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**Richmond College Prep (RCP) Board Meeting Minutes
 Thursday, August 29, 2019
 1014 Florida Avenue, Richmond, CA 94804**

Board Members Present: David Rosenthal (Chair), Neville Richardson (Vice Chair), Sylvia Keita, Patricia Scott, Leonard Pitt, and Maria Rosa Keys

Staff: Peppina Liano - CEO
 Maria Trejo – Business Manager

1.0	Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM	5:00 PM
2.0	Roll Call/Attendance	5:05 PM
3.0	Public members that wished to address the Board of Directors: none	5:12 PM
4.0	Approved Minutes for June 2019 meeting Motion: David Rosenthal Second: Sylvia Keita, Patricia Scott and unanimously approved	5: 12PM
5.0	Discussion Items	5:20 PM
	5.1 Charter Renewal Plan Mr. David Rosenthal: RCP hired Eric Zell, a lobbyist and public relations consultant, to counter the current anti-charter agenda. Certain groups are trying to pass a state law to limit charter renewals in order to retain state and federal funding more exclusively for public non-charter schools. Zell is working just for us. He has a communications strategy. We are meeting with Tom Panas, President of the five-member West Contra Costa Unified School District Board (WCCUSD), to confirm the strategy. We need three yes-votes out of five. Tom Panas and Mister Phillips give us two almost-sure votes on the Board for the charter renewal. Stephanie Hernandez-Jarvis could be with us, but we don't know where she stands, given that she is working with the teachers union. Namrata has been	

	<p>working with WCCUSD charter oversight staff member Linda Delgado to make sure our renewal proposal is recommended for approval by her.</p> <p>RCP is trying to renew for five years. The law’s proponents want to preference performing schools. We have to meet 10 criteria. We have the right to appeal to the county Board of Education. We need to prove that RCP is a quality school and should be renewed.</p> <p>Although we have a public relations deficit, it is important to deal with this. We are doing this for the benefit of the whole.</p> <p>Each RCP Board member should be included in the Facebook PR plan for the charter renewal that is being launched for the school.</p> <p>We will live with a deficit to continue to provide Saturday School for our students.</p> <p>Ms. Liano: I assigned Namrata to work on the charter renewal, which is due in September. She has been working on it with the help of different employees who are providing her with the information needed. We will complete a final draft and give it to EdTec to finalize the document.</p> <p>Sylvia Keita will evaluate the Eric Zell contract and give a copy to the Board.</p>	
<p>6.0</p>	<p>Report from CEO</p> <p>6.1 Ms. Peppina Liano</p> <p>We are under special circumstances today with matters of the heart. Thank you, David and Nevill, for attending the vigil last night for the two students who died in the car accident. We have raised more than \$20,000 for Citlalli and Jesse Contreras’ funeral through the GoFundMe page.</p> <p>I will attend Jesse and Citlalli’s funeral service along with other adults on September 4th at 10:30 am.</p> <p>I would like permission from the Board to close the school for one day and extend the school year for one more day to make up the closure day. If we keep the school open we could potentially lose 150 on the Average Daily Attendance. On the other hand, there are about 350 other parents that did not know the Contreras family and I would like the guidance and support of the Board.</p> <p>To recap, the options are to close the school for one day and extend the end of the school year by one day. Or open the school and have 150 students absent. What does the Board recommend?</p> <p>Neville Richardson suggested that the funeral should become a field trip and RCP should rent buses to transport students. That way students that want to go to the funeral are allowed to attend, and students that don’t want to go can stay at school with substitutes and Lower Elementary teachers. The Board unanimously approved this idea.</p>	<p>6:15 PM</p>

	<p>Ms. Liano read a letter from Citlalli Contreras to Brenda Armstrong, After-School Program Coordinator.</p> <p>Summer school in July went very well with an average daily attendance of 96 students.</p> <p>Preschool classes began August 5th, and the Charter classes began August 12th.</p> <p>Thomas Wu visited from Shanghai, China, which he has done every year in August for one month since 2014.</p> <p>We have hired five new teachers, and so far they are doing very well. They are committed and happy to be at RCP.</p> <p>The Upper and Lower Elementary Directors are engaged in realizing our educational goals.</p>	
7.0	Adjournment	7:09 PM