

**Minutes of the RLA Regular Board Meeting  
Due to COVID-19 meeting held via Zoom  
January 20, 2021 at 5:30pm**

Present: Michelle Guzman  
Reina Negrete  
Rob Perez  
Liza Cotton  
Angie Timpone--Arrived at 5:55pm

Present/Non Voting:  
Vanessa Rojas  
Lupe Velazquez

- I. Call to Order|Flag Salute  
Meeting was called to order at 5:32pm  
1st motion: Rob Perez      2nd: Reina Negrete  
Ayes: Guzman, Cotton, Perez, and Negrete  
Absent: Timpone (arrived at 5:55pm)

- II. Public Comments  
None

- III. Board Member Reports  
Rob Perez-Attended the Governor's budget last Friday and is working through the information to see how it will look like for RLA.

Reina Negrete-Happy New Year everyone. In December, I, along with the local Boys Scouts volunteered at CASA at the Toys for Tots distribution and it was a great experience.

- IV. Director's Report
- A. Professional Development and Trainings
- Supporting Student Literacy-January 13,2021
  - Governor's Proposed Budget-January 15,2021  
Included different items such as funds designated for specific items  
The state of California is noticing declining enrollment and less tax revenue but at the moment doesn't look like there will be any cuts.
  - LCAP Development- January 19, 2021 - There was an LCAP training that went over new requirements. Currently using previous assessments to determine school needs but I am considering sending out a new survey.

B. Upcoming Meetings and Events

RUSD Board Meeting-February 2, 2021

Regular Meeting of the RLA Board-February 10, 2021 at 5:30pm

RUSD Board Meeting -February 16, 2021

President Lincoln's Birthday Holiday February 8, 2021

President's Day Holiday-February 15,2021

RLA Furlough Days/No Classes: February 16, 17, 18 and 19

RLA May Board Meeting/Date Change May 19,2021

- V. Presentation: Reading Recovery/Descubriendo la lectura-V. Rojas -Mrs. Rojas presented a slideshow of information for this program. There's still a need to support readers and writers; this is a program we'd like to explore. It's an evidence-based reading approach developed by Dr. Marie Clay, it's aligned to reading instruction methodology. It is a short-term intervention program that bridges the achievement gap. It does require training with a cost of \$2500 in fees per participant, and units are required to become certified.

Rob Perez-if the units are required, would RLA follow the same process as RUSD, if the school pays for the program/units then staff cannot submit for salary advancement?

Michelle Guzman-What is the backup plan if there is no sub? Mrs. Rojas explained that the school would utilize current TOSA's, support staff and Admin.

VI. Consent Items

- A. Approved the Warrants for December 2020

1st motion: Michelle Guzman      2nd: Rob Perez

Ayes: Guzman, Cotton, Perez, Timpone, and Negrete

- B. Approved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the RLA Board held on December 14, 2020, with the change of adding Mrs. Timpone's arrival at the top of the minutes.

1st motion: Reina Negrete      2nd: Angie Timpone

Ayes: Timpone, Cotton, Perez, and Negrete

Abstained: Guzman

VII. Information Discussion Items

- A. Employees Making a Difference --Mrs. Rojas recognized and congratulated Mrs. Margaret Ulloa for her continued dedication and service to our students.

- B. Riverbank Language Academy Covid 19 Update-

Received new guidance last week;

There is a grant out that encourages schools to open but it is not feasible for RLA to apply at this time because this grant requires that the site covid test all staff and students every two weeks and the cost of that would be too high.

Additionally, we don't anticipate that all families would agree to have their child

tested. We can continue to remain open with the elementary school waiver and we cannot add any new cohort until we drop to red tier in the covid cases.  
Rob Perez-Agreed that the funds would not last very long with the requirement to test all staff and students, the covid tests are not inexpensive.  
Michelle Guzman-Thank you for keeping up with all the information and changes that come with the covid situation.

- C. Riverbank Language Academy Safety Plan Draft by Lupe Velazquez  
No major changes have been made, just a few adjustments. The committee has changed since our custodian Tony's retirement but the new custodian, Brett, will take Tony's place. The final document will be brought in February.

VIII. Information Possible Action Items

- A. Considered Approval of RLA Grading Handbook

The grading handbook was taken back to staff after board discussion at a previous board meeting. Some language was eliminated and there have been changes to accepting late work.

Michelle Guzman-Thank you for adjusting it and I hope that this will be a living document that can change as needed. Also, Ed Code allows students to make up work for those with excused absences so that language should be added as well.

*TABLED--Item A--Consideration of the RLA Grading Handbook*

- B. Approved of Sub Daily Rate Increase to \$200/day

There has been a shortage of substitute teachers, RUSD recently approved to increase the daily sub rate to \$200 per day to encourage subs to come to Riverbank. We compete with other districts that offer higher pay, Ceres schools pay almost \$300/day. The daily rate would remain effective through the end of this school year, May 2021 and would come out of Covid Relief Funds.

1st motion: Reina Negrete 2nd: Angie Timpone

Ayes: Guzman, Cotton, Perez, Timpone and Negrete

IX. Certificated Personnel

- A. None to Report

X. Classified Personnel

- A. None to Report

XI. Closed Session-The board moved into closed session at 6:28 pm

- A. Conference with legal counsel/potential litigation (Government Code 54956.9(b)  
RLA Charter School  
No action taken/Nothing to report  
Reconvened the meeting at 6:33

- XII. Adjournment the board adjourned the meeting at 6:33
  - A. Vote to Adjourn
    - 1st motion: A. Timpone      2nd: R. L. Negrete
    - Ayes: Timpone, Guzman, Cotton, Perez, and Negrete