<p>Public members wished to address the Board of Directors:</p> <p>Junhee Kim, 8th year teaching at RCP, spoke: The school has flourished over the years. She read a letter about her feelings: doesn't feel heard; concerned about having to complete extra assignments; wants to have her voice heard and understand the reasoning behind the assignments she must complete; would like more in-depth explanations from Directors.</p> <p>Maria Escalada, 5 years teaching Kindergarten at RCP, spoke: not enough time for self-care; not enough quality teaching; wants to be heard and understood.</p> <p>Jen Steele, 2nd year teaching 2nd grade at RCP, spoke: has been a Board member in the past; The learning curve is steep, and it takes time to adjust to being in the classroom. More work is being assigned, and having to cut-and-paste in order to fill in templates is an inefficient use of time. This burns out the core teachers. In contrast, Teach for America teachers don't mind because they are only here for about two years.</p> <p>Mr. Rosenthal responded: The remarks are valid. The best way to address this is to make a list of the redundant work and sit with Directors and Ms. Liano to evaluate the extra responsibilities. The Board can analyze the concerns and make a determination regarding the extra demands; start a dialogue between the teachers and Directors. The problem must be solved.</p>	5:53 PM
5.0	Approved Minutes for October 2018 meeting	6:18 PM

	<p>Motion: David Rosenthal Second: Tom Meyer</p>	
6.0	Discussion and Action Items	6:35 PM
	<p>6.1 1st Interim Report - Unanimously approved</p> <p>6.2 Audit Report - Unanimously approved</p>	
7.0	<p>Reports from CEO and Board Chairman</p> <p>7.1 Report from CEO-- Ms. Liano Ms. Liano, Mr. Rosenthal, Namrata Gupta, and Cedric Jones are developing the documentation for High School Plus. RCP has broken ties with After-School All-Stars (ASAS), which will save money. There were 36 students that were reclassified as English proficient. In January, there will be an open forum with five teachers to try to resolve issues. Santa came to school for the students. During teacher Professional Development, which is a non-student day, RCP will recover the three days lost due to closure during the Butte County fires.</p> <p>7.2 Report from Board Chairman-- Mr. Rosenthal Namrata Gupta (formerly of ASAS) went to Stanford Design School. She is writing grants for our school. Cedric Jones will be the Principal of the high school program and also will help with the math intervention program in the Middle School. ASAS will no longer be the middleman between RCP and the After-School Education and Safety Program (ASES). Creating a high school is a natural evolution of the ASAS program. Will have the document ready to modify charter to go to 9th grade (one grade is added per year). Material Revision was written by Namrata Gupta and Cedric Jones. Edtec will edit and create the budget. Charter revision might be denied by the West Contra Costa School Board the first week in January, but RCP can appeal the decision. Might not get approved for September 2019. Must find space; found 1st floor of a church on Potrero Ave.; First hurdle: City of Richmond placed a moratorium on new charter schools because not taxable. Second: must hire teachers. A promise of a grant from the Gates Foundation and possible support from Autodesk. The high school will have three tracks: 1) college 2) workforce preparation in tech/makerspace 3) community college. To ensure employability, all students will take the coding class in the 3rd year.</p> <p>The litigation between RCP and the Teach for America teacher was discussed. There was to be a January 9th meeting of Defence Employer Litigation. They served the countersuit complaint this week.</p> <p>Chamberlin Foundation evaluation was done about a year ago. We want to improve the students' proficiency so that 70-80% are at their proper grade level. They are now at 55% in English Language Arts and 53% in Math. Academic performance must be increased. Being the number one school in Richmond is not enough. High School will include the Summit Learning</p>	6:40 PM

	<p>Platform for self-directed learning. Issues between Ms. Flores and the teachers were discussed. It is December, have the MAP test results been evaluated? We must see if the scores have moved up. The whole goal is student performance.</p> <p>Regarding the teachers comments at the beginning, Tom Meyer asked: What are the issues; when did the issues start? If they had it their way, what would it be?</p> <p>Ms. Liano, Patricia Scott, and Mr. Rosenthal will sit down with the teachers and then meet with the Directors. It will be resolved by February 2019.</p>	
8.0	Adjournment	7:00 PM