

MINUTES
RIDGEVIEW GLOBAL STUDIES ACADEMY
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING
August 23, 2021

PRESENT

The School Board of Ridgeview Global Studies Academy, Inc met at 6:00 P.M., Monday, August 23, 2021 in the Ridgeview Academy Secondary Cafeteria. Present were School Board Members Chairman Joe Izzo, Tim Alterio, Steve Knapp, Ani Ahmetaj, Isaac Baumer, Executive Director Ralph Frier, Principal Sam Johnson, Assistant Principals, Chuck Thacker, Cathy Carver, Jhonda Kendrick, Dottie Trapnell and Renee Rice.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:14 P.M. Minutes from the June 28, 2021 board meeting were shared with the Board Members and a motion to accept the minutes was made by Steve Knapp and seconded by Tim Alterio. A unanimous vote was taken.

RIDGEVIEW ACADEMY UPDATE

Mr. Johnson shared with the Board how successful our orientation and school opening went. It was wonderful to see all the students back on campus. He also shared a little about our drop off and dismissal procedures with COVID guidelines.

He also shared that due to the pandemic, it will take longer to receive our three new buses. Projected arrival will be sometime in January 2022.

Mr. Frier introduced Cathy Carver, new Assistant Principal for Secondary, to the Board and discussed briefly our new teachers who were added to the staff.

PUBLIC INPUT None currently.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Mr. Frier shared the July financial report with the board. A motion was made by Tim Alterio and seconded by Ani Ahmetaj to accept the financial report. A unanimous vote was taken.

OLD BUSINESS

An update on the new building was shared by Mr. Frier. He stated that all interior walls are up. He shared that we are using the secondary café, four portables and two classrooms on the elementary side for the 11th grade students until the new building is ready. Mr. Frier invited the Board Members to go on a tour of the new building after the meeting.

An update was given on the Turf Field and Track. Mr. Frier shared that the USDA gave permission for Ridgeview to pay for the project and be reimbursed at closing.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Izzo started new business with the “Mask Mandate” issue. He shared with the Board emails received from some of our RGSA families with concern about the optional “Mask Mandate.” Mr. Thacker shared a chart he created with data showing students that have tested positive or had to quarantine.

After much discussion the policy currently in force remained the same.

Mr. Frier discussed how having more permanent subs on staff is a blessing due to COVID cases. He also proposed that the Elementary school go back to eating lunch in the classroom.

Mr. Frier also discussed the State of Florida Emergency Rule 64DER21-12, protocol letter. Ani Ahmetaj made the motion to change RGSA’s protocol letter and Steve Knapp seconded the motion. Unanimous vote was taken.

Mr. Frier asked for approval for Ridgeview’s out of field teachers. A motion was made by Steve Knapp and seconded by Tim Alterio. The motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Mr. Frier shared with the Board that Sybille Oldham Jackson’s term of office had expired; he recommended reappointing her. A motion was made by Tim Alterio and seconded by Ani Ahmetaj to reappoint Mrs. Oldham-Jackson to a new three-year term. A unanimous vote was taken.

Mr. Frier also shared with the Board that Joe Izzo’s term of office would expire in October. A motion was made by Steve Knapp and seconded by Tim Alterio that Mr. Izzo be reappointed for a new three-year term. A unanimous vote was taken.

Educator Disaster Relief Payments were given to classroom teachers and principals by the Governor. Mr. Frier asked the board to approve an Educator Disaster Relief Payment for any employee who did not receive a check from the Governor and was employed at Ridgeview at the end of the 2020-21 school year. He recommended \$1,000 checks for certificated staff and \$500 checks for support staff. A motion was made by Ani Ahmetaj and seconded by Tim Alterio. A unanimous vote was taken.

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Tim Alterio and seconded by Ani Ahmetaj to approve the United Health Care Insurance for the 2021-2022 school year. A unanimous vote was taken.

MISCELLANEOUS

Tim Alterio wanted to commend the admin team and staff for their continuous efforts to practice all the safety guidelines in place for RGSA students.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting of the Ridgeview Board adjourned at 7:35 pm with a motion by Tim Alterio and seconded by Isaac Baumer.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED: _____

Renee Rice